Luciana Popović-Miloš

PLAY AND LEARN

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## GRAMMAR PRACTICE WITH KEY

BASIC TO UPPER-INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH GRAMMAR IN ONE BOOK

Ovu knjigu posvećujem, mojoj ćerki Zariji i unuci Taliji za koje živim a koje su me neumorno bodrile.

Mom suprugu Jovi koji me podržava u svemu što radim i bez čije zadivljujuće tolerancije ova knjiga nikad ne bi bila napisana.

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## INTRODUCTION

There are many grammatical descriptions, and each one is a building block in the structure of your knowledge of how to form and use English correctly. The greater the number of building blocks that you master, the greater your accuracy with the spoken and written language will be.

The point here is that grammar rules will guide you towards speaking and writing better English. If you follow the rules of grammar, you can express yourself more clearly. But if you fail to observe those rules, people may find it difficult to understand you or they may even misunderstand you entirely.

However, just knowing the rules of grammar is not enough. The more you practise, the more you become proficient in how you use English and to what extent you understand it.

There are various kinds of exercises to allow you to manipulate the language from different angles.

The Answer Key at the end of the book gives you not only the right answers, but also suggestions as to how an exercise should be completed.

## WHAT IS A NOUN?

It is a word that names a person, place, thing, idea or quality.
Person -boy, teacher, John, doctor
Place- London, city
Thing-house, tree, ice-cream, table idea truth, illusion, fantasy, democracy
quality beauty, caring, hatred, boredom

## MAKING NOUNS PLURAL

Most nouns have the same plural for the masculine and feminine forms:
cat, servant, painter, artist, rider, driver, cook, prisoner, singer, dancer, reporter, journalist, parent, author, cousin, child

We may say:

| male teacher | lady teacher |
| :--- | :--- |
| manservant | woman servant |
| he cat | she cat |

Some nouns form the feminine gender from the masculine by adding -ess Words ending in -er or -or often drop the $e$ or the $o$ :

| manager | manageress | actor <br> conductor | actress <br> conductress |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| lion | waitress | lioness | hero |

Some nouns have different forms:

| lord | lady | duke | duchess |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| uncle | aunt | nephew | niece |
| brother | sister | father | mother |
| drake | duck | cock | hen |
| bull | cow |  |  |

The plural of a noun is usually made by adding $-s$ to the singular:

| dog | dogs | week | weeks |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| day | days | pencil | pencils |
| book | books |  |  |

Nouns ending in $-y$ following a consonant form their plural by dropping the $-y$ and adding -ies

| family | families | factory | factories |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| lady | ladies | country | countries |
| baby | babies | story | stories |
| key | keys | city | cities |

Nouns ending in $-y$ following a vowel form their plural by adding $-s$

| boy | boys | donkey | donkeys |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| toy | toys | ray | rays |
| turkey | turkeys | way | ways |

Some nouns ending in -for-fe drop the -for feand add -ves

| wife | wives | life | lives |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| knife | knives | wolf | wolves |
| self | selves | calf | calves |
| shelf | shelves | leaf | leaves |
| loaf | loaves | thief | thieves |
| half | halves | sheaf | sheaves |

Some nouns can have two plural forms:

| scarf | scarfs <br> scarves <br> wharfs |
| :--- | :--- |
| wharf | wharves |
| hoof | hoofs |
| hooves |  |

Some nouns ending in -oof, -ief, -ff don't drop $-f$ they form the plural by adding $-s$ :

| roof | roofs | dwarf | dwarfs |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| chief | chiefs | cliff | cliffs |

Other words ending in $-f$, -fe , add $-s$ :

| cliff | cliffs | fife | fifes |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| safe | safes | reef | reefs |
| gulf | gulfs | staff | staffs |
| coif | coifs | strife | strifes |

Some nouns form the plural by a vowel change:

| mouse | mice | louse | lice |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| goose | geese | tooth | teeth |
| woman | women | man | men |
| foot | feet |  |  |

Some nouns form the plural by adding -en:

| child | children |
| :--- | :--- |
| ox | oxen |
| brother | brethren |

Some nouns don' $t$ have plural forms. If you need a plural you can use some words like 'piece',
advice
progress
knowledge
information
eg. furniture $\qquad$ four pieces of furniture

Some nouns have the same form in the singular and plural:

| deer | deer |
| :--- | :--- |
| swine | swine |
| salmon | salmon |
| species | species |
| means | means |
| trout | trout |
| sheep | sheep |

You can use numbers to make the plural e.g. one sheep, two fish etc.
Some have singular forms, but are followed by a verb in the plural:

```
people
police
cattle
```

Some have plural form, but are followed by a verb in the singular:
news
statistics
athletics
mathematics
physics
phonetics
Some nouns are used only in the plural:
alms annals
headquarters customs
oats italics
thanks tidings
victuals wages
braces scissors
trousers nutcrackers
measles ninepins
dominoes billiards

## Some nouns have two plural forms but different meanings

| penny | pennies - individual coins |
| :--- | :--- |
| pence - the amount |  |
| colour | colours |
| spirit | spirits |
| hair | hairs |

Words with Greek or Latin forms often make their plurals according to the rules of Greek or Latin:

| alga | algae | bacillus | bacilli |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| larva | larvae | fungus | fungi |
| formula | formulae | thesis | theses |
| crisis | crises | oasis | oases |
| datum | data |  |  |

Compound nouns - normally the last word is pluralised:
armchair armchairs bookcase bookcases

Where man or woman is prefixed,both parts are made plural;
manservant menservants
Words ending in -ful usually make their plural in the ordinary way
handful handfuls armful armfuls

Compound nouns formed with prepositions or adverbs make only the first word plural:

|  | sister-in-law, <br> mother-in-law | sisters-in-law | stepson | stepsons |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| but | grown-up | grown-in-law | passer-by | passers-by |

There are no absolute rules for plural. If you are uncertain, check your dictionary. It will tell you the correct plural for each word:

## EXERCISES

## 1. 1 Write the plurals in the correct column:

| toy | girl | child | baby |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| country | person | woman | animal |
| bus | man | dog | city |
| piano | ox | day | tooth |
| tomato | goose | foot | factory |
| bush | bench | bird | lady |
| week | mouse | louse | photo |


| $S$ | ES and IES | IRREGULAR |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

1. 2 Make these nouns plural
2. banana -
3. cucumber -
4. photo -
5. orange -
6. melon -
7. tomato -
8. carrot -
9. figs -
10. radish -
11. strawberry -
12. cherry -
13. peach -
14. lemon -

## 1. 3 Insert the plural of the nouns in each sentence:

1. The students are carrying (bag) and $\qquad$ (book).
2. It's autumn. The $\qquad$ (leaf) are falling.
3. John wants three $\qquad$ (sandwich).
4. If you go to the zoo you can see $\qquad$ (tiger)
$\qquad$ (monkey), $\qquad$ (bird) and $\qquad$
$\qquad$ (snake).
5. People have two $\qquad$ (ear),two $\qquad$ (eye), two $\qquad$
$\qquad$ (arm), two $\qquad$ (hand), two $\qquad$ (leg), and two $\qquad$ (foot).
6. There are over ten $\qquad$ (college)in the city.
7. We like $\qquad$ (strawberry) $\qquad$ (peach) and $\qquad$ (banana)
8. We need some $\qquad$ (knife), $\qquad$ (fork) and
$\qquad$ (spoon).
9. There are more $\qquad$ (woman) than $\qquad$ (man) in my class.
10. He has bought seven $\qquad$ (fish).

## 1. 4 Circle or write the correct form of the verb:

1. Most of the information $\qquad$ (was/were) wrong.
2. Mathematics $\qquad$ (is / are) not an easy subject).
3. The furniture in this room $\qquad$ (don't / doesn't) need to be polished.
4. Physics $\qquad$ (is / are) my favorite subject.
5. (Does / Do) the police know about the accident?
6. The scissors $\qquad$ (isn't/ aren't) sharp enough.
7. Five miles $\qquad$ (isn't / aren't) a long distance.
8. Politics $\qquad$ (isn't / aren't) my choice.
9. The police $\qquad$ (are / is) controlling the highway.
10. The trousers $\qquad$ (is / are) too long.
11. The news $\qquad$ (was / were) about a robbery.
12. There $\qquad$ (is / are) a lot of interesting series on British television.
13. The news $\qquad$ (wasn't / weren't) as bad as we had expected.
14. Three years $\qquad$ (is / are)a long time to be without you.

## 1. 5 Write these sentences in the plural:

1. This baby is getting a new tooth.
2. A leaf is falling from the tree.
3. The woman usually spends her holiday in a big city.
4. There is a big red tomato in this sandwich.
5. The child has something on his foot.
6. A student is holding a pen.
7. The hungry boy has a fresh apple.
8. Can he put a book on the shelf?
9. I see a person waiting for a child.
10. Look! There's a sheep in the bush.
11. The man is from Italy.
12. This person is Italian.
13. This coin isn't American.
14. A dictionary is useful.
15. This woman is ill.
16. My brother likes fish.
17. This story is very interesting.
18. 6 Insert the plural of the nouns in each sentence:
19. Everybody has two $\qquad$ (foot)
20. There are many $\qquad$ (factory) in his town.
21. How many $\qquad$ (box) have you found in the stockroom?
22. There are seven $\qquad$ (day) in a week.
23. You can have a beautiful view from those $\qquad$ (cliff).
24. He likes buying $\qquad$ (scarf).
25. He enjoys taking $\qquad$ (photo).
26. There are two $\qquad$ empty $\qquad$ (shelf).
27. I am sure there are lots of $\qquad$ (mouse) in this house.
28. Mexico City is bigger than lots of other $\qquad$ (city).
29. His life is more interesting than the $\qquad$ (life) of many other people.
30. That roof is green and the $\qquad$ (roof) of other houses are red.
31. He makes $\qquad$ (toy) as a hobby.
32. This volcano is more active than other $\qquad$ (volcano) in Italy.
33. Were those $\qquad$ (nobleman) $\qquad$ (hero)?

## MAKING NOUNS POSSESSIVE

Possessive nouns are nouns which show possession. A singular noun usually adds an apostrophe and -s ('s). Plural nouns usually add an -s followed by an apostrophe ( $s$ '):

## Example:

My sister's friends
My sisters' friends

## There are some irregular possessive nouns:

children $\qquad$ children's
men $\qquad$ men's
women $\qquad$ women's
people $\qquad$ people's

Names which end in -s are written two ways: usually with 's (Marcos's) but sometimes with only an apostrophe (Marcos'):

## Example:

Lois's dog

We can use 's without a following noun if the meaning is clear
This is Peter's car. This is Peter's.
These are father's trousers These are father's.
Classical names ending in $s$ and some English names add only the apostrophe.
Archimedes' Law,
Keats' poetry
We normally use 's when the noun is a person or animal and for things we use .... of....
Tom's car the door of the garage.
Sometimes we can use's when the noun is a thing but it's better to use ...of...(it's more common) the street's name the name of the street

But for an organization, place, (a group of people, ) we can use either's or .... of.... .
the government's plan the plan of the government
the schools 's success the success of the school
To indicate someone's shop, or places we use 's.
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { at the butcher's } & \begin{array}{l}\text { Britain's largest city } \\ \text { at the dentist's }\end{array} \\ \text { the city's new theatre }\end{array}$
If two people own the same thing, use 's for only the second person.
Peter and Jack's office (they share one office)
If two people don't share the same thing use's for both people.
Adam's and Peter's house (they don't share the same house)
Compounds are treated as one word.
my brother-in-law's house
We can use's without a following noun.
Ann's house is larger than Sara's
We can use 's with words denoting time(yesterday, tomorrow, three weeks, five hours, etc.)
two days' holiday
a week's holiday
eight hours‘ flight
When the possessor is a thing indicating the position of something, we use neither -'s nor . . . of...

$$
\begin{array}{llll}
\text { town square } & \text { city hall } & \text { street lamp } & \text { kitchen table }
\end{array}
$$

It is similar with the names of towns, clothes, equipment, vehicles, kind of stories, connection with time etc.
winter sports $\quad$ Sunday dinner adventure stories coffee bar birthday party

The possessives of titles are formed as follows:
George the First's reign

## PRACTICE

## 1. 7. Change the nouns in brackets with 's and apostrophe only (')

## Example:

Peter is $\qquad$ husband (Tina). Peter is Tina's husband. Their names are $\qquad$ Peter and David (sons) Their sons' names are Peter and David

1. Mrs. Blake is $\qquad$ mother (Amanda)
2. Is Diana $\qquad$ sister (Jenny)?
3. My $\qquad$ names are Nick and Tom (children).
4. These are our $\qquad$ shoes (mother).
5. The girls $\qquad$ bicycles are blue (girl).
6. Is Miss Mill $\qquad$ teacher (Marta)?
7. Are these $\qquad$ rackets (boy)?
8. We are $\qquad$ parents (Nick and Marta).
9. Jenny, is your $\qquad$ Nick (brother name)?
10. Is $\qquad$ pencil red (Carlos)?
11. He walked across Park of St. James through the snow.
12. 8 To make nouns possessive use (') with or without (s). In some sentences use only
..... of...

## Example:

Miss Mill is the teacher of Jenny.
Miss Mill is Jenny's teacher.

1. The new house of Trina.
2. This is the car of my parents.
3. We didn't expect the success of the company.
4. The meeting tomorrow will be at 8 o'clock.
5. The husband of Fiona is ill.
6. It was dark, but they could see the chimneys of the house.
7. My friend cheered the football match that evening.
8. The experts of Japan were welcomed.
9. The government changed the names of the street.
10. Mr. Watkins is the new headmaster of the school.
11. He walked across Park of St. James through the snow.
12. 9 Make the possessive in questions and sentences:

## Example:

Marta is a friend of my sister.
Marta is my sister's friend

1. Are these presents from Sarah?
2. Skiing is my best sport in winter.
3. What are the names of your children?
4. We had a very big table in the dining room.
5. This painting belongs to Amanda.
6. Have you taken the trolley of the shop?
7. The friends of my parents live in London.
8. 10 Make these nouns possessive:

## Example:

Where is the department for women?
Where is the women's department.

1. John lives in the house of his mother-in-law.
2. These shoes for children are very old.
3. This is the house of Mary and Peter.
4. One of the paintings by Picasso is missing.
5. The theatres of Queen Elizabeth I were round.
6. It was a long line of 500 metres.
7. The arrival of the Queen was the happiest moment for the people of England.
8. The decision of the government to reduce taxes was surprising.
9. The evening show will be at 8 o'clock.
10. During the two weeks' holiday of my secretary I'll have to work much more.
11. In the time of a week.
12. A wedding reception of the young couple will be on Sunday.
13. Those government projects are quite new.
14. She is going to show how to mend the dress of her sister-in-law.
15. My graphic designer is designing the new cover of the magazine.
16. Can you finish your project in the time in a month?
17. The offices of Mr. Brown and Mr. Ford are in the same building.
18. I get a holiday of three months.
19. Who will vote for the rights of students in our country?
20. The daughter of Charles who is twenty -three years old, works in a public school.
21. Today over four hundred years the plays of Shakespeare are still running.
22. The music of Mozart, Bach, Beethoven is played all over the world
23. 11 Complete the conversation using the noun or nouns in brackets.

## Example:

A: Who are you talking to on the telephone?
B: (friend) I am talking to my friend's father.

1. A: Is that Sarah's office?

B: (Sarah) Yes, it's $\qquad$ office.
2. A: Do these books belong to the boys?

B: (boys/ girls). No, they're not the $\qquad$ books. They're $\qquad$ .
3. A: Who is that?

B: (Henry) That 's $\qquad$ sister.
4. A: What is the name of the library?

B: (library) The $\qquad$ name is the Globe.
5. A: What are the names of your pets?

B: (pets) My $\qquad$ names are Trig, Luna and Diana.
6. A: Who are you painting this picture for?

B: (children) I am painting it for my $\qquad$ school.
7. A: Excuse me. Is this the department for women?

B: (men) No, it's $\qquad$ department.
8. A: Is this your racket?

B: (Nick) No, it's $\qquad$ .
9. A: What are the names of the parents of your friend?

B: (friend/parents) My $\qquad$ names are Peter and J Jenny.


