

B. Enwau - Nouns

1. All nouns in Welsh are either masculine or feminine. There is no neuter gender. Unfortunately there is no way of telling which nouns are feminine and which are masculine, so it is important to learn the gender at the same time as the meaning. In a dictionary '**b**' (benywaidd) will denote feminine nouns and '**g**' (gwrywaidd) will denote masculine nouns.
2. Singular, feminine nouns undergo a Soft Mutation after the definite article '**y**' (*the*) (except those words which begin with '**ll**' and '**rh**'). See *S.M. rule 1*.
 e.g. tref - y **d**ref - the town
 cadair - y **g**adair - the chair
 merch - y **f**erch - the girl
 llaw - y **l**law - the hand
 rhaw - y **r**haw - the spade
3. We always use **singular** nouns after numbers in Welsh. Although the plural of '**car**' is '**ceir**' note the use of the singular form after numbers.
 e.g. one car - un **car** ten cars - deg **car**
 eight cars - wyth **car** two cars - dau **gar**
4. Feminine nouns undergo a Soft Mutation after the numbers '**un**' (*one*) (except those words which begin with '**ll**' and '**rh**') and '**dwy**' (*two*). See *S.M. rules 2 and 3*.

Notice that the form '**dwy**' is used with feminine nouns only.

e.g. un **f**erch - one girl dwy **f**erch - two girls
 un **l**law - one hand dwy **l**law - two hands
 un **b**ont - one bridge dwy **b**ont - two bridge

5. Masculine nouns undergo a Soft Mutation after the number '**dau**' (*two*). See *S.M. rule 4*.

Notice that the form '**dau**' is used with masculine nouns only.

e.g. dau **f**achgen - two boys dau **g**i - two dogs
 dau **d**dyn - two men dau **b**lentyn - two children

6. Masculine nouns after '**tri**' (*three*) and all singular nouns after '**chwe**' (*six*) undergo an Aspirate Mutation. See *A.M. rules 1 and 2*. The form '**tri**' is used with masculine nouns only.

e.g.	tri ch effyl	-	three horses
	tri ph lentyn	-	three children
	tri th ractor	-	three tractors
	chwe ch einog	-	six pennies (pence)
	chwe ph unt	-	six pounds
	chwe th egan	-	six toys

7. Nouns will undergo a Soft Mutation after the linking '**yn**'.
See *S.M. rule 12*.

e.g.	Roedd Mair yn dd octor.	-	Mair was a doctor.
	Mae e' n fili wnydd. (S.W.)	-	He's a millionaire.
	Dydy o ddim yn b rifathro.	-	He isn't a headmaster. (N.W.)