

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	add -s
a key	keys	
a watch	watches	add -es after ch, sh, s, x
a box	boxes	
a country	countries	consonant + y = y -ies
a dictionary	dictionaries	

- 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** *credit cards*

irregular plurals

singular	plural
a man /mæn/	men /men/
a woman /'wʊmən/	women /'wʊmən/
a child /tʃaɪld/	children /'tʃɪldrən/
a person /'pɜ:sn/	people /'pi:pl/

2A

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

singular	plural
<u>a</u> photo	<u>photos</u>
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	_____