

Grammar Lesson 2

Plural and Possessive Nouns

Plurals: To show that there is more than one of a noun, there are a few common rules:

- For most nouns, add the letter **s**. (ex: boys)
- If the noun already ends in **s** or in **sh, ch, v, x,** or **z** then add **es**. (ex: bosses)
- If it ends in a **y** preceded by a consonant (*not* a vowel), change the **y** to **i** and add **es**. (ex: lilies)
- If a noun ends in an “**f**” sound (the word might actually end in an **e**), change the **f** to **v** and pluralize accordingly based on the word’s ending letter.
- Some nouns are considered irregular and have other, more unique ways of making them plural, and of course there are occasional exceptions to the common rules above, too.

Possessives: To show that a noun has possession (owns something), you’ll need to add an apostrophe; however, the apostrophe may need to go in different places, depending on the noun.

- To make a singular noun possessive, add **'s** after the noun. (ex: bus’s)
- To make a plural noun possessive, first make it plural, then add an apostrophe at the end. (ex: buses’). Exception: If the plural form does *not* end in **s** (irregular nouns), then add **'s** to the plural noun to make it possessive. (ex: children’s)

Part One: Directions: Fill out the following table, making each singular noun given correctly fit the appropriate category (see the example for help).

Singular	Singular Possessive	Plural	Plural Possessive
book	book’s	books	books’
costume			
church			
test			
wife			
clock			
bush			
goose			

shelf			
exercise			
company			
piano			
movie			
waitress			
lady			
mouse			
life			
fox			

Part Two: Directions: Choose two different nouns above (but not “book”), and for each one write three sentences, one using that noun correctly as a singular possessive, one using it correctly as a plural *without* possession and a final one using it correctly as a plural possessive.

Noun:

Singular Possessive Sentence:

Plural Sentence:

Plural Possessive Sentence:

Noun:

Singular Possessive Sentence:

Plural Sentence:

Plural Possessive Sentence: