

NOUNS

PRACTICE

EXERCISE 1. Write answers to the quiz questions. Use ONLY plural nouns. The first letter is given, so JUST right the missing ones.

- 1 People use these to cut meat with.
- 2 People wear these to tell the time.
- 3 We eat these round red fruits in salads.
- 4 You stand and walk on these important parts of the body.
- 5 You brush these after you've eaten.
- 6 Half the world are men. What are the other half?
- 7 These people are between the ages of 3 and 12.
- 8 When these little people are born, their parents are happy.
- 9 We get wool from these animals.
- 10 There are seven of these in a week.

k...ives
w...
t...
f...
t...
w...
c...
b...
s...
d...

EXERCISE 2. Which alternatives are correct? Sometimes only ONE alternative is correct, and sometimes two alternatives are possible. Tick all the possible alternatives.

- 1 Mary's got which comes halfway down her back.
A long hair B long hairs C a long hair
- 2 There's about English courses at the back of the book. It's very useful.
A some information B an information C some informations
- 3 It's today, isn't it? Let's go for a swim.
A beautiful weather B a beautiful weather C a beautiful day
- 4 My son gave me for my birthday. It smells lovely.
A a perfume B some perfume C a bottle of perfume
- 5 I don't usually buy in the morning, but I did this morning. There was an interesting story in it.
A a paper B paper C some paper
- 6 'Why is Jane crying?' 'She's just had'
A some bad news B a bad news C a bad new
- 7 Jake is really happy. He's got in a multi-national company. It's a big change from his old one.
A new job B a new work C a new job
- 8 I've got to do tonight, so I can't come to the cinema with you.
A work B some work C a work

EXERCISE 3. Select the correct option.

- 1 'Did you hear noise / a noise just now?' 'No, I didn't hear anything.' (a noise is correct)
- 2 a If you want to know the news, you can read paper / a paper.
b I want to print some documents, but the printer is out of paper / papers.
- 3 a Light / A light comes from the sun.
b I thought there was somebody in the house because there was light / a light on inside.
- 4 a I was in a hurry this morning. I didn't have time / a time for breakfast.
b 'Did you have a good holiday?' 'Yes, we had wonderful time / a wonderful time'
- 5 This is nice room / a nice room. Did you decorate it yourself?

- 6 Sue was very helpful. She gave us some very useful advice / advices.
- 7 Did you have nice weather / a nice weather when you were away?
- 8 We were very unfortunate. We had bad luck / a bad luck.
- 9 Is it difficult to find a work / job at the moment?
- 10 Our travel / journey from Paris to Moscow by train was very tiring.
- 11 When the fire alarm rang, there was total chaos / a total chaos.
- 12 I had to buy a bread / some bread because I wanted to make some sandwiches.
- 13 Bad news don't / doesn't make people happy.
- 14 Your hair is / Your hairs are too long. You should have it / them cut.
- 15 The damage / The damages caused by the storm will cost a lot to repair.

EXERCISE 4. Write **OK** in the blank if there's no correction to perform on the italicised verb in each sentence; otherwise, write the correction in the blank.

- 1 Dr Darsee's present whereabouts *is* unknown. _____
- 2 Phenomena such as sun spots *have puzzled* scientists for centuries. _____
- 3 Over the last decade the company's overheads *has increased* dramatically. _____
- 4 The research data *was collected* during the period 12th–29th July 2012. _____
- 5 Congratulations *goes* to Ricky Branch for his excellent exam results. _____
- 6 The coastal surroundings of the village *is particularly attractive*. _____
- 7 He feels that the media *have criticised* him unfairly. _____
- 8 Further particulars about the house *is available* from the owner. _____
- 9 People *says* the house is haunted. _____

EXERCISE 5. Complete these extracts from news articles with a singular or plural form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 The outskirts of our cities *(have)* benefited from the new out-of-town shopping centres that *(have)* recently been built. Around a third of the population regularly *(shop)* out of town.
- 2 On average, 25 litres of water *(be)* used each day per household and as the population *(expect)* higher living standards, this figure will rise.
- 3 Some 30% of the office space in London *(be)* presently empty and the Department for Employment *(blame)* high property prices.
- 4 Three centimetres *(be)* all that separated the first two runners in last night's 10,000 metres and the sports club *(have)* declared the race a dead-heat.
- 5 The research group now *(admit)* that the criteria they used *(be)* not totally reliable, and that the figure of 85% *(be)* exaggerated.
- 6 Following last week's major art theft from the Arcon Art Gallery, the premises *(be)* searched by police last night and the owner's belongings *(have)* been taken away for further inspection.
- 7 A survey of the opinions of students *(show)* that economics *(be)* the least popular university subject. However, 90% of the economics students surveyed *(believe)* that their courses are well taught.
- 8 Sufferers from diabetes *(have)* welcomed the launch by Federex of a new drug to combat the disease. The company *(say)* that earnings from the drug *(be)* to be put back into further research.