

LEILA EKMAN

Grammar

All you need to know... right now

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Chapter one - Word classes

Ordklasser

1. **Nouns** (substantiv - girl, boy, cat, table, chair, freedom, intelligence)
 - Concrete or abstract things ➤ **Boy, freedom**
 - Show number ➤ **Chair/chairs**
 - Have a definite/indefinite form ➤ **The dog / a dog**
 - Names ➤ **Leila, Stockholm**

2. **Pronouns** (pronomen - she, he, her, his, it, this, that, their, who, which, any, some)
 - Replaces a Noun or ➤ Leila → my teacher → **SHE**
 - Specifies a Noun ➤ **THAT man, SOME men**

3. **Verbs** (Verb)
 - Something you do ➤ To **play**, to **walk**, **is/are**, etc.
 - Can show tense (past/present/future) ➤ She played **ed** yesterday / she plays **s** today
 - Can be in the progressive –ing form ➤ She **is playing** right now

4. **Adjectives** (adjektiv)
 - Shows characteristics of Nouns ➤ A **small** nose
 - Are used in comparisons ➤ **Good – better – best**
 - Comes after copular Verbs and after sense Verbs ➤ She *was / became / seemed / appeared* **angry**
It *tastes / smells / looks / sounds / feels* **nice**

5. Adverbs (Adverb)

- Specify time, place, manner, direction, reason, result, condition, degree, etc.
 - Modify almost anything (except Nouns)
 - a) VERB
 - b) ADVERB
 - c) ADJECTIVE
 - d) a whole CLAUSE
- *now/then, here, beautifully, forward, perhaps, however*
(many Adverbs end in -ly but not all)
- a) I sing **beautifully**
 - b) I sing *extremely* **beautifully**
 - c) I sang a very **beautiful** song
 - d) Unfortunately, **I can't** **sing**

6. Prepositions (Prepositioner - on , over, under, behind, of, to, by, with, in front of)

- Stand in front of Nouns/ProNouns or Adverbs
- **IN** the street / **IN** him or **IN** here / there

7. Conjunctions (konjunktioner - and, or, but, because, if, although, while, that)

- Link phrases
 - Link clauses
- Black **and** white
- She was Swedish **and** she was a teacher

Exercise 1 – word classes

1. Write down the word classes of the underlined words.
2. What one word doesn't really fit into any of the word classes?

We are the party that cares.

We shall house the people.

We shall attend to the needs of every citizen.

We shall work very fast but efficiently.

Fast trains will connect our villages and cities.

Any company that trains an unemployed person will be subsidized.

Work will be available for all the unemployed.

Taxes will be lower.

However, the benefits will be much higher.

The regular plural form

Most Nouns add an **-s** in the plural form

one dog – two dogs

❖ Notice the following **spelling changes!**

Noun ending in...

Plural form

Examples

s, sh, ch, x

-es

Bushes, classes,

maches, boxes



consonant + o

-es

tomatoo – tomatoes



Exceptions: hippos, kilos, memos, photos, pianos, radios, studios, videos

consonant + y

-ies

fly – flies



f-sound

-ves

knife – knives



Exceptions: cliffs, roofs, safes

Most **hyphenated compounds** add –s to the last part
(sammansättningar med bindesstreck)

Baby-sitters

check-ups

follow-ups

Exceptions: – hyphenated compounds with **Prepositions**

parents-**IN**-law

mothers-**IN**-law

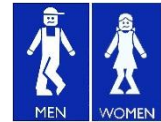
passengers-**BY**

goings-**ON**

Irregular plural forms

About 9 Nouns get a new VOWEL:

(wo)man – (wo)men



foot – feet



tooth – teeth



goose – geese



mouse – mice



louse - lice



Very few get *-en*: child – children

ox – oxen



Then there are the following endings of Greek & Latin loanwords:

Sg.	Plur.	Greek & Latin plural forms:		
is	→ es	analysis – analyses	diagnosis – diagnoses	crisis – crises
on	→ a	criterion – criteria	phenomenon – phenomena	
um	→ a	ovum – ova	curriculum – curricula	symposium – symposia
us	→ i	focus – foci	stimulus – stimuli	syllabus – syllabi
a	→ ae	formula – formulae	alga – algae	

No plural form

- Nationality words ending in *-ese*
- Som animals & fish
- Singular Nouns ending in *-s*
- Other words
- Chinese, Japanese, Portugese also Swiss
- (two) sheep, deer, moose, salmon, cod, trout, plaice
- (one or two) species, series, means, barracks, headquarters
- Cattle, (air/space) craft, fish (fishes=fiskarter)



Exercise 2 – plural forms

What is the plural form of the following words?

1. knife

15. tax

29. quay

2. fireman

16. mouse

30. church

3. Swiss

17. grown-up

31. Portuguese

4. German

18. loaf

32. wolf

5. Irishman

19. roof

33. bus

6. sister-in-law

20. Chinese

34. monkey

7. university

21. salmon

35. score

8. curriculum

22. hypothesis

36. axis

9. potato

23. path

37. half

10. echo

24. sheep

38. 4-digit code

11. hovercraft

25. glass

39. story

12. lady

26. brush

40. spin-off

13. focus

27. photo

41. pickpocket

14. ox

28. stimulus

42. cod



Minor points on singular and plural Nouns

Group Nouns

Nouns that denotes a group can take *both* singular and plural Verbs

e.g. army, audience, board, class, club, committee, couple, company, crowd, government, jury, majority, minority, panel, team

- Seeing the group as **one unit**
 - Seeing the group as made up of **several members**
 - Singular – The team **is**... (often Am.Eng.)
 - Plural – The team **are** (often Br.Eng.)
-

Clothes, instruments and tools in 2 parts ending in –s are PLURAL

e.g. biefs, trunks, shorts, tights, binoculars, scissors, scales, pliers, shears, tweezer



Var är saxen?

Where **are** the scissors

Den är där.

They are there.

- Quantities of these items re expressed with an **of-construction**:
a pair *of* scissors
two pairs *of* scissors
-

Special singular Nouns ending in –s

- a) **Subject, science or sport ending in –ics**
- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| linguistics | politics |
| economics | athletics |
| statistics | aerobics |

b) The words **The United States** (the US) & **The United Nations** (the UN)

c) Some **diseases** – diabetes, measles, German measles, mumps, rabies, shingles, hiccups

d) And **games** – darts, billiards, checkers, cards, marbles, dominoes, bowls

Special plural Nouns

people	wages	cattle
personnel	lyrics	poultry
police	arms	minutes
clergy	vermin	the Middle Ages

en polis = a police officer



folkslag = peoples

Different meaning singular and plural

Condition (villkor)

Conditions (förhållanden)

Custom (vana)

Customs (tull)

Damage (skada)

Damages (skadestånd)

Manner (sätt)

Manners (uppförande)

Uncountable Nouns

- Can't be counted (one luck – two lucks? NO!)
- Can't take a/an
- Have no plural form
- Take a singular Verb
- Are referred to by singular ProNouns (it, this)
- Some Nouns are uncountable in English but NOT in Swedish!

Countable

En sån / vilken otur!
Ett sånt / vilket hemskt väder!

Plural

Var är möblerna? De är där.
Inga nyheter är goda nyheter.

Uncountable

What / Such _ bad **luck!**
what / Such _terrible **weather.**

Singular

Where is the furniture? **IT is** there.
No news is good news.

Uncountable in English - but countable in Swedish

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1. advice | 7. news |
| 2. business | 8. progress |
| 3. evidence / proof | 9. rubbish / garbage |
| 4. furniture | 10. information ('upplysningar') |
| 5. knowledge of | 11. stuff & gear ('grejor') |
| 6. money / cash | 12. [men's] -wear ('-kläder') |

Use classifiers to indicate quantities of uncountable Nouns

a **piece** of / (some) advice
a **sheet** of (some) paper
a **loaf** of (some) bread
a **bar** of (some) chocolate
3 **bottles** of (some) milk

Note: In Swedish you can say "ett papper" "ett bröd" but NOT in English!

Some Nouns have a **countable** + an **uncountable** form with **different meanings!**

Uncountable: hair iron paper work business room

Countable: a hair an iron a paper a work a business a room

'hårstrå' 'strykjärn' 'tidning' 'verk' 'företag/firma' 'ett rum'

Exercise 3 – singular/plural Nouns and Verb agreement

Translate the following sentences

1. Här är de senaste nyheterna.
2. I en olycka på Östersjön tidigare i morse räddades hela besättningen.
3. Besättningen består av tolv kineser.
4. Vittnen till olyckan har givit polisen en del intressanta upplysningar.
5. Hela regeringen stöder förslaget att minska skatterna före valet.
6. Förenta Nationerna har skickat fler fredsbevarande trupper till Afghanistan.
7. En tioårig pojke skadades vid matschen mellan Djurgården och AIK igår kväll.
8. Enligt polisen var det för mycket människor på matchen.
9. En enkät visar att matematik betraktas som det viktigaste ämnet i skolan.
10. Elevernas kunskaper i engelska har förbättrats,
11. men deras framsteg har inte varit särskilt stora.
12. Majoriteten hävdar att politik är intressant,

13. och Förenta Staterna är fortfarande det mest besökta landet utanför Europa.
14. Det här saxen är slö. Var är min sax? Den låg på bordet.
15. De här pengarna är hennes. Var är din?
16. Det där är min kikare. Din hänger på kroken där borta.
17. Polisen är här. Vet polisen vem som gjorde det?
18. Vilken dyr ost de har i den här affären!
19. Snälla, kan du ge mig två papper från den där högen?
20. Möblerna här är mycket värdefulla. De kommer från 1700-talet.
21. De här grejerna är verkligen billiga! Jag fick två tiopundssedlar tillbaka.
22. Damunderkläder är på tredje våningen.
23. Vilken tur pojkarna hade! De fångade fem fiskar: tre öringar och två laxar.
24. Kan du ge mig ett råd? Hur mycket kontanter är tillräckligt för resan?
25. Vi köpte fyra kilo smör, hundra bröd och hundratals papperstallrikar till festen.

26. Företaget har förlorat milliontals dollar men utvecklat dussintals goda idéer.

27. De två schweitzarna lyckades baka många pajer av de två dussin ägg och äpplen de hade till sitt förfogande.

Subject - Verb agreement (kongurens)

The subject is who or what the clause is about. Who or what **does** or **is** something.

- The subject determines if the Verb is **singular** or **plural**.

e.g.

My new teacher (or She) **is** nice.
subject singular Verb

My new teachers (or They) **are** nice.
subject plural Verb

- In the **present tense** an **-s** is added to the Verb in the **3rd person singular**.

e.g.

I	play
you	play
he – she – it	plays
we	play
you	play
they	play

Other 3rd person singular PRONOUNS than *he – she – it* that also require Verbs ending in **-s** in the present tense:

anyone/anybody, everyone, someone, no one
anything, everything, something, nothing
who, this/that

- Everyone likes him
- Nothing bothers me
- Who wants ice cream?



- Long subjects in the 3rd person singular

To avoid errors – **do the substitution test!** Check if you can replace a long subject with *he – she – it*.

e.g.

The long-haired guy on the corner wearing worn-out jeans and a black cap **[HE]** smiles.

The little old lady carrying bags in both hands and looking really tired **[SHE]** sits down.

That beautiful turn-of-the-century building behind the old church **[IT]** needs repair.

- 1 AND 1 = 2 -> PLURAL VERB

Two singular items linked with the word AND need a PLURAL Verb!

e.g.

Leila **and** Anna ARE here.

Drinking too much **and** eating junk food ARE bad for you.

Exceptions!

1. Fixed phrases

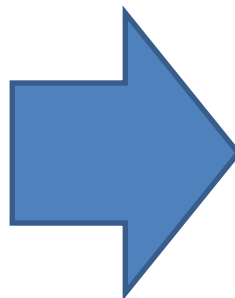
2. Every / Each

e.g.

My bacon and eggs tastes great!

Some peace and quiet is what I want.

Every cat and dog is cute.



SINGULAR VERB

- 1 OR/NOR 1 = 1 -> SINGULAR VERB

Two singular items linked with the word OR or NOR need a SINGULAR Verb!

e.g.

Either Leila **or** Anna WAS here.

Neither drinking too much **nor** eating junk food IS good for you.

Note: If you mix a singular and a plural Noun the Verb is decided by the closest word.

e.g. Neither your sister (sing.) NOR your brothers (plur.) ARE coming.

Neither your brothers (plur.) NOR your sister (sing.) IS coming.

Logical plural

English uses **plural Nouns** in the following expressions:

Att BYTA något:

I changed **buses** / **trains** / **planes**

We switched **seats**

We swapped **places** / **flats**

They exchanged **looks**

Also: **Chapters** / **Examples 2 and 3**

In the **17th** and **18th** centuries

Other cases:

We have different **opinions** / **tastes**

They shook **hands** / **their heads**

They remained **friends** all their **lives**

They have good **appetites** /
memories

Exercise 4 – subject Verb agreement

Circle the correct alternative and make sure you can **explain your answer!**

1. Everybody **are/is** meeting for coffee after the show.
2. Eating too many cookies **are/is** bad for your health.
3. Carrots and grapefruit **was/were** on sale at Ica.
4. Wine and cheese **are/is** being served after the seminar.
5. Working hard and saving your money **are/is** important to get ahead.
6. What I really enjoy doing **are/is** surfing and sailing.
7. Neither your brother nor sister **want/wants** my old couch.
8. Either the students or their parents **are/is** invited to the meeting.
9. Either my brother or my parents **was/were** here to pick up my mail.
10. None of my friends **are/is** coming.
11. There **was/were** five fish in the net.
12. The French **are/is** a cultured people.
13. The United States **are/is** calling for war.
14. We saved their **life/lives**.
15. Where **do/does** the cattle come from?
16. The police **are/is** here.
17. Flying airplanes **are/is** dangerous.
18. The team **are/is** playing tomorrow at 8 pm.
19. The company **has/have** filed for bankruptcy.
20. His sister and brother **was/were** invited to the party.
21. History, philosophy and psychology **are/is** my favorite subjects.
22. Yesterday's demonstration against increased taxes **was/were** discussed.
23. Sixty percent of the population **are/is** against war.
24. Sixty percent of the people interviewed **are/is** against war.

Articles - a/an - the

The *indefinite* article **a/an**

a – before a **consonant sound** - a car, a house, a university, a European car

an – before a **vowel sound** - an attic - an hour - an MP - an elephant

The *definite* article **the**

Use the definite article *the* for:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Directions | in <u>the</u> East | on <u>the</u> left |
| • Rivers | <u>the</u> Thames | <u>the</u> Danube |
| • Seas/oceans | <u>the</u> Pacific | <u>the</u> Mediterranean |
| • Newspapers | <u>the</u> NY Times | <u>the</u> Daily Mirror |
| • Theaters, restaurants, clubs, pubs | <u>the</u> Old Vic | <u>the</u> Bull and Beer |
| • Grammatical terms | in <u>the</u> plural | in <u>the</u> past tense |
| • Musical instruments | I play <u>the</u> piano | |
-

NO definite article (the)

a) Names of days, months & holidays

On _ Sundays, in _ March, at _ Easter

b) Points of time

At _ dawn, at _ dusk, at _ noon, at _ night, after _ dark

(*but*: **IN** the evening, **DURING** the day)

c) Adjective + Name

In _ beautiful Stockholm

I det vackra Stockholm

In _ old Sweden

I det gamla Sverige

Specific & generic reference

No definite article (*the*) with Nouns with generic reference!

a) **The definite article** is used when referring to something **specific**.

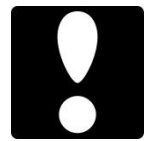
I like **the** food he served. (=specific)

b) When referring to something in a **general** way you do NOT use '*the*'

I like _ food. (=generic)



PROBLEM:



English generic reference is different from Swedish!

Swedish: SPECIFIC

Arbetslösheten stiger.

Forskningen visar att...

Våldet ökar.

Döden är oundviklig.

Samhället speglas i konstenen.

Teknikens utveckling.

English: GENERIC (non-specific)

__ **Unemployment** is rising.

__ **Research** shows that...

__ **Violence** is increasing.

__ **Death** is inevitable.

__ **Society** is reflected in __ art.

The development of __ **technology**.

NO 'THE' with some phrases referring to **meals / activities at some institutions**

e.g.

I go to __ **school** / **college** / **university** in Husby.

She went to __ **jail** / **prison** / **church**.

He came to work after __ **breakfast** and before __ **lunch**, but he was late for __ **dinner**.



at school



at church



in prison



at dinner

Note! When these Nouns have a specific reference, they need 'the'!

We drove past **the school**

These are the teachers of **the school**

There were 80 guests at **the dinner**

Exercise 5 – specific & generic reference

Translate the following sentences

1. Jag går i skolan.
2. Hon tyckte om middagen igår.
3. Men hon tyckte inte om vinet.
4. De flesta människorna hamnar inte i fängelse.
5. Ändå känns samhället som ett kaos.
6. Livet och döden är inga motsatser.
7. Livet är allt och döden är en katastrof.

Exercise 6 – article or no article?

Insert a, an, the or no article at all into the gaps and make sure you know how to **explain** your choice!

1. I hope to become.....teacher.
2. Is that player.....Englishman? No, he isWesh.
3. Are you union member?
4. To have European car is a status symbol here, but I wantAmerican one.
5. The speed limit is 90 kilometers hour.
6. Is there.....university there?
7. Will you go to.....university.....next year?
8.Adjective describes Nouns.
9. He used to work asMTV presenter.
10. Her new boyfriend appears to be.....uneducated guy.
11. She gets told twice.....day that she has.....unusually blond hair.
12. Sometimes I find..... life difficult. This is notlife I had expected.
13. He explained thatlife of this animal is short.
- 14.....coffee with milk is yours. Have you seen the price of coffee in Konsum.
- 15.....elephants are.....endangered species.
16. Our holiday was ruined by suchterrible weather.
17. You are such.....snob sometimes!
- 18.....Swedish steel is exported all over the world.
19. She wondered whatschool she would go to.
20. I like.....pasta, but..... I had last night was too creamy.
21. It wasgreat job, but hard.....work.
22. Whatdirty river.....Rhine is!
23. Did you read it in.....Times or Time magazine?
24. In Afrca it is often hot at.....noon, but cool in.....evening.
25. is.....Bermuda triangle in.....Caribbean Sea or inAtlantic Ocean?

The genitive form

The apostrophe genitive is used for **living beings**



+ some geographical words

+ some expressions of time

Apostrophe positions

Singular Noun → put it BEFORE S

Plural Noun → put it AFTER S



SINGULAR NOUN

The **boy's** dog

Sweden's economy

A **week's** stay



PLURAL NOUN

The **boys'** dog

The United **States'** economy

Two **years'** imprisonment



Exception: Place the apostrophe before –s if the Noun has an irregular plural form: e.g. women's / children's

The of-genitive is used for inanimate things

(icke-levande)

e.g.

the legs **of** the chair

the color **of** the car

the strike **of** 1926

a turnover **of** 30 million kr.



Double negative: combining *of* + the apostrophe

- Can be used if a/an, a Pronoun or a number begins a Noun Phrase.
e.g. a friend **of** my father's
5 t-shirts **of** my mom's

The apostrophe can also be used for omissions of letters

(utelämnande)

I'm (I am)

we've (we have)

R'n'B (Rhythm and bluse)

in '95 (in 1995)

Do not mix up these words:

It's = it IS / it HAS → it's time to go / it's been fun

Its = dess, sin, sitt, sina → the dog chased its tail



Who's = who IS / who HAS → **who's** that man over there? / **who's** drunk my Coke?

Whose = vems, vilkas, vars → **whose** book is this? / There's Tom **whose** sister I know.

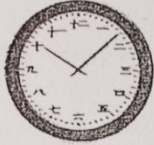


Exercise 7 – Using the apostrophe

Insert the apostrophe in the right places in the following text:

1. Everyones talking about Frank Smiths latest novel.
2. Its plot seems to be based on something that happened to him.
3. Its weird to read about characters youve seen in class or in the students club.
4. I dont think there are many of Franks classmates who wont be annoyed
5. when they doscover theyve been described as thugs and morons.
6. Its as if Frank thought that his experiences were the same as everyones
7. i.e. the same as – Jackys, Mikes and Petes and all the others.
8. Whos in Leilas classroom?
9. I dont know whos in there.
10. Whats this Im eating? I think its taste is a bit strange.

Working with Prepositions



Prepositions of time



- | | | | |
|----|-----------------|--|---|
| 1. | AT | Points in time & holidays | at 4 o'clock, at noon, at Christmas |
| 2. | ON | Days / dates | on Sunday, on March 29 |
| 3. | IN | Years & centuries,
months & seasons | in 1945, in the 17 th century
in May, in spring |
| 4. | DURING | Periods of time (Sw 'under') | during the summer / our stay |
| 5. | FOR / - | answering 'How long?' | I stayed [for] 3 weeks. (<i>Prep not necessary</i>) |
| 6. | BY | same as 'senast' | Return the book by Monday / 4 o'clock |
| 7. | TOWARD/S | same as 'framemot' | It started snowing toward/s the evening |

*Other prepositions are also used in time phrases
e.g. through, from...to, until, over etc.*

Extras: Preposition + Verb

Verbs following prepositions take **the -ing form**

- She's keen **ON** dancing
- He apologized **FOR** being late
- We have been talking **ABOUT** moving to London
- I look forward **TO** meeting you

Exercise 8 – prepositions of time

1. År 1920.....
2. På 30-talet.....
3. I slutet av 20-talet.....
4. I mitten på 80-talet.....
5. På 1800-talet.....
6. I slutet av 1900-talet.....
7. Sommaren 1945.....
8. Ett halvt år senare.....
9. Om ett och ett halvt år.....
10. Om två och ett havt år.....
11. Den 18e maj.....
12. På morgonen den 18e maj.....
13. Vid påsk.....
14. På julafton.....
15. Senast klockan 12.....