



Plural Nouns: Special Spelling Rules: -f/-ves and -o Endings

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

- The ___ are falling from the trees.
a) leafs
b) leaves
c) leafes
d) leavs
- He used two ___ to cut the bread.
a) knives
b) knifes
c) knifs
d) knivs
- The ___ were howling at the moon.
a) wolfs
b) wolfes
c) wolves
d) wolvs
- She cut the apple into two ____.
a) halves
b) halfes
c) halvs
d) halves
- The farmer's ___ were grazing in the field.
a) calves
b) calfs
c) calvs
d) calfes
- The police caught the ____.
a) thiefs
b) thieves
c) thievs
d) thiefes
- The character in the novel had three ____.
a) wifes
b) wifs
c) wives
d) wivs
- We fixed the ___ last weekend.
a) rooves
b) roofes
c) roovs
d) roofs
- She could see the ___ from the window.
a) cliffs
b) clives
c) cliffes
d) clifves
- He held strong ___ about education.
a) beliefes
b) beliefs
c) beliefves
d) belieffies
- She grows ___ in her garden.
a) tomatos
b) tomatoies
c) tomatoes
d) tomatoses

12. We need to buy some ____ for the soup.
a) potatoes
b) potatos
c) potatoies
d) potatoes
13. The ____ saved many lives during the war.
a) heros
b) heroies
c) heroses
d) heroes
14. I could hear the ____ in the valley.
a) echoies
b) echoes
c) echois
d) echoses
15. She took several ____ of the sunset.
a) photoes
b) photoies
c) photos
d) photoses
16. There are two ____ in the music room.
a) pianoes
b) pianoies
c) pianoses
d) pianos
17. We visited three ____ in the city.
a) studios
b) studioes
c) studioies
d) studioses
18. The baker made six ____ of bread this morning.
a) loafes
b) loaves
c) loafes
d) loavs
19. The library has many ____.
a) shelves
b) shelfes
c) shelves
d) shelvs
20. We took some ____ at the concert.
a) videoes
b) videoies
c) videoses
d) videos



Answers

1. b) leaves
2. a) knives
3. c) wolves
4. d) halves
5. a) calves
6. b) thieves
7. c) wives
8. d) roofs
9. a) cliffs
10. b) beliefs
11. c) tomatoes
12. a) potatoes
13. d) heroes
14. b) echoes
15. c) photos
16. d) pianos
17. a) studios
18. b) loaves
19. c) shelves
20. d) videos



Explanations

1. “leaves” (b)

When a noun ends in -f, change the f to v and add -es. Leaf → leaves.

2. “knives” (a)

When a noun ends in -fe, change the f to v and add -s. Knife → knives.

3. “wolves” (c)

When a noun ends in -f, change the f to v and add -es. Wolf → wolves.

4. “halves” (d)

When a noun ends in -f, change the f to v and add -es. Half → halves.

5. “calves” (a)

When a noun ends in -f, change the f to v and add -es. Calf → calves.

6. “thieves” (b)

When a noun ends in -f, change the f to v and add -es. Thief → thieves.

7. “wives” (c)

When a noun ends in -fe, change the f to v and add -s. Wife → wives.

8. “roofs” (d)

'Roof' is an exception — it keeps the f and just adds -s. Roof → roofs. Not all -f nouns change to -ves.

9. “cliffs” (a)

'Cliff' is an exception — it keeps the ff and adds -s. Cliff → cliffs.

10. “beliefs” (b)

'Belief' is an exception — it keeps the f and adds -s. Belief → beliefs.

11. “tomatoes” (c)

Some nouns ending in -o add -es to form the plural. Tomato → tomatoes.

12. “potatoes” (a)

Some nouns ending in -o add -es to form the plural. Potato → potatoes.

13. “heroes” (d)

Some nouns ending in -o add -es to form the plural. Hero → heroes.

14. “echoes” (b)

Some nouns ending in -o add -es to form the plural. Echo → echoes.

15. “photos” (c)

Some nouns ending in -o just add -s. Photo → photos. This is common with shortened or informal words.

16. “pianos” (d)

Some nouns ending in -o just add -s. Piano → pianos. Words ending in a vowel + o usually just add -s.

17. “studios” (a)

Some nouns ending in -o just add -s. Studio → studios.

18. “loaves” (b)

When a noun ends in -f, change the f to v and add -es. Loaf → loaves.

19. “shelves” (c)

When a noun ends in -f, change the f to v and add -es. Shelf → shelves.

20. “videos” (d)

Some nouns ending in -o just add -s. Video → videos.