



# Singular and Plural Words in Foreign Languages

KS2 MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Ages 9-12 ⌚ 3 min read

## What Does Singular and Plural Mean?

When we talk about **singular**, we mean just one thing. When we say **plural**, we mean more than one. In **English**, we usually add the letter **s** to make words plural. One cat becomes two **cats**. One dog becomes three **dogs**.

But here's the tricky part: other languages do this differently! When you learn a **foreign language** like **French**, **Spanish**, or **German**, you need to learn how each language changes its words.

Think of it like fashion. In England, everyone wears the same school uniform. But in France, Spain, or Germany, the school uniform looks completely different! Each country has its own style and rules.

## How Do Different Languages Make Plurals?

In **Spanish**, you usually add **s** or **es** to words, just like English. One **gato** (cat) becomes **gatos** (cats). But one **voz** (voice) becomes **voces** (voices)—it changes more dramatically!

In **French**, things get even more interesting. You usually add an **s**, but you don't pronounce it when you say the word out loud. One **chat** (cat) and two **chats** sound exactly the same, even though they're spelled differently!

In **German**, the changes are really big. The word often changes completely. One **Kind** (child) becomes **Kinder** (children). It's almost like a completely different word!

Think of it like a costume change. In some languages, you just add a small hat (like adding **s**). In others, you change your entire outfit from head to toe!

## Why Does This Matter?

Learning plural rules helps you speak and write correctly in a **foreign language**. It's one of the first grammar rules you learn. Teachers often spend time on plurals

because they appear in almost every sentence you write.

The good news? Once you practise these patterns a few times, they become automatic, just like in English where you don't even think about adding **s** anymore. Soon, saying **gatos** instead of **gato** will feel totally natural!