

- Irregular Plurals:** man – **men**, woman – **women**, foot – **feet**, tooth – **teeth**, goose – **geese**, louse – **lice**, mouse – **mice**, sheep – **sheep**, deer – **deer**, fish – **fish**, trout – **trout**, ox – **oxen**, child – **children**, salmon – **salmon**, spacecraft – **spacecraft**, aircraft – **aircraft**, hovercraft – **hovercraft**, means – **means**, species – **species**

1 Write the plural of the following nouns.

1 nanny	<u>nannies</u>	11 bush	.....	21 aircraft	.....
2 father-in-law	.....	12 pen-friend	.....	22 watch	.....
3 headache	.....	13 video	.....	23 crisis	.....
4 dictionary	.....	14 passer-by	.....	24 bay	.....
5 zoo-keeper	.....	15 violin	.....	25 flamingo	.....
6 phone	.....	16 wife	.....	26 taxi driver	.....
7 hoof	.....	17 volcano	.....	27 potato	.....
8 radio	.....	18 mouse	.....	28 safe	.....
9 train robbery	.....	19 godfather	.....	29 onlooker	.....
10 painkiller	.....	20 wish	.....	30 walking stick	.....

2 Write the plural of the nouns in brackets.

London Zoo

London Zoo has been open to the public since 1847. Today, it holds around 755 1) species (**species**) of animals, making it one of the biggest 2) (**zoo**) in Britain. Although London Zoo is not home to many large animals such as 3) (**rhino**) or 4) (**elephant**), there is still a lot to see! Our aquarium contains thousands of colourful 5) (**fish**) from around the world and the amazing Gorilla Kingdom holds a number of 6) (**gorilla**)! Another popular section of the zoo is Into Africa. Here you can see a number of Africa's wild 7) (**beast**) including 8) (**zebra**) and 9) (**giraffe**). Also, don't miss the chance to take fantastic 10) (**photo**) at Butterfly Paradise; one of the biggest collections of 11) (**butterfly**) in London. So, for the perfect day out for both 12) (**adult**) and 13) (**child**), come and visit London Zoo!



- **Group nouns** refer to a group of people. These nouns can take either a singular or a plural verb depending on whether we see the group as a whole or as individuals. Such **group nouns** are: army, audience, class, club, committee, company, council, crew, crowd, headquarters, family, jury, government, press, public, staff, team, etc. *The team was the best in the country.* (= the team as a group); *The team were all given medals.* (= each member separately as individuals)
- With expressions of **duration, distance or money** meaning 'a whole amount' we use a singular verb.
Two weeks isn't long to wait. Ten miles is a long way to ride. Ten thousand pounds is too much to spend on house repairs.

Some nouns can be used as countable or uncountable, with a difference in meaning.

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Give me a piece of paper , please! | • The police asked to see his papers . (documents) |
| • The needle of a compass always points North. | • You can draw a perfect circle with compasses . |
| • It is a custom to give presents at birthdays. | • All plane passengers were searched at customs . |
| • She has a lot of experience in teaching. | • We had lots of exciting experiences on our trip. |
| • Would you like a glass of milk? | • He can't see very well without his glasses . (spectacles) |
| • She has got long, blonde hair . (head of hair) | • There are two hairs in your milk! (2 single hairs) |
| • They were shocked at the scale of the disaster. | • She weighed herself on the scales . (weighing machine) |
| • The bowl is made of wood . (the material) | • The girls got lost in the woods . (forest) |
| • He goes to work every day except Sunday. | • Picasso's works are really fascinating. (creations) |
| • There were many people waiting outside. | • All peoples of the world should live in peace. (nations) |
| • Don't go out in the rain without an umbrella. | • In some climates the rains come twice a year. |

5 Write (C) if the noun is countable or (U) if it is uncountable, as in the example.

- | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1 child ..C.. | 4 fruit | 7 desk | 10 oil |
| 2 Literature | 5 dirt | 8 butter | 11 smog |
| 3 host | 6 news | 9 leaf | 12 golf |

6 Suzanne is going into town to buy the items in the pictures below. Write out her shopping list.

1 ... a carton of milk ...

2

3

4

5

6

7

8