

Irregular plurals synonyms reversi memory game

Instructions for teachers

Cut up one pack of cards per group, with the irregular plural and the regular plural still attached to each other. Give out the cards and ask students to fold them so that the two parts are on opposite sides of the card, putting them either side up. Students take turns trying to guess or remember what is on the other side of the cards, continuing until they make a mistake. Cards which they guess correctly stay turned over to be transformed in the opposite direction next time. The winner is the person who does the longest string of correct guesses, so they should guess how many they get correct each time.

Lower-level cards

men	males	women	females
people	humans	children	kids
policemen	police officers	postmen	postal workers
schoolchildren	pupils/ students	housewives	homemakers
wives	partners/ spouses	thieves	robbers
tea leaves	loose tea	(TV) series	(TV) seasons
young sheep/ baby sheep	lambs	two millennia	two thousand years
aircraft	airplanes/ aeroplanes		

Higher-level cards

crises	emergencies	fellow alumni	fellow graduates
false teeth	dentures	phenomena	occurrences
bacteria (and viruses)	germs/ bugs	hypotheses	theories
précis/ synopses	summaries	syntheses	blends/ combinations
spacecraft	spaceships/ rockets	calves	young cows/ baby cows
oases	watering holes	(wild) boar	wild pigs
criteria	standards/ yardsticks/ checkpoints	reindeer	caribou
faux pas	gaffes/ blunders	strata	layers
rendezvous	meetings	metamorphoses	transformations
starfish	sea stars		

Plural nouns presentation

Without looking at the cards, try to remember the plural of each noun. Some don't need to change.

Lower level cards

- (police/post)man
- woman
- person
- (school)child
- (house)wife
- thief
- (tea) leaf
- (TV) series
- sheep
- millennium
- (air/space)craft

Higher-level cards

- crisis
- (fellow) alumnus
- (false) tooth
- phenomenon
- bacterium
- hypothesis
- précis
- synopsis
- synthesis
- calf
- oasis
- (wild) boar
- criterion
- reindeer
- faux pas
- stratum
- rendezvous
- metamorphosis
- (star)fish

Check with the cards above.