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COURSEBOOK
INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH GRAMMAR
(GIÁO TRÌNH NGỮ PHÁP TRUNG CẤP)
MSHP: FL101H



NHÀ XUẤT BẢN ĐẠI HỌC CẦN THƠ
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PREFACE

Intermediate English Grammar is the first one of the two grammar courses that students of the High Quality English Studies Program take in the first year. The course focuses on different English parts of speech, basic sentence patterns and kinds of sentences according to functions.

The current grammar coursebook includes three chapters. Each chapter is organized as the following: Getting Started, Grammar Knowledge, Grammar Exercises and Fun with Grammar. Chapter one has eight subsections presenting eight different parts of speech in English. Chapter two introduces phrases according to structures and functions. Chapter three presents kinds of sentences in English. Using this book, students have opportunities to learn the English grammar knowledge listed in the syllabus, practice different exercises compiled from different grammar books and other resources, and use their grammar knowledge in daily communications.

The book can be used as a coursebook for the Intermediate Grammar course (FL101H) at the School of Foreign Languages, Can Tho University or a reference book for those who wish to review or enlarge their English grammar knowledge.

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ABBREVIATIONS

n	noun
v	verb
inf.	infinitive
pron.	pronoun
adj	adjective
adv	adverb
conj.	conjunction
prep.	preposition
V_L	Linking verb
V_i	Intransitive verb
V_t	Transitive verb
V_o	Verb in infinitive form
V_{ed/3}	Verb in past participle form
S	subject
O	Object
D.O	Direct Object
I.O	Indirect Object
S.C	Subjective Complement
O.C	Objective Complement
Br.	British
A.	American
sth	something
s.o	someone

CHAPTER 1: PARTS OF SPEECH

Unit 1: Nouns

OBJECTIVES: By the end of this unit, you will be able to

- identify English nouns, countable and uncountable nouns, the plural forms of nouns, and possessive cases, and functions of nouns; and
- use them correctly in sentences.

GETTING STARTED

Work in groups of four. Discuss the following questions.

1. What is a noun?
2. What is/are the difference(s) between countable and uncountable nouns?
3. How are the plurals of English nouns formed?
4. What are the possessive cases of nouns?
5. What are the functions of nouns in English?

GRAMMAR KNOWLEDGE

I. Definition of nouns

A *noun* is the name of a person, a thing, an animal, a place, an action, a quality or a state of being.

Examples: teacher (person), book (thing), cat (animal), mountain (place), arrival (action), loyalty (quality), beauty (state), trip (action)...

II. Countable and uncountable nouns

Countable nouns	Uncountable nouns
<p>Countable nouns are the names of separate objects, people, etc. which we can count; they have singular and plural forms.</p> <p><i>One book, two books</i> <i>A man, some men</i></p>	<p>Uncountable nouns are the names of things which we do not see as separate, and which we cannot count; they do not have plural forms.</p> <p><i>Milk, rice, weather</i></p>
<p>Countable nouns can take singular or plural verbs.</p> <p>- <i>This book is expensive.</i> - <i>These books are expensive.</i> - <i>That man lives next door.</i> - <i>Those men live next door.</i></p>	<p>Uncountable nouns always take singular verbs.</p> <p>- <i>Milk is good for you.</i> - <i>The weather was very good yesterday.</i></p>
<p>Before countable nouns, we can use <i>a/an</i> and <i>numbers</i>.</p> <p><i>A man, one book, two books</i></p> <p>We use <i>a</i> before consonant sounds: <i>a book, a man, a university</i></p> <p>We use <i>an</i> before vowel sounds: <i>an apple, an egg, an hour</i></p>	<p>We do not normally use <i>a/an</i> or a <i>number</i> directly before uncountable nouns.</p> <p><i>A weather, two weathers</i></p> <p>But we sometimes use <i>a/an</i> and <i>numbers</i> with e.g. <i>coffee, tea, beer</i>, etc when we order these things by the cup or glass in a restaurant.</p> <p>- <i>Excuse me, waiter. Could we have two coffees and a tea, please?</i></p>

We use *some* before plural countable nouns and uncountable nouns.

Some books, some men
Some rice, some milk

Some nouns can be used as countable or uncountable, with a difference of meaning.

Countable



a glass

https://i5.walmartimages.com/asr/e248f9bb-5a6f-48bc-b62b-ad487e8c243f_1.d03259ff5bd0d122072cd6f8eda2c3cf.jpeg

Uncountable



glass (the material)

<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/originals/7a/d4/60/7ad460e8a44c66327fed474cb30893c1.jpg>

Countable

a hair



a paper (a newspaper)

<https://brandcom.vn/bao-thanh-nien>

Uncountable

her hair (all the hair on her head)

some paper
(the writing material)

<https://5.imimg.com/data5/LE/QS/MY-7927198/cardstock-paper-250x250.png>

Some nouns are uncountable in English, but countable in other languages. Here are some of the most common of these uncountable nouns, together with some related countable expressions.

Uncountable	Countable
Accommodation	A place to live/stay
Advice	A piece of advice
Bread	A loaf/slice/piece (of bread)/ a (bread) roll
Furniture	A piece of furniture
Information	A piece of information
Luggage	A piece of luggage; a suitcase/bag
Money	A note/coin; a sum (of money)
News	A piece of news
Traffic	A car/bus/etc
Travel	A journey/trip
Work	A job; a piece of work
- I've just had some news. - Where is your luggage? - We need some bread.	- I've just had a piece of news. - Where are your suitcases? - We need a loaf of bread.

III. Plural of nouns

1. Rules of forming plural of regular nouns

Rules	Examples
Add “-S” or “-ES” after the singular form of countable nouns.	tables, bicycles, faces, cars, etc.
Nouns ending in “ SH, S, X, Z, CH, O ”, add -ES	potatoes, tomatoes, classes, bushes, watches, etc. <i>But:</i> pianos, solos, bamboos, kangaroos,...
Nouns ending in “Y” • Consonant-Y → C-I-ES • Vowel-Y → V-Y-S	city → cities, lady → ladies, ... boys, toys, ...
Nouns ending in “F”, or “FE”: -F/FE → V-ES.	half-halves, calf-calves, loaf-loaves, knife-knives, life-lives, leaf-leaves, thief-thieves, self-selves, shelf-shelves, wife-wives, wolf-wolves <i>But:</i> roofs, safes, cuffs, proofs
Nouns ending in -US → -I	focus-foci/focuses, radius-radii/radiuses, fungus-fungi, nucleus-nuclei, cactus-cacti, alumnus-alumni, octopus-octopuses/octopi, hippopotamus-hippopotami/hippopotamuses
Nouns ending in -IS → -ES	analysis-analyses, crisis-crises, thesis-theses, ellipsis-ellipses, axis-axes (this is also the plural of <i>ax</i> and <i>axe</i>)
Nouns ending in -ON (derived from Greek) → -A	phenomenon-phenomena, criterion-criteria
Nouns ending in -UM → -A	datum-data, bacterium-bacteria, stratum-strata, memorandum-memoranda, curriculum-curricula/curriculum
Nouns ending in -A → add -E	Vita-vitae, nebula-nebulas/nebulae, alumna-alumnae

b. Plural form of irregular nouns

man – men woman – women child – children	tooth – teeth foot – feet goose – geese	mouse – mice louse – lice die – dice	ox – oxen person – people/ persons
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Note 1

Rules	Examples
1. Some nouns are always used singularly.	Furniture, business, luggage, progress, merchandise, asparagus
2. Some nouns have the same form in both numbers.	deer, sheep, poultry, salmon, yoke, cod, trout, means, fish
3. Some nouns (some diseases, games or subjects) are plural in forms but singular in meanings.	mumps, measles, physics, politics, electronics, news, mechanics, cards, dominoes, billiards, chess
4. Some nouns (things consisting 2 similar parts) are used in plural only.	glasses, scissors, pliers, pincers, shears, kidneys, mittens, shorts
5. Some nouns have 2 plurals, different meanings.	Brother: brothers (anh em), brethren (anh em đồng đạo) penny: pence (giá trị), pennies (số đồng tiền)
6. Uncountable nouns make their plural by adding a unit.	2 spoons of sugar, 3 cups of coffee, 4 glasses of orange
7. Compound nouns form their plural by adding 's' to the principal word.	Bookcases, mothers-in-law, lookers-on
Some nouns, singular in form, have a plural meaning and go with a plural verb.	Cattle, police, people
8. Some nouns may be countable or uncountable depending on different meanings.	wood (gỗ) – woods (rừng), sand (cát) – sands (bãi cát, lớp cát, bãi biển), water (nước) – waters (khối nước, hải phận), work (công việc) – works (tác phẩm)

Note 2: Pronunciation of final 'S', 'ES'

Ending	Pronunciation of 's'	Examples
/f/, /p/, /k/, /t/, /θ/	/s/	roofs, caps, books, boots, months
/tʃ/, /ʃ/, /z/, /s/, /dʒ/, /ʒ/	/ɪz/, /əz/	watches, dishes, breezes, boxes, pieces, villages, garages
Others	/z/	tubes, beds, dogs, girls, plums, pens, mirrors, cures, waves, lathes, windows

IV. Possessive case

1. Definition: Possessive case is used to show possession.

Example: This is the girl's hat = This is the hat of the girl.

2. Formation: We can make a possessive form by adding 's or ' after the noun possessor.

Rules	Examples
a. Singular Noun + 's	- The <i>boy's</i> coat is too long for him.
b. Singular Noun with S + 's	- Doris's bicycle is new. - ass's head
c. Plural Noun with S ending + '	- <i>The girls'</i> books are yellow.
d. Plural Noun without S ending + 's	- The <i>men's</i> club is around the corner.
e. Compound nouns or Group Names: only the last word takes the possessive sign.	- <i>His father-in-law's</i> property is quite big. - <i>Charles the Second's</i> reign.
f. N and N for common possession: only the last word takes the possessive sign.	- <i>My brother and your sister's</i> school has a good football team. (My brother and your sister study in the same school)
g. N and N for separate possession: every noun takes the possessive sign	- <i>John's and Mary's</i> bicycle collided at the street corner.
h. The possessive noun followed by an appositive: add possessive sign to the appositive only	- This is my <i>friend Tom's</i> new house
i. For the sake of euphony, use OF instead of 'S	- This is my wife's mother's opinion. - This is the opinion of my wife's mother.
j. A noun used in the preceding clause is not repeated after the possessive case.	- I have seen your mother's photo but not your father's.
k. Nouns denoting house, school, college, church, cathedral, shop, palace, hospital, etc. are often understood.	- We'll go to the tailor's (shop). - They eat at my uncle's (house). - We've visited St. Paul's (cathedral).
l. Double possession	- This is one of my pictures. This is a picture of mine. - That is one of her friends. That is a friend of hers.

3. Uses of Possessive Case

Uses	Examples
For persons	- He was confused by Mr. Brown's looking so hard at him.
For animals	- Do you know why the camel's hump is so big? - Tom broke his dog's leg yesterday.
<i>Not for things</i>	- The leaves of the bamboos are curled by the heat. - The walls of that room are painted yellow.
<i>Not with Adjectives used as N</i>	- The fate of the blind is miserable. - The park is the meeting place of the young.
<i>Not with people when there is a long phrase</i>	the address of those people we met in Spain not: those people who we met in Spain's address
Places and Organizations	London's museums/ the museums of London The company's future/the future of the company
Time	a vacation of three months/a three months' vacation
Distance	a walk of two miles/a two miles' walk
Weight	a box of ten pounds/a ten pounds' box
Value	a shirt of twelve dollars/a twelve dollars' shirt
Dignified objects	the sun's energy, the earth's creatures, Heaven's will
Personified objects	Fortune's smile, Sorrow's tears, Duty's call, The wind's hand, The thunder's roar
In some expressions	at one's wits' end (bí, vô phương kế), to one's heart's content (tùy thích), for conscience's sake (vì lương tâm)

V. Functions of nouns

Functions	Examples
1. Subject of a verb	- The <i>girl</i> is pretty.
2. Object of a verb	- I met a pretty <i>girl</i> .
3. Object of a preposition	- We talk about this <i>lesson</i> . - He's lived here for three <i>years</i> .
4. Subjective complement	- I am a <i>teacher</i> .

Functions	Examples
	- Knowledge is <i>power</i> .
5. Objective complement	- They elected him the <i>monitor</i> . - They called Beethoven a musical genius.
6. Appositive	- Nguyen Du, a famous <i>poet</i> , wrote “Kieu”.
7. Adjective equivalent	- That’s a <i>love</i> story.
8. Adverb equivalent	- He works two <i>hours</i> .

GRAMMAR EXERCISES

CLASSIFICATION

Exercise 1: Decide whether the bold words are countable or uncountable nouns. Write C (countable) or U (uncountable) on the line.

Examples: U Can I give you some **advice**?

C We could see a **ship** in the distance.

1. ___ The **children** are playing in the garden.
2. ___ I don't like **milk**.
3. ___ I prefer **tea**.
4. ___ **Scientists** say that the environment is threatened by pollution.
5. ___ My mother uses **butter** to prepare cakes.
6. ___ There are a lot of **windows** in our classroom.
7. ___ We need some **glue** to fix this vase.
8. ___ The **waiters** in this restaurant are very professional.
9. ___ My father drinks two big **glasses** of water every morning.
10. ___ The **bread** my mother prepares is delicious.
11. ___ **Drivers** must be careful; the road is slippery.

12. ___ Some **policemen** are organizing road traffic to avoid any accidents.
13. ___ I bought three **bottles** of mineral water for our picnic.
14. ___ I'd like some **juice** please!
15. ___ Successful **candidates** will join the camp later this year.
16. ___ A rise in **oil** prices is inevitable since there is more and more world demand for energy.
17. ___ The **exercises** on this website are interesting.
18. ___ Dehydrated babies must drink a lot of **water**.
19. ___ Adult illiterates learn through a special government **program**.
20. ___ I met some nice **people** when I was walking along the beach.

PLURAL OF NOUNS

Exercise 2: Changes these nouns into plural forms.

Example: bottle → *bottles*

- | | | | |
|-----------|---------|--------------|---------|
| 1. Table | → _____ | 16. City | → _____ |
| 2. Cup | → _____ | 17. Country | → _____ |
| 3. Car | → _____ | 18. Boy | → _____ |
| 4. Hat | → _____ | 19. Key | → _____ |
| 5. Chair | → _____ | 20. Play | → _____ |
| 6. Glass | → _____ | 21. Day | → _____ |
| 7. Box | → _____ | 22. Echo | → _____ |
| 8. Watch | → _____ | 23. Hero | → _____ |
| 9. Wish | → _____ | 24. Potato | → _____ |
| 10. Buzz | → _____ | 25. Tomato | → _____ |
| 11. Leaf | → _____ | 26. Kangaroo | → _____ |
| 12. Knife | → _____ | 27. Tattoo | → _____ |
| 13. Roof | → _____ | 28. Zoo | → _____ |
| 14. Chief | → _____ | 29. Kilo | → _____ |
| 15. Cliff | → _____ | 30. Photo | → _____ |