

2A singular and plural nouns

a / an, plurals

singular nouns	plural nouns	2.2
It's a book.	They're books .	
It's a watch.	They're watches .	
It's a diary.	They're diaries .	
It's an umbrella.	They're umbrellas .	
It's an identity card.	They're identity cards .	

- We use **a / an** with singular nouns.
- We use **an** with a noun beginning with a vowel (a, e, i, o, u).
- We use **a** with nouns beginning with u or eu when the sound = /ju:/, e.g. **a university**, **a euro**.
- We don't use **a / an** with plural nouns.
They're **books**. **NOT** They're **a books**.

the

Look at **the** board.

Answer **the** questions.

- We use **the** when we know which board, questions, etc.
Look at **the** board. **NOT** Look at **a** board.
- We use **the** with singular and plural nouns
(**the board**, **the questions**).

regular plurals

singular	plural	spelling
a book	books	
a key	keys	
a watch	watches	
a box	boxes	add -es after ch, sh, s, x
a country	countries	
a dictionary	ictionaries	consonant + y = y -ies

- We add **-s** (or **-es** or **-ies**) to make plural nouns.
It's a pen. They're pens.
- With two-word nouns, we add **-s** (or **-es** or **-ies**) to the **second** noun.
credit card, credit cards **NOT** credits cards

irregular plurals

singular	plural
a man /men/	men /men/
a woman /'wɔːmən/	women /'wɪmɪn/
a child /tʃaɪld/	children /tʃɪldrən/
a person /'pɜːsn/	people /'piːpl/

2A

a Complete with **a** or **an**. Write the plural.

singular	plural
a photo	photos
1 window	
2 key	
3 identity card	
4 country	
5 watch	
6 exercise	
7 person	
8 email	
9 box	
10 woman	

b Write sentences with **It's** or **They're** (and **a** or **an** if necessary).

pen	<u>It's a pen.</u>
buses	<u>They're buses.</u>
1 children	
2 purse	
3 men	
4 umbrella	
5 sunglasses	
6 scissors	
7 charger	
8 diaries	
9 coin	
10 egg	

→ p.15