

Rule 1

- (A) a) Uncountable Nouns are used in the singular form only.  
 b) Indefinite article is not used before them.  
 c) They are not used with plural verbs.  
 d) 'Much' or 'some' are used in place of 'Many' for denoting plurality.

Some of the important nouns of this kind are—

'Advice, information, hair, luggage, business, work, word (in the sense of promise, message, discussion) mischief, bread, scenery, abuse, vacation, evidence, employment, alphabet, poetry, food, furniture, baggage, fuel, paper, equipment, machinery, material etc.' For example

i) He gave me an information.

→ information uncountable noun ତାହା ତାହା ଆଗରେ an (indefinite article) ଥାଏ ନା।

ii) You should be true to your words.

→ 'ଅପମାନ' 'word' promise ତାହା ହେଉଥିବା ସତ୍ତ୍ୱେ ତାହା 'word'-ର ଆଗରେ 's' ଥାଏ ନା।

iii) He was punished for committing many mischiefs.

→ 'Many' -ର ସ୍ଥାନ 'much' ଥାଏ ଏବଂ 'mischief' -ର ଆଗରେ 's' ଥାଏ ନା।

iv) Young persons dislike the advices of the elderly people.

→ 'advices' ଥିବା ତାହା କରାଯାଇ ସତ୍ତ୍ୱେ, ଅପମାନ ଚିନ୍ତା ତାହା ହେଉଥିବା ସତ୍ତ୍ୱେ, 'advice' ଥାଏ।

(B) These nouns may be used to denote singularity as follows—

i) a piece/a word of advice

ii) a word of abuse.

iii) an act of mischief

iv) a piece of work.

v) a piece/loaf of bread

vi) an article of luggage.



x) The Police has become impertinent.

→ Police - ଏହା ଏକ - ଅସମ୍ଭବ/has ଏକ କାରଣ ଏକ order ଅନୁସାରେ  
ଅନନ୍ତ ସହ ତାହା singular verb ଲେଖା.

xi) The police were posted all over the route.

→ ଏହାଙ୍କୁ ଅନୁସାରେ ଡାମ କରା ହେଉଥିବା ସ୍ଥଳରେ ବିଭିନ୍ନ ସ୍ଥାନ ତାହା  
plural verb ଲେଖା.

xii) The team are full of high spirits.

→ ଏହାଙ୍କୁ team - ଏକ - ଅନୁ ଅନୁସାରେ ଲେଖା ହେଉ ତାହା singular  
verb ଲେଖା.

xiii) The team is at the top in this competition.

### Rule III

'Offspring', 'deer', 'fish', 'sheep' are expressed as singular or plural only by the use of verb. Both in singular and the plural they have the same form.

i) Sheeps are economically useful.

→ ଏହାଙ୍କୁ 'sheep' ସହ ଏକ ଏକ - ଅନନ୍ତ କାରଣ indefinite article ଲେଖା ତାହା  
plural.

ii) A sheep is grazing in the field.

### Rule Note

'Fishes' may be used in the sense of different number and kind.

### Rule IV

Some of the nouns (ending in 's' or 'es') are used with singular verb.

a) Branches of learning. Example → Mathematics, Physics, Mechanics, Politics, Statistics, Statics, Economics.

Note Statistics as subject is used with singular verb. Statistics when taken as a collection of data is used with plural verb.

b) Diseases. Examples → Mumps, Measles, Rickets etc.

c) Games and sports → Billiards, Aquatics, Gymnastics, Athletics etc.

d) Titles of books. Example → Three Musketeers, Gulliver's Travels, Arabian Nights, War and Peace, Tales from Shakespeare.

e) Descriptive names of countries. Example → United States, United Arab Emirates etc.

f) Some other nouns are → Innings, Series, News, Summons.

Example →

i) The measles have broken out in the town.

ii) Politics are a dirty game.

iii) These news are disappointing.

iv) A/ The summons has been served on him.

v) A series of matches are being played.

vi) Two series of matches was played last year.

### Rule V

Study the uses of Nouns as singular and plural in forms.

Noun	Used as	Noun	Used as
Wood	Material	Woods	Forest
Water	"	Waters	Sea
Asset	Quality	Assets	Property
Sand	Material	Sands	Land
Iron	"	Irons	Chains
Cloth	"	Clothes	Dress
Abuse	Indecent words	Abuses	Misuses
Work	Labour	Works	Literary writings
Air	Element	Airs	Behaviour
Advice	Suggestion	Advices	Bills
Custom	Habit	Customs	Tax
Effect	Result	Effects	Goods
Colour	Material	Colours	Flag
Fruit	Edible thing	Fruits	Results
Wit	Ability to talk	Wits	Intelligence
Arm	Organ	Arms	Weapons
Good	Advantage/use	Goods	Articles

## Rule VI

Some of the nouns are generally used in the plural form with plural verb.

a) Articles of dress. Example → Trousers, breeches, Jeans.

b) Name of instruments. Example → Scissors, spectacles, shears, scales.

c) Other nouns such as —

Alms, thanks, proceeds, riches, contents, credentials, orders, refreshments, requirements, customs, rations, archives, annals, ashes, arrears, assets, stairs, spirits, statistics (data), quarters, earnings, manners, outskirts, savings, auspices (support), surroundings.

For example →

i) My scissors is not sharp.

ii) My spectacles is very costly.

iii) A pair of spectacles has been brought by me.

→ 'pair' is subject and 'pair' is a collective noun. Collective nouns are singular but take plural verb.

iv) Order for his transfer has been issued.

v) Orders for his transfer have been issued.

## Rule VII

A compound noun (numerical + noun) is not used in plural if a noun does the work of an adjective. Example →

(i) Ten-day tour.

(ii) A ten-mile race.

(iii) A ten-year old boy

(iv) He is ten years old.

v) A five-rupee note.

vi) Five-foot long room.

Rule - VIII

Nouns expressing number are used in singular with numerical adjectives.

Ex: - Two hundred, Two thousand, Five dozen, Two score, Two million, Three lakh.

1) I gave him two hundreds rupees.

→ I gave him two hundred rupees.

2) I gave him five dozens pencils.

→ I gave him five dozen pencils.

3) There are hundreds of partially built houses. (✓)

Rule - IX

Use of apostrophe with 's' :-

A) The use of apostrophe with 's' is not correct in the case of non-living things. It is restricted only to living things, time, weight, distance, amount or personified nouns.

i) The table's wood. → The wood of table.

ii) Boy's hand.

iii) Time's march.

iv) A kilometre's journey.

v) A rupee's worth.

vi) A night's journey.

vii) A metre's length.

viii) A nature's laws.

ix) A week's holiday.

B) <sup>Two</sup> The nouns in the possessive case denote plural form when apostrophe with 's' is used with one noun, it expresses singular form. For example: - i) Shila and Rohit's father. (means the father of both Shila and Rohit)

ii) Shila's and Rohit's fathers. (<sup>mean</sup> fathers of Shila and Rohit).

C) With compound nouns apostrophe with 's' should be added only with the last word.

For example: - i) Mother-in-law's behaviour

D) Possessive case is indicated by apostrophe without 's' after plural nouns or words ending with 's'.

Ex: - i) John Keats' poems.  
ii) Girls' hostels.

E) a) 'Else' combined with indefinite pronouns (Somebody, Anybody, Nobody etc) is expressed in possessive case as somebody else's in place of somebody's else.

b) The correct expression 'whose else' should be used in the place of the wrong expression 'who else's'.

Ex: - This is not my book. This is somebody's else.

→ This is not my book. This is somebody else's.

Who else is coming? (✓)

Who else's book is this?

→ Whose else book is this?

### Rule - X

Two adjectives denoting different meanings and qualifying the same noun are considered plural and are used with plural verbs.

For example: - i) Cultural and social life in India are changing.  
ii) Summer and winter vacation are compulsory in our schools.

### Rule - XI

Noun after preposition is repeated in singular form. For example: -

- i) Word for word.
- ii) Hour after hour.
- iii) Door to door.

### Rule - XII

The use of fractions.

- i) One and a half years are used.
- ii) One and a half hours are used.
- iii) A year and a half is used.
- iv) An hour and a half is used.

### Rule - XIII

A student is required to study the plural forms of certain nouns carefully.

Such nouns alongwith their plural forms are given below:-

Singular Form	Plural Form	Singular Form	Plural Form
Commander-in-chief	Commanders-in-chief	M.A.	M.A.'s
Major General	Major Generals	Mouse	Mice
Attorney General	Attorneys General	Ox	Oxen
Maid servant	Maid servants	Datum	Data
Looker-on	Lookers-on	Medium	Media
Passer by	Passers by	Forum	Forums, Fora
Mother-in-law	Mothers-in-law	Stadium	Stadia
Man servant	Men servants	Criterion	Criteria
Woman servant	Women servants	Phenomenon	Phenomena
Formula	Formulae	Oasis	Oases
Lacuna	Lacunae	Erratum	Errata
Memorandum	Memoranda	Alumnus	Alumni
Syllabus	Syllabi	Addendum	Addenda