

Irregular Plural Nouns

Put a check beside the sentence in each pair that uses the correct plural form.

In the woods, would you:

- _____ 1. Find two baby deer?
_____ Find two baby deers?
- _____ 2. Hear a pack of wolfs?
_____ Hear a pack of wolves?
- _____ 3. See many trouts in a stream?
_____ See many trout in a stream?
- _____ 4. Be surprised by four mooses?
_____ Be surprised by four moose?

In a library, would you:

- _____ 5. See many shelves of books?
_____ See many shelfs of books?
- _____ 6. Look for a book about ancient believes?
_____ Look for a book about ancient beliefs?
- _____ 7. Find a book about Native American chiefs?
_____ Find a book about Native American chieves?
- _____ 8. Go with your little sister to the childs' section?
_____ Go with your little sister to the children's section?
- _____ 9. Get her a book about elfs?
_____ Get her a book about elves?

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Put a check beside the sentence in each pair that uses the correct plural form.

If you visited a farm, would you:

- _____ 1. See a flock of sheeps?
_____ See a flock of sheep?
- _____ 2. See the cows and their calfs?
_____ See the cows and their calves?
- _____ 3. See several mice in the barn?
_____ See several mouses in the barn?
- _____ 4. See a team of oxes?
_____ See a team of oxen?
- _____ 5. Get chased by three geeses?
_____ Get chased by three geese?

If you were building a house, would you:

- _____ 6. Need good, sharp tools, including knives?
_____ Need good, sharp tools, including knives?
- _____ 7. Sharpen the saws if the teeth were dull?
_____ Sharpen the saws if the tooth was dull?
- _____ 8. Use the same shingles on the house and garage roofs?
_____ Use the same shingles on the house and garage roofs?
- _____ 9. Need a tape measure to measure foots?
_____ Need a tape measure to measure feet?

Plural vs. Possessive Nouns



Plural nouns refer to more than one of an item. Possessive nouns are used to show ownership of an item or items. Possessive nouns always contain an apostrophe. A plural noun does not contain an apostrophe unless it is also possessive. Here are some examples:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Plural | The chickens are in the yard. |
| Singular Possessive | The chicken's eggs are in her nest. |
| Plural Possessive | The chickens' eggs are in their nests. |

When a plural noun ends in *-s*, as in *chickens*, only an apostrophe is added to create the possessive form. If a plural noun is irregular and does not end in *-s*, as in *women*, then an apostrophe and *s* is added to create the possessive form.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Plural | The women washed their cars. |
| Plural Possessive | The women's cars were shiny. |

Write the possessive plural form of each word on the blank. Then use each plural possessive in a sentence.

1. Vice-Presidents _____

2. libraries _____

3. horses _____

4. mice _____

Plural vs. Possessive Nouns



Below are some plural and plural possessive words. If the word is a plural, write its plural possessive on the blank. If it is a plural possessive, write its plural form. Write a sentence using the word you wrote.

1. chiefs _____

2. deer's _____

3. animals _____

4. cheeses _____

5. bottles _____

6. medicines _____

7. laws' _____

Plural vs. Possessive Nouns

Circle the word or words that correctly complete each sentence.

1. The _____ screens need to be cleaned.
computers' computers
2. The _____ poles are lined up on the bridge.
fishermens fishermen's
3. The _____ shells were dyed pretty colors.
eggs' eggs
4. What kinds of _____ shall we make for the dinner?
salad's salads
5. The glass in the window _____ was broken.
pane's panes
6. How did those _____ legs get bent?
tables' tables
7. Please get me two _____ for the couch.
cushions' cushions
8. We like to go the _____ on Saturday night.
race's races
9. The _____ winners each get \$100.
races' races
10. The coffee _____ were missing.
cups' handles cups handles

Plural vs. Possessive Nouns



Underline the word that correctly completes each sentence.

1. We were invited to the (Williams / Williams') house to watch (movies / movie's).
2. (Centuries / Centuries') ago, there were more (prairies / prairie's).
3. (Elves / Elf's) are fictional (character's / characters).
4. Who changed the (numbers / number's) on that sign?
5. They climbed over the (fields / field's) fence.
6. Our (school's / schools') football team won the playof f game.
7. There were (princes / prince's) in all of the fairy (tale's / tales) in that book.
8. The (mooses / moose's) (antlers / antler's) were huge.
9. The (store's / stores') (roofs / roof's) were blown off by the tornado.
10. The (records / record's) show that he had his (country's / countries) support.

Irregular Past Tense Verbs



Fill in the blank with the correct past tense of the underlined verb.

1. I didn't want to forget her birthday. But, I _____ it anyway.
2. Mr. Martin had 50 watermelons to sell at the Farmer's Market. He _____ them all by noon.
3. I told my friend that if he would for give me this time, I would never be late again. He _____ me after I said that.
4. Joe read the label that said to shake the bottle, so he _____ it for two minutes.
5. The teacher said we would need to find out what these new words mean. I looked in the dictionary and found out what they _____.
6. Bob wanted a swimming pool and decided to dig a big hole for one. He _____ for a week, but the hole still wasn't big enough.
7. I asked Aunt Barbara if I could light a candle. When she said I could, I _____ a green one.
8. Colby tried not to catch any colds this winter, but he _____ one from his stepbrother.
9. Those plants will freeze if you leave them outside in the winter. I know, because last winter I left my plants outside and they all _____.
10. DeeAnn wanted to break a record in the track meet. She practiced really hard and _____ two records!

Irregular Past Tense Verbs



Fill in the blank with the correct past tense of the underlined verb.

1. I don't want to upset the can of bird seed this time when I clean the shed. Last time, I _____ that can and there was bird seed all over the floor!
2. Jennifer draws pictures of everyone she knows. Yesterday, she _____ a picture of you.
3. The club's members are going to stand on the front stairs this year to have their picture taken. Last year, they _____ on the stage.
4. Every time she goes to the music store, Samantha chooses a new CD. Last time, she _____ one by a new group from Australia.
5. Snow is supposed to fall here today. It _____ to the north of here last night.
6. My two cats will probably fight today. They _____ yesterday and the day before.
7. Please sing me a song. I really liked the one you _____ for me this morning.
8. We will not need to cut the grass today. Mrs. Harris _____ it for us last evening.
9. It is too cold to swim today. I'm glad we _____ yesterday.
10. The sun will rise this morning at 6:40 A.M. The sun _____ yesterday morning at 6:38 A.M.

Irregular Past Tense Verbs



Fill in the blank with the correct past tense of the underlined verb.

1. He strikes at the ball without watching it carefully. That is why he _____ out during the last inning.
2. Our neighbor asked us to lend him our wheelbarrow. We _____ it to him after we found it behind the garage.
3. My cousin likes to hang her laundry on the clothesline. This morning, she _____ out sheets and pillowcases.
4. I am trying to drink more water. I _____ three glasses of water this morning.
5. Amber thinks about becoming a marine biologist. Last year, she _____ about becoming a veterinarian.
6. My grandmother likes to lie down in the afternoons. Yesterday afternoon, she _____ down for an hour.
7. When it's icy, we like to slide down the hill. We _____ down the hill on our sleds and saucers all last Sunday afternoon.
8. She asked her grandfather to teach her to ride horses. She knew that her grandfather _____ her mother to ride years ago.
9. I told him to put his key on a floating key ring so it would not sink in the lake. He didn't take my advice, so when his key fell overboard, it _____.
10. I am going to lay these blankets on the chair. A while ago, I _____ the pillows on the sofa.

Subject and Verb Agreement



There are a few rules to remember when deciding whether to use *has* or *have*, *does* or *do*, and *was* or *were*.

Use *has*, *does*, and *was* with singular noun or pronoun subjects:

- Sara **has** some water. Sara **does** a dance. Sara **was** there.
- Ron **has** some water. Ron **does** a dance. Ron **was** there.
- The dog **has** some water. The dog **does** a dance. The dog **was** there.
- He **has** some water. She **does** a dance. It **was** there.

Use *have*, *do*, and *were* with plural noun or pronoun subjects.

- Three classmates **have** some water. Three classmates **do** a dance. Three classmates **were** there.
- The horse and the mule **have** some water. The horse and the mule **do** a dance. The horse and the mule **were** there.
- They **have** some water. They **do** a dance. They **were** there.

There are a couple of exceptions to the above rule involving the pronouns *you* and *I*.

Use *have*, *do*, and *were* with the pronoun *you*, regardless of whether it stands for a singular or plural noun.

- Jack, you **have** two overdue library books. Jack and Jill, you **have** two overdue library books.
- Jill, you **do** good work. Jill and Jack, you **do** good work.
- Jack, you **were** not here yesterday. Jack and Jill, you **were** not here yesterday.

Use *have*, *do*, and *was* with the pronoun *I*.

- I **have** new shoes.
- I **do** the laundry every Tuesday.
- I **was** asleep by 10 P.M. last night.

Subject and Verb Agreement



Choose the correct verb and write it in the blank.

1. The three of you _____ a good idea. has/have
2. Renee's party _____ a lot of fun. was/were
3. Jared wants a parakeet even more than his sister _____. does/do
4. Two meteor showers _____ visible last night. was/were
5. Those restaurants _____ great Italian food! has/have
6. I _____ not asked what I thought about it. was/were
7. Where _____ you this morning? was/were
8. Hot water and bleach _____ a good job removing some stains. does/do
9. It _____ many windows and doors. has/have
10. _____ I get another chance? Do/Does
11. Carrie, you _____ to call Mrs. Harris. has/have
12. If my sister and I _____ our homework tonight, we can go skating tomorrow. does/do
13. Why _____ they standing around? was/were
14. That type of apple _____ a very sweet taste. has/have
15. I wonder why the lights _____ that every time I turn on the TV. does/do

Subject and Verb Agreement (Separated)



The subject and verb may be next to one another in a sentence.

Danielle washes the dishes.
subject verb

The subject and verb may sometimes be separated by a phrase.

One of my friends **washes** the dishes.
subject verb

When the subject and verb are separated, a little extra attention is necessary to make sure that the subject and verb are in agreement. First, you will need to read the entire sentence. Then, carefully identify the actual subject of the sentence. If you find the subject, you can decide which verb goes with it.

Read the following sentences and circle the correct verb to agree with the subject in each.

1. The damage done by the storms (was / were) widespread.
2. Five officers from the U.S. Navy (was / were) on the plane.
3. The district band, made up of members from ten schools, (is / are) playing at our school tonight.
4. The flowers in her front yard (has / have) been picked.
5. All of the students in Math Club, including me, (want / wants) to win the Math Bowl contest this year.

Subject and Verb Agreement (Separated)

Read the following sentences and circle the correct verb to agree with the subject in each.

1. My cousins, together with my Uncle Pete, (plays / play) checkers.
2. Rocky, my guinea pig with the brown spots, (do / does) tricks sometimes.
3. The leaves on the old tree across the street (has / have) turned brown.
4. Max's dog, along with her puppies, (follows / follow) him everywhere.
5. The members of our communication class, including our teacher, (does / do) volunteer work reading to the kindergarten class.
6. That new game with a lot of sound effects (makes / make) too much noise!
7. Two ears of corn, in addition to a big baked potato, (is / are) on her plate.
8. The telephone lines in my friend's neighborhood (was / were) blown down.
9. All of the animals, even the snake, (has / have) to be given medicine.
10. The congresswoman, who represents many constituents from thirty counties, (has / have) decided to vote for the bill.

Subject and Verb Agreement (Indefinite Pronouns)

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Indefinite pronouns are used in place of nouns. They can act as subjects in sentences; however they do not refer to a specific thing or person.

For example, in the sentence, “Someone needs to answer the phone,” *someone* is an indefinite pronoun and is the subject of the sentence. It doesn’t state exactly who needs to answer the phone, though.

Like other pronouns, indefinite pronouns have singular and plural forms, depending upon whether they refer to just one or more than one thing or person. Here are some singular indefinite pronouns:

someone	somebody	something
anyone	anybody	anything
everyone	everybody	everything
no one	nobody	nothing
either	neither	each

Here are some plural indefinite pronouns:

many	few	several
------	-----	---------

There are some indefinite pronouns that can be singular or plural, depending upon how they are used in a sentence:

all	much	any
most	some	none

Here are some examples of how one of the pronouns from the above list can be used as both a singular and a plural:

- **Most** of the ice cream has melted. (*singular*)
- **Most** of the flowers have bloomed. (*plural*)

When using an indefinite pronoun as a subject in a sentence, be sure that the verb agrees with it in number (singular or plural).

Subject and Verb Agreement (Indefinite Pronouns)

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grammar & syntax

Read each sentence. If the indefinite pr onoun subject and the verb agree, make a check on the blank. If they do not agr ee, cross out the verb and change it to make the sentence corr ect.

- _____ 1. Everybody have a locker in gym class.
- _____ 2. Several are broken.
- _____ 3. Neither are long enough.
- _____ 4. All of the equipment was at the job site.
- _____ 5. Each of the packages are being delivered this afternoon.
- _____ 6. Everyone in the band marches in the parade on Thanksgiving Day.
- _____ 7. Few of the customers orders the extra-hot tacos!
- _____ 8. Anything do better than that!
- _____ 9. Either of the pens work well.
- _____ 10. All of the trees needs trimming.
- _____ 11. Many drive down this street every day.
- _____ 12. Everything go in here.
- _____ 13. Each was a different color.

Subject and Verb Agreement (Indefinite Pronouns)

Read each sentence. If the indefinite pronoun subject and the verb agree, make a check on the blank. If they do not agree, cross out the verb and change it to make the sentence correct.

- _____ 1. Some of the loaves of bread was hot.
- _____ 2. No one cook better than my grandmother!
- _____ 3. Somebody want that scrap lumber.
- _____ 4. None of this music sounds right.
- _____ 5. Some of the food are spoiled.
- _____ 6. Nothing seems to work.
- _____ 7. Something makes the dogs bark every night.
- _____ 8. Each of my cats receives vaccinations at the veterinarian's office.
- _____ 9. Most of the water have evaporated.
- _____ 10. Many goes to school here.
- _____ 11. Anybody is welcome.
- _____ 12. Few people can their own vegetables anymore.
- _____ 13. Much of the ground is frozen.

Irregular Comparatives

Forms of the words *good*, *bad* and *well* are used to compare two or more things or actions. When two items are compared, the *comparative* form is used. When three or more items are compared, the *superlative* form is used.

	Comparative	Superlative
good	better	best
bad	worse	worst
well	better	best

As you can see, the comparative and superlative forms for *good* and *well* are the same. However, *good* is always an adjective in a sentence. It always describes a person, place or thing.

- A **good** friend
- A **good** amusement park
- A **good** pizza

On the other hand, *well* is usually an adverb in a sentence and describes an action.

- He dances **well**.
- The car runs **well**.
- She did **well** on the test.

Well is an adjective in a sentence only when describing health.

- I have had the flu, but I'm feeling **well** enough today to go back to school.

Irregular Comparatives

Write a sentence using each word.

1. worst _____

2. good _____

3. well (as an adverb) _____

4. better (as an adjective) _____

5. bad _____

6. best (as an adverb) _____

7. well (as an adjective) _____

8. worse _____

9. better (as an adverb) _____

10. best (as an adjective) _____

The words *its* and *it's* are often confused. *Its* is the possessive form of *it* and shows ownership of something.

- The bird built **its** nest.
- The dog wagged **its** tail.

It's is a contraction meaning either "it is" or "it has."

- **It's** too cold to swim.
- **It's** been broken for a month.

Read the following sentences. If *its* or *it's* has been used correctly, make a check. If the sentence is incorrect, cross out *its* or *it's* and write the correct form above it.

- _____ 1. You should buy that brand of peanut butter because its r eally good.
- _____ 2. The jar is missing it's lid.
- _____ 3. It's too late to catch the bus now.
- _____ 4. Why isn't the kitten eating its food?
- _____ 5. That country is very proud of it's history.
- _____ 6. The river overflowed its banks.
- _____ 7. Will you please put the guitar back in it's case?
- _____ 8. The car blew its horn before backing up.
- _____ 9. Its fallen off of the wall.
- _____ 10. The news article said that it's not likely that he will get enough votes to win.
- _____ 11. You can identify a tree by its leaves and bark.
- _____ 12. She wanted to know how long its been since the bell rang.

Whose vs. Who's



The words *whose* and *who's* may be confused. *Whose* is the possessive form of *who* and shows ownership of something.

- **Whose** sweater is this?
- **Whose** books are by the door?

Who's is a contraction meaning either "who is" or "who has."

- **Who's** in the back yard?
- **Who's** left the party already?

Read the following sentences. If *whose* or *who's* has been used correctly, make a check. If the sentence is incorrect, cross out *whose* or *who's* and write the correct form above it.

- _____ 1. The teacher needs to know *who's* absent today.
- _____ 2. The judge couldn't decide *who's* painting was the best.
- _____ 3. He thinks he's the best player *who's* ever been on the team.
- _____ 4. I didn't know *whose* number to call.
- _____ 5. *Who's* birthday comes in January?
- _____ 6. She is the one *who's* the best!
- _____ 7. *Whose* used up the mustard?
- _____ 8. You'd better ask someone *whose* been there.
- _____ 9. *Who's* to blame for the broken window?
- _____ 10. They weren't able to figure out *whose* signature was on the paper.
- _____ 11. *Whose* fault was it that the window got broken?
- _____ 12. The deed stated *who's* land it had been.

There, Their, and They're

Another group of words that are often confused are *there*, *their*, and *they're*.

There refers to a particular place. It is also commonly used to start sentences.

- Put the table over **there** in the corner.
- **There** is no reason to be afraid.

Their is the possessive form of *they*. It shows ownership of something. It may also come at the beginning of a sentence, but it always shows ownership.

- Sophia and Gina brought **their** coats.
- **Their** coats are in the closet.

They're is a contraction meaning "they are." It may also come at the beginning of a sentence, but it is always a contraction.

- I know that **they're** here somewhere.
- **They're** not ripe yet.

There, Their, and They're



Write the correct word (*there, their* or *they're*) in the blanks to complete each sentence.

1. The stalled cars on the freeway are all blowing _____ horns.
2. _____ riding the bus to Kansas City tomorrow.
3. If I had known that you wanted it _____, I would have moved it.
4. Will _____ be any baked potatoes left?
5. _____ truck is the one with a flat tire.
6. _____ is the one I want!
7. Do you think that _____ aunt can give them a ride?
8. Do you think that _____ really antiques?
9. We left _____ an hour ago.
10. I shop at those discount stores because I like _____ pharmacies.
11. _____ are no glass bottles allowed over _____ in the swimming area.
12. If _____ not _____ yet, they must have had car trouble.
13. When they see _____ phone bill this month, _____ going to have a fit!
14. Why didn't Sandy and Terri put _____ chairs under the tree _____ where it is shady?
15. _____ is where _____ planning to build _____ house.

Here are some capitalization rules to keep in mind as you write.

Capitalize family relationship words when these words are being used as names.

- I asked **Grandfather** to teach me to drive.
- I called **Uncle** Alex and asked him to come over.
- ✓ Do not capitalize family relationship words when they follow the words **a, an, the** or a possessive.
 - We made our **grandfather** a cake for his birthday.
 - I asked my friend if she had an **uncle** named Alex.

Capitalize the names of days and months.

- The fire broke out on a hot **Monday** afternoon in **August**.
- ✓ Do not capitalize the names of the seasons of the year .
 - Can you name a **fall** month?

Capitalize names of specific sections of the United States and also proper adjectives that come from names of specific sections of the United States or the world.

- Hurricanes have been a problem in the **Southeast**.
- Here is a recipe for **Southern** pecan pie.
- He is going to read about **Eastern** religions.
- ✓ Do not capitalize words indicating compass directions.
 - Our camp is **north** of the lake.
 - We mapped out the **southern** route we planned to take.

Capitalize the word **Earth** when it is being used as a proper noun.

- The scientist studied the orbits of Venus, **Earth**, and Mars.
- ✓ Do not capitalize the word **earth** when it is being used as a common noun.
 - They dug in the **earth**, looking for fossils.

Capitalize titles that are used with names of persons.

- One of the characters in the movie *Zorro* was **Sergeant** Garcia.
- I have an appointment with **Doctor** Evans today.
- ✓ Do not capitalize titles that are used as common nouns.
 - The **doctor** in the emergency room ordered x-rays.
 - She is the new **senator** from Nebraska.

Capitalization

Rewrite these sentences, correcting any errors in capitalization. If there are no errors, write **None** on the blank.

1. I can't wait for Summer! _____

2. My Uncle likes to wear western shirts. _____

3. The huge trucks moved the earth at the building site. _____

4. My uncle Joe comes from the East. _____

5. The meeting was called by general Wilson. _____

6. This Spring, our grandmother plans to visit some relatives in the northwest. _____

7. I told dad that I would go with him to see the doctor. _____

8. She said that Jupiter has more moons than Earth has. _____

9. Shawnda's cousin is running for mayor. _____

10. The mother was looking for a winter coat for her son. _____
