

LESSONS 1-6 Grammar Review

THE PLURAL OF NOUNS

In the course about the pronunciation there was talk about the meaning of the hard and soft variant in the ending of words in the Russian grammar. This hard-soft distinction becomes relevant in the plural.

Masculine and feminine nouns have the same endings in the plural. It is the ending **-Ы** in the hard variant and the ending **-И** in the soft variant.

Neuter nouns have the ending **-А** (hard variant) and the ending **-Я** (soft variant) in the plural.

	masculine		feminine		neuter	
singular	consonant	soft consonant Й Ь	-А	-Я Ь	-О	-Е
	студент	музей словарь	школа	экскурсия площадь	слово	море
plural	-Ы	-И	-Ы	-И	-А	-Я
	студенты	музеи словари	школы	экскурсии площади	слова	моря

Commentary on the table

1. The plural of masculine nouns is formed by simply adding the ending **Ы**: стол – столы; телефон – телефоны and so on. However, if a masculine noun in the singular has one of the consonants **Й** or **Ь** at the end, the plural is formed by changing **Й** or **Ь** into the ending **-И**. For example, музей – музеи; словарь – словари and so on.
2. The plural of feminine nouns is formed by changing the ending **-А** into **-Ы** (школа – школы and so on) or by changing the ending **-Я** or **Ь** into **-И** (неделя – недели; площадь – площади and so on).
3. The plural of neuter nouns is formed by changing the ending **-О** into **-А** (окно – окна and so on) or by changing **-Е** into **-Я** (море – моря; задание – задания and so on).

Special Cases of the Formation of the Plural of Nouns

There are only a few exceptions. For the basic communication it's enough to know the following words (the complete list see in appendix):

singular	plural
ребёнок <i>child / baby</i>	– дети <i>children</i>
человек <i>human / person</i>	– люди <i>people</i>
брат <i>brother</i>	– братья <i>brothers</i>
друг <i>friend</i>	– друзья <i>friends</i>

ATTENTION!

Phonetic Phenomenon

К, Г, Х + **И**
Ж, Ш, Ч, Щ

The vowel **И** is never written after the consonants **К, Г, Х, Ж, Ш, Ч, Щ**. I.e., if a masculine noun ends with one of these consonants or a feminine noun has one of these consonants at the end, the plural is formed by adding the ending **И**. Compare:

театр – театры	↔	карандаш – карандаши
газета – газеты		собака – собаки
театр – театры		врач – врачи
школа – школы		коллега – коллеги

Задание 3. Give the plural of these nouns.

МОДЕЛЬ: проблема – проблемы

- | | | | |
|-------------|---------|------------------|---------|
| 1. слово | – | 14. друг | – |
| 2. человек | – | 15. подруга | – |
| 3. бар | – | 16. день | – |
| 4. рынок | – | 17. фильм | – |
| 5. дело | – | 18. брат | – |
| 6. решение | – | 19. улица | – |
| 7. школа | – | 20. место | – |
| 8. карандаш | – | 21. командировка | – |
| 9. дача | – | 22. сумка | – |
| 10. рубль | – | 23. новость | – |
| 11. площадь | – | 24. музей | – |
| 12. статья | – | 25. машина | – |
| 13. событие | – | 26. правило | – |