

Exercise 11 (Grammar and Usage)

Singular and Plural Nouns: Part 1

Nouns that name *only one* person, animal, place, or thing are called **singular nouns**.

EXAMPLE: *carpenter hotel boxcar*

Nouns that name *more than one* person, animal, place, or thing are called **plural nouns**.

Here are some rules for making singular nouns plural.

1. Most singular nouns can be made plural by adding *-s*.

EXAMPLE: *carpenters hotels boxcars*

2. Nouns that end in *s*, *x*, *z*, *ch*, and *sh* are hard to pronounce if only *-s* is added. To make these nouns plural, add *-es*.

EXAMPLE: *glass – glasses box – boxes bunch – bunches*
waltz – waltzes bush – bushes

3. Singular nouns that end in *y* are made plural in one of two ways:
 - a. If a vowel comes before the *y*, simply add *s*.

EXAMPLE: *donkey – donkeys holiday – holidays*

- b. If a consonant comes before the *y*, change the *y* to *i* and add *-es*.

EXAMPLE: *city – cities candy – candies*

Make the following singular nouns plural.

Set 1

1. actress actresses
2. story stories
3. alligator alligators
4. tax taxes
5. monkey monkeys
6. bathtub bathubs
7. sky skies
8. daisy daisies
9. needle needles
10. mattress mattresses

Set 2

1. fox foxes
2. valley valleys
3. lawyer lawyers
4. lily lilies
5. walnut walnuts
6. dish dishes
7. baby babies
8. army armies
9. bench benches
10. donkey donkeys