**Forming Plurals**

Whenever there is more than one of a noun, we need to use the plural form. In most cases, we can do this simply by adding an –s to the end of the noun.

* Dog > dogs • Door > doors

If the singular noun ends in –ch, -s, -sh, -x, or –z, add –es to form the plural. This helps make pronunciation easier.

* Dish > dishes • Box > boxes

For nouns that end in –y, change the y to –ie before adding –s.

* Property > properties • City > cities

For nouns that end in –f, change the f to –v and add –es.

* Thief > thieves • Wolf > wolves

Some irregular plurals:

* Man > men • Foot > feet
* Woman > women • Tooth > teeth
* Child > children • Goose > geese
* Tooth > teeth • Mouse > mice

**Practice**
Choose the correct singular or plural form from the options given in parentheses.

1. All of the (chair, chairs) are in that room.
2. My brother has some (dictionary, dictionarys, dictionaries) we can use.
3. The (student, students) is studying.
4. The couple has three (childs, child, children).
5. In autumn, the (leafs, leaves, leaf) change color and fall from tree (branch, branchs, branches).
6. We have one (libraries, library, librarys) here in town.
7. My cat likes to chase (mouse, mouses, mice).
8. Please take out a (pencil, pencils) and a sheet of paper.
9. She has very long (eyelashes, eyelash, eyelashs).
10. Two (half, halves, halfs) make one whole.
11. A (bird, birds) landed outside my window.
12. How many more (box, boxes, boxs) do we have to unpack?
13. The world has many (countrys, countries, country).
14. I lost a (button, buttons) off of my shirt.
15. My friend bought a new pair of (shoe, shoes) today.

*Lindsey Zimmerman – OPIE Writing Lab – Spring 2015*

**Key**

1. All of the chairs are in that room.
2. My brother has some dictionaries we can use.
3. The student is studying.
4. The couple has three children.
5. In autumn, the leaves change color and fall from the tree branches.
6. We have one (libraries, library, librarys) here in town.
7. My cat likes to chase mice.
8. Please take out a pencil and a sheet of paper.
9. She has very long eyelashes.
10. Two halves make one whole.
11. A bird landed outside my window.
12. How many more boxes do we have to unpack?
13. The world has many countries.
14. I lost a button off of my shirt.
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