

## Common Nouns

### Introduction

1) A noun is a word used to identify any of a class of people, places, or things (common noun), or to name a particular one of these (proper noun).

*You can buy **coffee** at **Starbucks**.*

2) A common noun is a noun denoting a class of objects or a concept as opposed to a particular individual.

*There was a **sofa**, two **chairs**, and a **wardrobe** in the **room**.*

Note that common nouns are *general* names. Thus, they are not capitalized unless they begin a sentence or are part of a title.

***Capitals** of the countries are usually very large cities.*

*London is the **capital** of Great Britain.*

Most of the time, we add -s to singular nouns to indicate plurality.

*flower – **flowers**, dog – **dogs***

If the singular noun ends in -s, -ss, -sh, -ch, -x, -z, -o, add -es to make it plural.

*bus – **buses**, watch – **watches**, box – **boxes**, potato – **potatoes***

If the singular noun ends in -y, change -y into -i and add -es to make it plural.

*baby – **babies***

If the singular noun ends in -f or -fe, -f is often changed into -ve before adding -s to make it plural.

*life – **lives**, wolf – **wolves** (but: belief – **beliefs**, chef – **chefs**)*

Some nouns do not follow any of the rules explained earlier. They are irregular. Here are the most common irregular nouns.

Singular	Plural
<i>man</i>	<i>men</i>
<i>woman</i>	<i>women</i>
<i>person</i>	<i>people</i>
<i>child</i>	<i>children</i>
<i>tooth</i>	<i>teeth</i>
<i>foot</i>	<i>feet</i>
<i>mouse</i>	<i>mice</i>

### Short Story Dialogue

- I'm going **grocery** shopping in a bit. Could I get you anything?
- I think we're running out of **milk**. You should buy that. And I don't mind some **cookies** or **candies**.
- OK, I'll put it on my **list**. Anything else?
- You can look up in the **fridge** and just buy whatever you feel like we need. Oh, and don't forget to grab the **newspaper** on your way back home. I'd really appreciate that!
- Roger! (=OK!/Understood!)

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## Independent Practice - Common nouns

### 1) Transform the following singular nouns into plurals.

- a. light – .....
- b. man – .....
- c. life – .....
- d. lady – .....
- e. tax – .....

### 2) Find mistakes in the following sentences.

- a. Don't forget to take your Jacket! It's really cold outside today.
- b. Your foot are really cold! You are freezing!
- c. Elizabeth is a Doctor in a local hospital.
- d. I like high waisted jeanses a lot. I feel really stylish wearing them.
- e. There are many thiefes in this area. Be careful!

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## Independent Practice: Answers - Common nouns

### 1) Transform the following singular nouns into plurals.

- a. light – lights
- b. man – men
- c. life – lives
- d. lady – ladies
- e. tax – taxes

### 2) Find mistakes in the following sentences.

- a. Don't forget to take your ~~Jacket~~ **jacket**! It's really cold outside today.
- b. Your ~~foet~~ **feet** are really cold! You are freezing!
- c. Elizabeth is a ~~Doctör~~ **doctor** in a local hospital.
- d. I like high waisted ~~jeanses~~ **jeans** a lot. I feel really stylish wearing them.
- e. There are many ~~thiefes~~ **thieves** in this area. Be careful!