

Lesson 5

Plural Formation (I)

Most Blin nouns end in **a**, the fourth order in the Geez syllabery. In forming plurals, drop **a** to form the plural. Although most nouns end in **a**, there are also few nouns that end in some other sound. For the sake of reference late on in our lessons, some simple rules are provided here.

Rule 5.1.

Drop **a** to form plural (the most common)

Singular	Plural	Meaning
ara	ar	grain
bega	beg	sheep
gemenā	gemen	lion
gena	gen	mother
grwa	gr'w	man
jana	jan	elephant
kana	kan	tree
kr'nga	kr'ng	stone
mrawa	mraw	snake

Rule 5.2,

Drop **a** and change the last consonant to form the plural. **Rule 5.3**

In some nouns which end in **a**, drop **a** and add **t't** to form plurals as. **Rule 5.4**

But **t't** is added also to nouns that end in consonants, especially in **n** to form plurals as: But observe that the plural of **dan** (brother) is not **dant't**; it is **shan**.

Singular	Plural	Meaning	
aba	af	water, well,	b--->f
bira	bil	ox ,	r-->l
gira	git	mountain,	r-->t
beKla	bekl	mule,	K --> k
dira	dit	baobab,	d -->t

Singular	Plural	Meaning
sna	snt't	butter
bra	brt't	land, earth
dula	dult't	club, stick

Singular	Plural	Meaning
nan	nant't	hand
fin	fint't	unprocessed butter
jen	jent't	jar, pot
yew	yewt't	back, shoulder

Rule 5.5

In some nouns, **a** is dropped and replaced by **i** in the plural, with or without changes in the last consonant.

Singular	Plural	Meaning
an'gwa	angwi	palm leave
bamba	bambi (fi)	a kind of tree
qansha	qanshi	hey
gunfa	gunfi	cold, cough
shinsha	shinshi	fly