

Irregular plurals

A Choose the correct singular or plural forms to complete the sentences.

- Social media is an important new **phenomenon** for schools. The Internet in general has brought many new *phenomena / phenomenon / phenomenons* into the classroom.
- This *bacterion / bacterium / bacteriam* is killed by cooking, but no treatment can kill all **bacteria**.
- There are many different *species / specieses / specie* of bee. The honeybee is not the only **species** that makes honey.
- The research group has done many *analysis / analysias / analyses* of the data. Their latest **analysis** produced some interesting findings.
- There are many **criteria** which we consider in the selection process, but the main *criteria / criteriom / criterion* is work experience.
- Each painting has a different **emphasis**, but although subjects or *emphasi / emphasises / emphases* may change, the message of the paintings remains the same.
- The government is facing a new **crisis** which is unlike any of the *crisis / crises / crisa* it has faced in the past.

B Match the first part of the sentences (1–6) to the second part (a–f).

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|---|---|-------|
| 1 | Playing computer games online is the most important | _____ |
| 2 | Several types of the | _____ |
| 3 | The judges look at each | _____ |
| 4 | There are various political and social | _____ |
| 5 | Chlorine will kill the | _____ |
| 6 | The magazine used several different | _____ |
- a phenomena linked to the start of the war.
 b bacteria in the water, but it will take some time.
 c criteria to choose the winner.
 d bacterium were poisonous to insects.
 e criterion carefully.
 f social phenomenon for this generation of children.

C Complete the sentences using words from the box.

analyses analysis bacteria bacterium crises crisis criteria
 criterion emphases emphasis phenomena phenomenon

- Many _____ cannot be killed by any medical treatment.
- Industrial farming is not a new _____. It has existed for centuries.
- She has written a detailed _____ of the causes of climate change.
- The school places a lot of _____ on developing life skills.
- People often come together if there is a war or a national _____.
- The products have to meet several _____ before they are approved.
- Her poetry explores sunsets, the singing of birds and other natural _____.
- How realistic the characters are cannot be your only _____ for judging a film.
- The two studies have similar topics but put very different _____ on different aspects.
- Typhoid is caused by the _____ Salmonella Typhi.
- She showed great leadership throughout one of the most severe _____ in the country's history.
- They must carry out several environmental risk _____ before permits are issued.