Unit 46: PLURALS OF UNIT NOUNS

Most unit nouns add **s** to make the plural, but some are irregular.

1 Regular

girl   girl**s**   face   face**s**

but if the word ends with **ch / sh / s / x / y / z / fe**, the spelling is a little different.
Look at Appendix 5.

2 Irregular

Here are some useful examples:

SINGULAR	person	man	woman	foot	tooth	sheep
PLURAL	people	men	women	feet	teeth	sheep

SINGULAR	fish	child	appendix	nucleus
PLURAL	fish	children	appendices	nuclei

3 Always plural

a   Things with two halves: Those **scissors** are very sharp.
                                     The **pants** are too long for me.
                                     I can't see with these **glasses**.
        If we want to count with these words, we use **pair:**
        a **pair** of scissors (= 1), four **pairs** of pants

b   Some other words. For example: clothes, customs (at airports), premises, thanks, wages

c   Some words do not look plural, but they usually take plural grammar.
        For example:
        The **family are** all out at the moment.   NOT *is*
        The **majority think** he is right.   NOT *thinks*
        The **police are** questioning him now.   NOT *is*

NOTICE: News is not a plural. It is a mass noun. Mass nouns do not have a plural form (Unit 47).