

## Exercise 12 (Grammar and Usage)

### Singular and Plural Nouns: Part 2

Here are rules for nouns that end in *o*, *f*, or *fe*.

#### 1. Nouns ending in *o*

Many singular nouns that end in *o* are made plural by adding *-s*.

*EXAMPLE:* piano – pianos      radio – radios

Some singular nouns that end in *o* are made plural by adding *-es*.

*EXAMPLE:* potato – potatoes      mosquito – mosquitoes

A few nouns that end in *o* can be made plural by adding either *-s* or *-es*.

*EXAMPLE:* volcano – volcanos or volcanoes      zero – zeros or zeroes

#### 2. Nouns ending in *f* or *fe*

Some singular nouns that end in *f* or *fe* are made plural by adding *-s*.

*EXAMPLE:* cliff – cliffs      chief – chiefs

Other nouns that end in *f* or *fe* change the *f* or *fe* to *v* and add *-es*.

*EXAMPLE:* leaf – leaves      shelf – shelves

A few can be made plural either by adding *-s* or changing the *f* or *fe* to *v* and adding *-es*.

*EXAMPLE:* wharf – wharfs or wharves      dwarf – dwarfs or dwarves

Make each of the following singular nouns plural. Check those you are not sure of in your dictionary.

#### Set 1

1. hero      heroes
2. burro      burros
3. knife      knives
4. scarf      scarves
5. rodeo      rodeos
6. calf      calves
7. cargo      cargos
8. handkerchief      handkerchieves
9. giraffe      giraffes

#### Set 2

1. wife      wives
2. tomato      tomatoes
3. hoof      hooves
4. torpedo      torpedoes
5. cuckoo      cuckoos
6. roof      roofs
7. half      halves
8. gulf      gulfs
9. avocado      avocados