

PRONUNCIATION – how to pronounce final -s

RULES

1. Words ending in the following sounds, add **-es** and pronounce **one** more syllable: /ɪz/

Examples:

- /s/ ⇒ pass - passes, box - boxes, dance - dances
- /z/ ⇒ buzz - buzzes, realize - realizes, advise - advises
- /tʃ/ ⇒ church - churches, match - matches
- /dʒ/ ⇒ fridge - fridges, age - ages, manage - manages

2. Words ending in the following sounds, add **-s**, and pronounce soft /s/

Examples:

- /p/ ⇒ stop - stops, shop - shops
- /t/ ⇒ start - starts, put - puts
- /k/ ⇒ ask - asks, work - works
- /θ/ ⇒ myth - myths, bath - baths
- /f/ ⇒ laugh - laughs, cough - coughs

3. Words ending in **consonant + y**: replace **y** with **-ies**, pronounce voiced /z/

Examples: ⇒ cry - cries, try - tries

4. Words ending in a **vowel**: add **-s or -es**, pronounce /z/

Examples: ⇒ follow - follows, go - goes,
piano - pianos, potato - potatoes.

5. All other words: add **-s**, pronounce voiced /z/

Examples: ⇒ plays, walls, birds, dogs,...

EXERCISE 1:

a) Add **-s** or **-es** to these verbs

change	catch	press	manage	process
hear	speak	see	travel	start
watch	force	relax	push	binge

b) Write the correct pronunciation.

speaks	s	/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
cases		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
writes		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
bosses		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
houses		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
glasses		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
fixes		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
kilos		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
flies		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
plays		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/