

European Strategies of Implementing ICT in Teaching Foreign Languages (through games)

LESSON PLAN Dealing with the plural of nouns in English (an adaptation of the game *The sparrow hawk and the hatching hen*)

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School: CNP "Tudor Vianu"

Class: 6th grade

Level: intermediate

No. of students: 30

Lesson Objectives:

- 1. to make students familiar with some nouns whose plural forms are irregular or the same as in singular**
- 2. to use ICT as a successful tool when teaching (in the case of a foreign language)**
- 3. to develop vocabulary**
- 4 . to encourage cooperation**

Assumptions:

Students are already familiar with the traditional plural form of nouns.

Anticipated problems:

Students may find difficult to deal with some nouns which may be too abstract for them.

Materials:

- Smart board
 - Computers
 - *The sparrow hawk and the hatching hen- noun plural* software
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Activity 1

Aims:

- to revise plural forms
- to make students familiar with some nouns whose plural forms are irregular or the same as in singular

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- to encourage cooperation

Procedure:

In pairs, students deal with the following exercises (pages 3-5 from m Round Up 3 by Virginia Evans):

1. Plurals of Countable and Uncountable Nouns

1. Plurals of Countable and Uncountable Nouns

A Countable nouns are nouns which can be counted. They take "s" in the plural.

bananas dogs
cats books



1 Fill in the plural as in the example:



1. an orange - two *oranges* ..



2. a dog - three



3. a bat - two

B Nouns ending in **-s, -ss, -sh, -ch, -x, -o** take **"-es"** in the plural.

bus - buses
dress - dresses

hairbrush - hairbrushes
watch - watches

box - boxes
tomato - tomatoes

BUT

radio - radios

piano - pianos

photo - photos

video - videos

2 Fill in the plural as in the example:



1. a torch - two *torches* ..



2. a glass - three



3. a fox - two

C Nouns ending in a **consonant + y** → **ies**
Nouns ending in a **vowel (a, e, o, u) + y** → **ys**

baby - babies
toy - toys

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3 Fill in the plural as in the example:



1. a lady - two .. *ladies* .. 2. a key - two 3. a cherry - two

D Nouns ending in **-f, -fe** → **ves** leaf - leaves, wife - wives
BUT
 roof - roofs, chief - chiefs, handkerchief - handkerchiefs, proof - proofs

4 Fill in the plural as in the example:



1. a thief - two .. *thieves* .. 2. a knife - two 3. a leaf - two

Pronunciation

/t/, /k/, /p/, /t/, /θ/		/s/, /ʃ/, /tʃ/, /dʒ/, /z/, /ʒ/		after other sounds	
/s/		/ɪz/		/z/	
cliffs	lollipops	foxes	bridges	pens	meals
proofs	spots	brushes	roses	babies	records
books	baths	churches	mirages	songs	rooms

5 Put the nouns in the correct list in the plural and read them out:

class, beach, boy, cat, cup, desk, roof, girl, potato, fork, shirt, pen, leaf, nose, bus, lemon, peach, box

/s/	/ɪz/	/z/
... <i>cats</i>
.....
.....

E Irregular Plurals

child - children	foot - feet	fish - fish	mouse - mice
man - men	tooth - teeth	sheep - sheep	ox - oxen
woman - women	goose - geese	deer - deer	louse - lice

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1. Plurals of Countable and Uncountable Nouns

6 Fill in the plural as in the example:



1. a girl -



two *girls*



2. a deer -



two



3. a mouse -



two



4. a bus -



two



5. a foot -



two



6. a snail -



two



7. a sandwich - two



8. a butterfly - two



9. a wolf -



two



10. a lizard -



two



11. a raspberry -



two



12. a woman -



two

7 Write the words in the plural and in the correct column.

radio, tomato, lady, boy, bench, teacher, watch, day, fox, loaf, handkerchief, kiss, fly, housewife, leaf, body, shelf, school, address, life, country, strawberry, baby, toy, half

- s	- es	- ies	- ves
<i>radios,</i>
.....
.....
.....

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Interaction Timing

S-T 20'

T-S

S-S

Activity 2:

Aims:

- to make students familiar with more nouns whose plural forms are irregular or the same as in singular
- to use ICT as a successful tool when teaching (in the case of a foreign language)
- to develop vocabulary
- to encourage cooperation

Procedure:

First, the teacher demonstrates the game. Then, students play the game(software *The sparrow hawk and the hatching hen- noun plural*) on their computer asking for their teacher or colleagues' advice whenever necessary. Their instructions are:

HOW TO PLAY THE GAME:

YOU ARE THE HATCHING HEN AND THE SPARROW HAWK ATTACKS YOUR CHICKS. EVERY TIME THE HAWK ATTACKS, YOU WILL BE ASKED TO ANSWER A QUESTION CORRECTLY BY TYPING IN THE RIGHT PLURAL FORM OF THE GIVEN NOUN. YOU HAVE UP TO 20 SECONDS TO ANSWER THE QUESTION. IF YOU FAIL TO ANSWER THE QUESTION IN TIME OR IF YOU ANSWER INCORRECTLY YOU LOSE ONE CHICK. IF YOU ANSWER CORRECTLY, YOU GET 1 POINT.

THE GAME ENDS WHEN:

1. YOU HAVE OBTAINED 41 POINTS- YOU HAVE WON!
- OR
2. YOU LOSE ALL YOUR CHICKS- SORRY, YOU HAVE LOST!

The teacher will closely monitor all students' evolution, helping them with some new words and plural forms. After each round of the game the students will take a few minutes to write down new words whose definition is given by the teacher. The newly encountered plural forms will be organised in categories according to the similarities in their form (e.g. **basis** and **axes** will be placed in the same category).

Here is the content of the game(the nouns whose forms are required in the game) and the answers:

TYPE IN THE CORRECT PLURAL FORM OF THE GIVEN NOUN:

- | | |
|-----------|-----------------|
| 1. flower | 9. giraffe |
| 2. basis | 10. child |
| 3. means | 11. woman |
| 4. mouse | 12. tooth |
| 5. tomato | 13. parenthesis |
| 6. wife | 14. dwarf |
| 7. wolf | 15. lady |
| 8. goose | 16. series |

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- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 17. potato | 34. mother-in-law |
| 18. medium | 35. criterion |
| 19. watch | 36. ox |
| 20. bus | 37. louse |
| 21. man | 38. match |
| 22. curriculum | 39. axis |
| 23. stimulus | 40. moose |
| 24. sheep | 41. compass |
| 25. nucleus | 42. box |
| 26. species | 43. stadium |
| 27. knife | 44. vertebra |
| 28. crisis | 45. sister-in-law |
| 29. woman | 46. formula |
| 30. copy | 47. penknife |
| 31. foot | 48. bacterium |
| 32. oasis | 49. offspring |
| 33. phenomenon | 50. boy |

ANSWERS:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. flowers | 25. nuclei |
| 2. bases | 26. species |
| 3. means | 27. knives |
| 4. mice | 28. crises |
| 5. tomatoes | 29. women |
| 6. wives | 30. copies |
| 7. wolves | 31. feet |
| 8. geese | 32. oases |
| 9. giraffes | 33. phenomena |
| 10. children | 34. mothers-in-law |
| 11. women | 35. criteria |
| 12. teeth | 36. oxen |
| 13. parentheses | 37. lice |
| 14. dwarfs/ dwarves | 38. matches |
| 15. ladies | 39. axes |
| 16. series | 40. moose |
| 17. potatoes | 41. compasses |
| 18. media/ mediums | 42. boxes |
| 19. watches | 43. stadiums/ stadia |
| 20. buses | 44. vertebrae |
| 21. men | 45. sisters-in-law |
| 22. curricula/ curriculums | 46. formulas/ formulae |
| 23. stimuli | 47. penknives |
| 24. sheep | 48. bacteria |

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49. offspring

50. boys

Interaction:

T-S-T

S-S

Timing:

30'

Homework assignment: Go to <http://www.english-zone.com/spelling/plurals.html> and study the plural forms.