Plurals

Most English nouns form their plurals by adding an *s* to the singular. However, there are many exceptions to this rule.

Exceptions:

1. In nouns ending in *x, s, z, ch*, and *sh*, the plural is formed by adding *es* to the final letter of the word.

E.g.: box🡪boxes waltz🡪waltzes

1. In nouns ending in a consonant plus *y*, the plural is formed by changing the *y* to an *i* and adding *es*.

E.g.: activity🡪activities berry🡪berries

1. In nouns ending in an *f,* the plural is formed by changing the *f* to *v* and adding *es*.

E.g.: half🡪halves

1. In some nouns ending in *us*, the plural is formed by changing the *us* to an *i.*

E.g.: alumnus🡪alumni radius🡪radii

1. In nouns ending in *um*, the plural is formed by changing the *um* to an *a*.

E.g.: curriculum🡪curricula medium🡪media

1. In nouns ending in *is*, the plural is formed by changing the *is* to *es*.

E.g.: crisis🡪crises thesis🡪 theses

1. In nouns ending in *on*, the plural is formed by changing the *on* to an *a*.

E.g.: phenomenon🡪 phenomena criterion🡪criteria

1. Some nouns use the same form in the singular and plural.

E.g.: deer🡪deer fish🡪fish sheep🡪sheep

1. Some nouns are used only in the plural.

E.g.: series pants species

1. Some nouns have irregular plural forms, which must be memorized.

E.g.: child🡪children mouse🡪mice

man🡪men woman🡪women

1. To form the plural of letters, numbers, and other symbols, add *’s*.

E.g.: m’s 3’s