

51 Plural nouns; one and ones

1 We normally form plural nouns by adding -s:

SINGULAR	→	PLURAL
a cup	→	some cups
one student	→	three students
the cat	→	the cats

2 one and ones

Sometimes we use **one** instead of repeating a singular noun:

I'm going to buy a drink. Would you like one?

Our house is the one with the red door.

Or, we use **ones** instead of a plural noun:

Shall I buy the red apples or the green ones?

These biscuits are cheaper than those ones.

3 We often use **Which one ...?** and **Which ones ...?** in questions:



Shop assistant: *Which one would you like, the black dress or the pink one?*

Mary: *I'd like the black one, please.*

Jim: *I like the black and white photographs. Which ones do you like? The black and white ones or the colour ones?*

Susan: *I prefer the colour ones.*

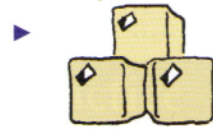
4 But we form some plural nouns differently:

man	→ men	+ -es
woman	→ women	bus → buses
child	→ children	kiss → kisses
person	→ people	wish → wishes
foot	→ feet	watch → watches
tooth	→ teeth	match → matches
sheep	→ sheep	box → boxes
mouse	→ mice	potato → potatoes
fish	→ fish	tomato → tomatoes
-y	→ -ies	-f/-fe → -ves
family	→ families	loaf → loaves
city	→ cities	wife → wives
country	→ countries	knife → knives

(For more information on plural nouns, see Appendix 1 on page 242.)

Practice

A Put in plural nouns to describe the pictures.



Some boxes.....



1 Some



2 Two



3 Some



4 Three



5 Some



6 Some



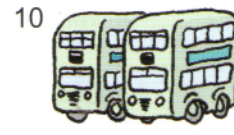
7 Four



8 Some



9 Some



10 Two



11 Two