



## Warm-up



Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the nouns in the brackets.

The New Wave School organised a 'Care and Share Week'. The \_\_\_\_\_ (child) packed suitcases full of \_\_\_\_\_ (thing) to be given to the underprivileged \_\_\_\_\_ (child), who had lost their \_\_\_\_\_ (parent).

Each \_\_\_\_\_ (child) packed something to be donated. Vidya put in a few \_\_\_\_\_ (dress) and some \_\_\_\_\_ (T-shirt). Faiz packed some \_\_\_\_\_ (medicine), a few \_\_\_\_\_ (packet) of \_\_\_\_\_ (biscuit), some \_\_\_\_\_ (colouring book) and five \_\_\_\_\_ (box) of \_\_\_\_\_ (crayon), some \_\_\_\_\_ (cloth) and a few \_\_\_\_\_ (box) of \_\_\_\_\_ (sweet). Tarun added a blanket and three \_\_\_\_\_ (sheet). Finally, Akshay put in two \_\_\_\_\_ (box) of \_\_\_\_\_ (chocolate), and they were ready to go and hand over the \_\_\_\_\_ (gift).



A noun that stands for one person, place, animal or thing is said to be in the **singular number**. For example, a school, a child, a toothbrush, a comb, a blanket.

A noun that stands for more than one person, place, animal or thing is said to be in the **plural number**. For example, schools, children, toothbrushes, combs, blankets.

Most nouns have a **singular form** and a **plural form**. The plural is formed in different ways.

◆ For most nouns we add **s** to the singular to get the plural form. For example,

- egg—eggs
- parent—parents
- door—doors
- suitcase—suitcases

◆ For nouns that end in **s, ss, sh, ch** or **x**, we add **es** to the singular to get their plural forms. For example,

- bus—buses
- brush—brushes
- class—classes
- church—churches
- box—boxes



### Exception

ox—oxen



### Exception

piano—pianos; zoo—zoos;  
video—videos



### Exception

roof—roofs; chief—chiefs;  
dwarf—dwarfs; hoof—hoofs

◆ For nouns that end in **o** we add **es** to get their plural forms. For example,

- mango—mangoes
- tomato—tomatoes
- potato—potatoes
- hero—heroes

◆ When a noun ends in **f** or **fe**, the plural is formed by changing the **f** or **fe** to **ves**. For example,

- thief—thieves
- dwarf—dwarves
- wife—wives
- hoof—hooves
- life—lives

◆ Some nouns end in a **consonant** followed by **y**. Here, the **y** in the singular form changes to **ies** in the plural. For example,

- city—cities
- army—armies

◆ For a noun that ends in a **vowel** followed by **y**, we add **s** to form the plural. For example,

- day—days
- donkey—donkeys
- boy—boys

◆ Some nouns form their plural very differently. They do not follow any of the rules that you have just read. For example,

- child—children
- woman—women
- gentleman—gentlemen
- man—men
- tooth—teeth
- mouse—mice

◆ Some nouns **have the same form** in the singular as well as in the plural. For example,

- deer—deer
- sheep—sheep
- fish—fish
- fruit—fruit
- furniture—furniture
- information—information

### Remember

We say **fishes** and **fruits** when we are talking about a variety of different types of fish or fruit.





**A. Complete the table.**

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
1. story	_____	11. _____	babies
2. foot	_____	12. leaf	_____
3. _____	mares	13. batsman	_____
4. _____	peahens	14. _____	handkerchiefs
5. shelf	_____	15. lady	_____
6. monkey	_____	16. bee	_____
7. _____	mice	17. dictionary	_____
8. family	_____	18. herd	_____
9. _____	geese	19. _____	sheep
10. wolf	_____	20. hoof	_____

**B. There is an error in each of these sentences. Write the sentences correctly.**

1. They are very good childs.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. I brush my tooths every day.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Many womans are joining the Indian Army now.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Please comb your hairs.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. There are many big city and town in India.

\_\_\_\_\_



6. Father purchased new furnitures for the house.

7. Nine sheeps were grazing in the meadow.

8. There are two glass on the table.



Now, read this passage.

For **breakfast**, I usually eat some **bread** with a little **jam** or sometimes I like to eat melted **butter** on warm **toast**. Some mornings, I love to have **porridge** with a little **sugar**. I do not like to have **milk**.

The highlighted words in the passage cannot be counted. We cannot say milks or jams, but we can say **a glass of milk**, **a bottle of jam**, **a bowl of porridge** or **a dollop of butter**.



### Remember

Uncountable nouns can be made countable by using a **partitive**. We use a partitive to talk about only a part of the whole of something. For example, a **little** butter, a **loaf** of bread or a **lot** of money.



Nouns that can be counted are called **countable nouns**. Nouns that cannot be counted are called **uncountable nouns**.

Most of the uncountable nouns do not have plural forms.

We should say	We should not say
a little/some/a dollop of butter	butters
some/a loaf of/a slice of bread	breads
some/a bit of/two metres of cloth	cloths
long/short/curly/grey/a few strands of hair	hairs
some/a little/a lot of/ delicious food	foods
some/a lot of money	moneys
our/a piece of/many pieces of luggage	luggages
some/an item of/a piece of/many pieces of furniture	furnitures

We should say	We should not say
a cloud/film/puff/speck of dust	dusts
some/a pane of/a piece of/a sheet of/a fragment of/a splinter of glass	glasses
an outburst/a peal/a shriek of laughter	laughters
a beam/gleam/glimmer/flash/ray/shaft of light	lights
some/a cube of/a pinch of/a spoonful of/a packet of sugar	sugars
a bundle/piece/scrap/sheet/slip/strip of paper	papers

**C. Write C for countable nouns and UC for uncountable nouns.**

- |                |                  |                   |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. water _____ | 2. page _____    | 3. pastry _____   |
| 4. pen _____   | 5. tiger _____   | 6. grass _____    |
| 7. brick _____ | 8. juice _____   | 9. computer _____ |
| 10. book _____ | 11. watch _____  | 12. window _____  |
| 13. salt _____ | 14. bangle _____ | 15. ball _____    |

**D. Choose a suitable word from the box and write it before the uncountable noun in each sentence. The words may be repeated.**

some    any    a little    a lot    all    no

- When you are tired, you should listen to \_\_\_\_\_ music.
- I need to drink \_\_\_\_\_ of water. Is there \_\_\_\_\_ water left in the flask?
- The chef has used \_\_\_\_\_ of the oil to cook this dish.
- \_\_\_\_\_ paint has fallen on the floor.
- There is \_\_\_\_\_ furniture in the room. It is empty.
- He drank \_\_\_\_\_ the milk and left nothing for his sister.
- Do you want \_\_\_\_\_ sugar in the tea?
- They purchased a \_\_\_\_\_ of rice, \_\_\_\_\_ butter and \_\_\_\_\_ coffee from the store.

