

PLURAL FORMS OF NOUNS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK

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Annotation: This article provides a detailed analysis of the grammatical characteristics of plural nouns and explains the rules and mechanisms involved in their formation. It examines how plural forms are constructed in English, highlighting both regular and irregular patterns. The discussion is supported by clear, well-chosen examples that help illustrate each rule and make the concepts easier to understand for learners.

Keywords: noun, plural suffix, morphological method, syntactic method.

Words that denote a person, object, place, abstract concept, or time and answer the questions who? what? where? are called nouns.

In English, the plural is formed by adding the suffixes -s or -es, and only countable nouns can take plural forms, while uncountable nouns usually do not. There are several rules for forming the plural of nouns.

1.1. In English, most nouns take the suffix -s.

Two rivers, three cats, six cars.

1.2. If a word ends in s, ss, x, sh, ch, -es is added.

Bus–buses, box–boxes, brush–brushes, watch–watches.

1.3. If a word ends in consonant + y, the y is dropped and -ies is added.

Family–families, lady–ladies, city–cities.

1.4. If a word ends in vowel + y, only -s is added.

Boy–boys, key–keys, toy–toys.

1.5. If some words end in -f or -fe, f changes to v.

Leaf–leaves, knife–knives, wife–wives.

This change is not observed in some nouns.

Roof–roofs, chief–chiefs.

1.6. Certain nouns in English are called irregular nouns, and when they form the plural, only the root changes.

Man–men, woman–women, child–children, person–people, mouse–mice.

In some nouns, the singular and plural forms are the same.

Sheep–sheep, deer–deer, fish–fish.

1.7. If nouns end in -o, -es is added.

Tomato–tomatoes, hero–heroes, potato–potatoes.

Exceptions: video–videos, photo–photos, piano–pianos.

In Uzbek, the plural category of nouns is mainly expressed through the suffix -lar. When added to nouns, the plural suffix expresses more than one object. The plural form of nouns in Uzbek is created in two ways:

1. Morphological method.

2. Syntactic method.

2.1. In the morphological method, the plural is formed by adding the suffix -lar to nouns. For example: kitoblar, qalamlar, uylar.

2.2. In the syntactic method, the meaning of plurality is created with the help of words. For example: bir nechta talaba, ko'plab kitob, bir talay mevalar.

In some nouns, the plural lexical meaning is expressed using words that indicate plurality. For example: group, crowd, nation, flock, population, etc. The expression of plurality in these nouns is called the lexical-semantic method. The above-mentioned nouns grammatically express the singular form but semantically denote plurality.

When added to abstract nouns, it intensifies and emphasizes the meaning. For example: He gave good advice. In some cases, it expresses a general collection of items belonging to the same category. Example: There are apples, melons and pears in the market. To conclude, in Uzbek, if a numeral indicating quantity (for example: five, ten, several) comes before a noun, the suffix *-lar* is usually not added, because the number is already clear. Adding the plural suffix in this case is stylistically incorrect. For example: *beshta o'g'il*(not five sons), *o'n kishi* (not ten people).

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