

Chapter 5

Plural Nouns and Irregular Plurals 名詞複數和不規則複數形式

1. What Is a Plural Noun?

A **plural noun** means [意味著] **more than one** [找過一個] **person, place, thing, or idea.**

Examples: book → books dog → dogs student → students

Example sentences:

- I have two **books**.
- There are many **students** in the classroom.

2. Regular Plurals: Add -s 規則複數：詞尾加 -s ●

Most nouns form the plural by adding **-s**.

Examples: car → car**s** apple → apple**s** teacher → teacher**s**

Example sentences:

- She has three **cats**.
- We bought two **tables**.

3. Nouns Ending in -s, -x, -sh, -ch, -z 以 -s、-x、-sh、-ch、-z 結尾的 nouns ●

Add **-es**.

Examples: bus [巴士] → bus**es** box → box**es** dish [盤子] → dish**es** watch → watch**es**

Example sentences:

- The restaurant has many **dishes**.
- There are several **boxes** in the room [房間].

4. Nouns Ending in Consonant + y 以「輔音字母」+ y 結尾的 nouns ●

Change **y** → **ies**

Examples: baby → bab**ies** city → cit**ies** story [故事] → stor**ies**

Example sentence:

- The two **cities** are very beautiful.
- His **stories** are very interesting.

But: Vowel [元音字母] + y → add -s

Examples: boy → boy**s** toy [玩具] → toy**s** key [鑰匙] → key**s**

Example sentence: The children have many **toys**.

5. Nouns Ending in -f / -fe 以 -f / -fe 結尾的 nouns ●

Often change f → **ves**

Examples: leaf [葉子] → lea**ves** wolf [狼] → wol**ves** knife [刀] → kni**ves** life → li**ves**

Example sentence: The tree has many **leaves**.

⚠ But some just add -s:

Examples: roof [屋頂] → roof**s** chief [首領] → chief**s**

6. Irregular Plurals 不規則的 Plurals ●

Some nouns **change completely** [完全地]. These need to be memorised [背].

Common irregular plurals

(現階段只需要背標淺藍色部分的單詞，其餘屬於比較高階的單詞，日後需要可以再返回來學習)

Singular	Plural
man	men
woman	women
child	children
person	people
foot [腳、英尺]	feet
tooth [牙齒]	teeth
goose [鵝]	geese
mouse [老鼠]	mice
stimulus [刺激]	stimuli
alumnus [男畢業生]	alumni
alumna [女畢業生]	alumni
analysis [分析]	analyses
basis [基礎]	bases
crisis [危機]	crises

Singular	Plural
diagnosis [診斷]	diagnoses
emphasis [重點]	emphases
hypothesis [假設]	hypotheses
thesis [論文、論題]	theses
phenomenon [現象]	phenomena
criterion [判據]	criteria
datum [數據]	data
medium [媒介]	media
bacterium [細菌]	bacteria
curriculum [課程設置]	curricula
index [指數]	indices
appendix [附錄]	appendices
axis [軸]	axes

7. Nouns with the Same Singular and Plural ●

Some nouns **do not change**.

Singular	Plural
sheep [綿羊]	sheep
deer [鹿]	deer
fish [魚]	fish*
species [物種]	species
aircraft [飛機]	aircraft
series [系列]	series
means [方法]	means
salmon [三文魚]	salmon

Singular	Plural
trout [鱒魚]	trout
shrimp [蝦]	shrimp
offspring [後代]	offspring
spacecraft [太空船]	spacecraft
crossroads [十字路口]	crossroads
headquarters [總部]	headquarters

* When referring to different [不同的] species of fish, the plural form 'fishes' can be used.

8. Foreign Plurals 外來語 Plurals ●

Some English words come from **Latin or Greek** [拉丁 or 希臘語].

Examples:

Singular	Plural
cactus [仙人掌]	cacti
focus [焦點]	foci
Fungus [真菌]	fungi
phenomenon	phenomena
criterion	criteria

These are common in **academic** [學術] English and IELTS Academic Reading & Writing [雅思 A 類閱讀與寫作].

Example: Several **phenomena** were observed [被觀察].

9. Uncountable Nouns (No Plural) ●

Some nouns **cannot be plural**.

Examples:

- information
- advice
- furniture
- equipment [設備]
- luggage [行李]

✗ advices

✓ pieces of advice [一些意見]

Example: She gave me two **pieces of advice**.

10. Quick Summary Chart

Rule	Example
add -s	book → book s
add -es	bus → bus es
y → ies	city → cit ies
f → ves	leaf → lea ves
irregular	child → children
same form	sheep → sheep

11. Common Mistakes 常見錯誤

Mistake 1 ✗ child**s** ✓ child**ren**

Mistake 2 ✗ informati**ons** ✓ informati**on**

Mistake 3 ✗ two advic**es** ✓ two piec**es of** advice