

Singular and plural

Nouns and verbs can be **singular** or **plural**.

When we use a **singular noun** we must use a **singular verb**.

The **tunnel goes** under the sea.

singular noun

singular verb



When we use a **plural noun** we must use a **plural verb**.

The **cockerels crow** every morning.

plural noun

plural verb



The boy is singing.

boy

= singular noun

The boy was singing.

is / was

= singular verbs

The girls are singing.

girls

= plural noun

The girls were singing.

are / were

= plural verbs



Focus

A Copy the sentences.

Choose the **correct verb** to finish each one.

- 1 The cottages *is/are* empty.
- 2 We *is/are* going to buy them.
- 3 I *am/is* going to live in one of them.
- 4 The walls *is/are* dirty.
- 5 The chimney *is/are* broken.



B Use each of these nouns in a sentence followed by **was** or **were**.

- | | | |
|-----------|------------|---------|
| 1 flowers | 2 book | 3 shoes |
| 4 garages | 5 children | 6 tree |

Practice

Copy the sentences.

Choose the correct **verb** to finish each one.

- 1 The cake *crumble/crumbles* when you cut it.
- 2 The icing *look/looks* very soft.
- 3 I *like/likes* to eat this cake.
- 4 We *buy/buys* this cake at the bakery.



Extension

Each and **every** come before a **singular noun** and a **singular verb**.

Each flower is very colourful.

Every petal looks beautiful.



Collective nouns are always followed by a **singular verb**.

The **herd lives** on the hill.

The **flock of birds circles** overhead.



Sums of money and **popular food** are **singular**.

£2.50 is the price of that magazine.

Fish and chips is not healthy food!



A Copy the following.

Write whether each one would be followed by a **singular** or **plural verb**.

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------|------------|
| 1 the sandals | 2 the spoonful | 3 each boy |
| 4 peaches and cream | 5 this bunch | 6 80p |

B Put these **nouns** into sentences of your own.

- | | |
|---------|--------------|
| 1 crowd | 2 team |
| 3 £4.00 | 4 every book |