

TBOX2.COM

NEMESISSES? NEMESSES? NEMESI?



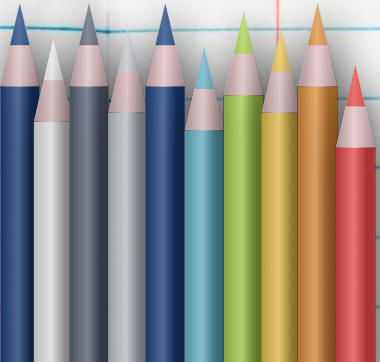
COMPLEX PLURALS - AKA IRREGULAR PLURALS

<(e)s> is not native to English; it didn't exist in Old English

English originally formed plurals in three ways

- stem vowel shifts
 - foot + {plural} → feet
 - goose + {plural} → geese
- adding <en>
 - ox + en → oxen
- combination of vowel change and a suffix.
 - brother + {plural} → brethren

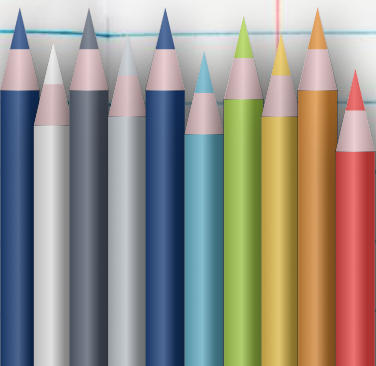
The only productive plural suffix in English is <(e)s>.



COMPLEX PLURALS - AKA IRREGULAR PLURALS

*'Germanic' Plurals
from Old English*

Singular	Plural
foot	feet
tooth	teeth
goose	geese
louse	lice
mouse	mice
penny	pence
ox	oxen
child	children
brother	brethren
woman	women
man	men

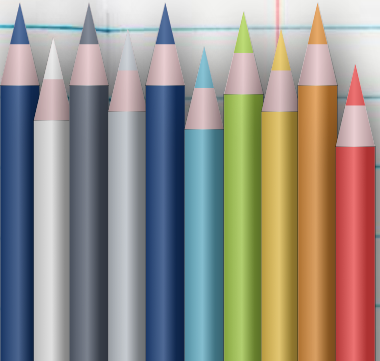


COMPLEX PLURALS - AKA IRREGULAR PLURALS

*Some words remain
unchanged in their
plural form*

deer
grouse
cod
salmon
pike
sheep
swine
aircraft
moose
LEGO
fish*

**fish can be plural if there are many of the same species; fishes tends to be used with more than one species*



COMPLEX PLURALS - AKA IRREGULAR PLURALS

*Some words have
no singular*

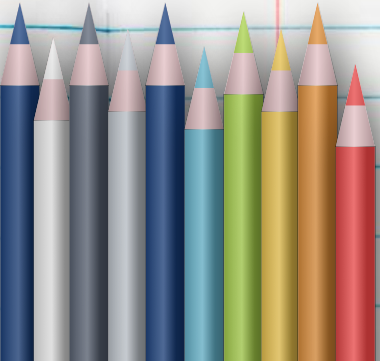
police
cattle
poultry
shears
scissors
trousers
vermin
livestock
pliers



COMPLEX PLURALS - AKA IRREGULAR PLURALS

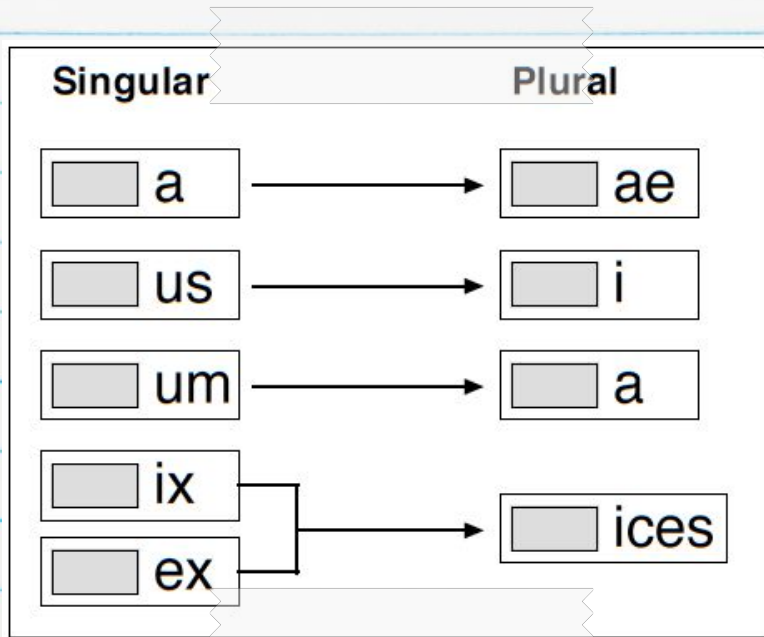
*Some words look
like plurals but are
actually singulars*

mathematics
politics
series
news
athletics
measles
economics
gymnastics








COMPLEX PLURALS - AKA IRREGULAR PLURALS

Latin Words




*Some words have both a 'Latin' and 'English' plural form, used in different contexts.

Example
formulae (math/science context)
formulas (other contexts)

 matrix  cactus  alga  minimum  radius

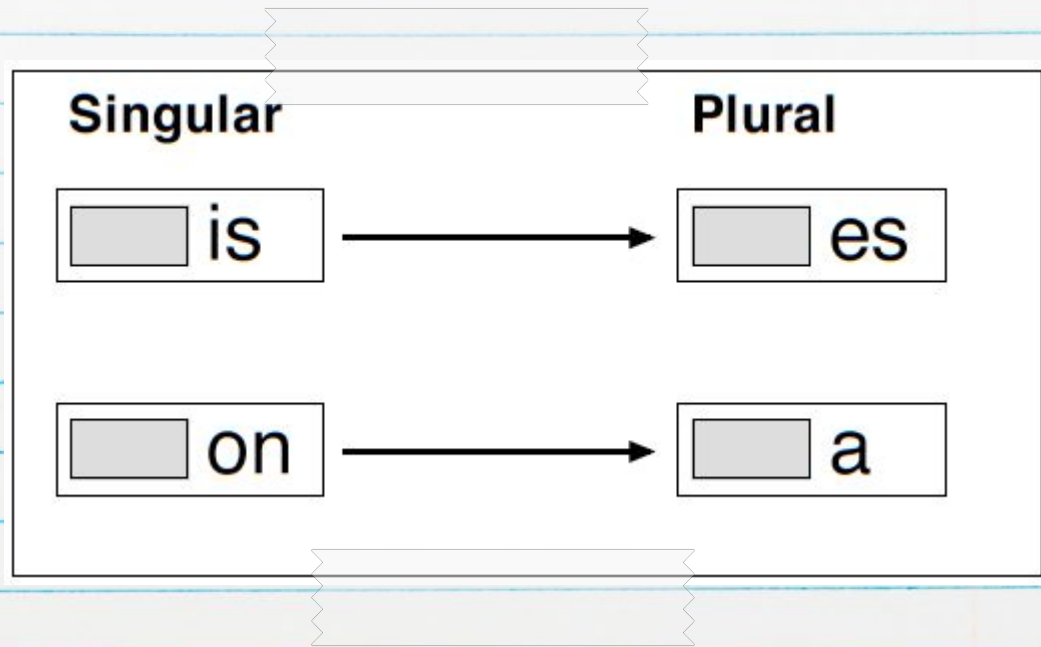
 stimulus

 fungus  appendix  curriculum  vertebra

 ...

COMPLEX PLURALS - AKA IRREGULAR PLURALS

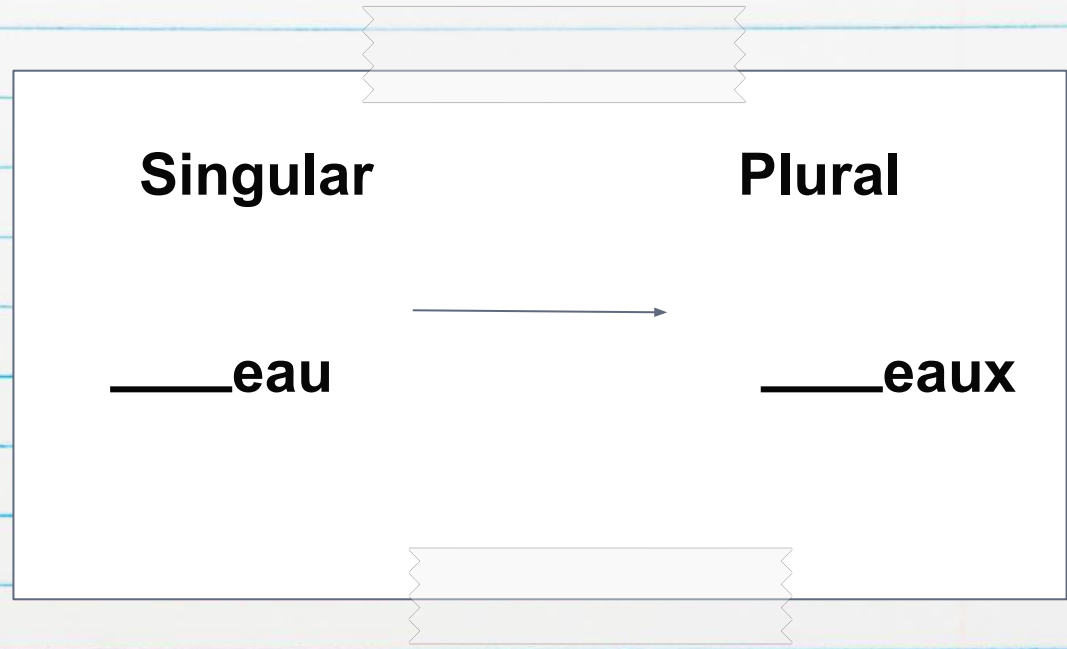
Greek Words



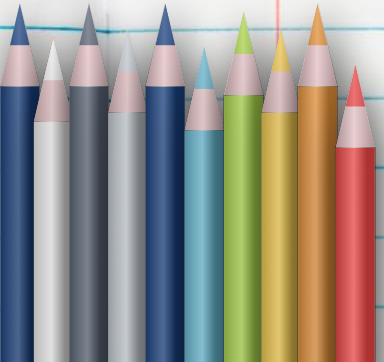
criterion thesis crisis phenomenon analysis
 hypothesis axis basis

COMPLEX PLURALS - AKA IRREGULAR PLURALS

French Words



 beau  bureau  chateau  plateau  tableau



THE DREADED APOSTROPHE

The apostrophe is only used with plurals in TWO very particular cases:

1. Short words out of their grammatical context
 - i. You must remember the *do's* and *don'ts*.
2. Plurals of single letters
 - i. There are three *a's* in banana.
 - ii. Don't forget to dot your *i's*.



REALLY, REALLY PLURAL

What about the
spelling of
children?

OLD ENGLISH

child (singular & plural - written <child>)

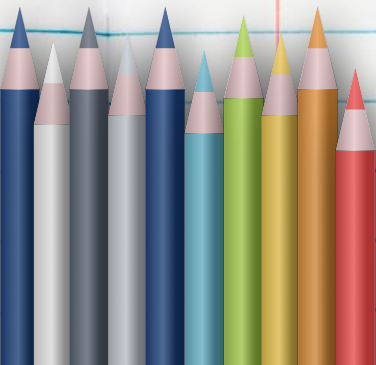
<childu> plural

EARLY MIDDLE ENGLISH

child + *re* → *childre*

SOUTHERN BRITISH ENGLISH

child + ~~*re*~~ + *en* → *children*

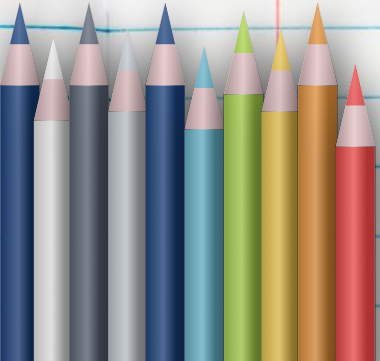
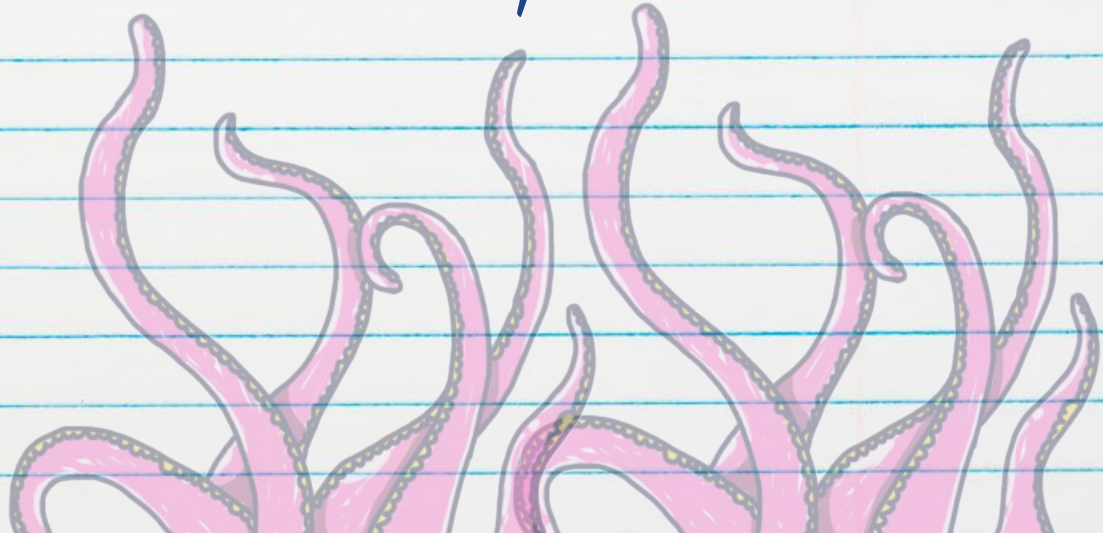


JUST FOR FUN

~~octopi~~

What is the plural
of *octopus*?

✓ octopodes
octopuses



FUN FACTS

The Italian singular suffix <-o> becomes <-i>. So these words are already plural:

spaghetti

graffiti

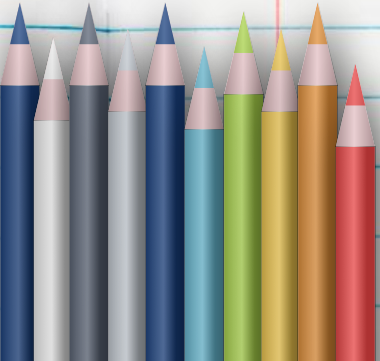
confetti



LET'S MAKE IT FUN!

Where might these words come from based on their plurals?

chateau + {plural} →
chateaux



WRITING WORD SUMS



foot + {plural} → feet

WORD FAMILIES

foot <i>unit of measurement, body part</i>	hold man note
	age ball er ing step

feet