

## 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 <b>d</b> ref	-	the town
	cadair	-	y <b>g</b> adair	-	the chair
	merch	-	y <b>f</b> erch	-	the girl
	llaw	-	y <b>ll</b> aw	-	the hand
	rhaw	-	y <b>r</b> 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 <b>car</b>	ten cars	-	deg <b>car</b>
	eight cars	-	wyth <b>car</b>	two cars	-	dau <b>gar</b>

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 <b>f</b> erch	-	one girl	dwy <b>f</b> erch	-	two girls
	un <b>ll</b> aw	-	one hand	dwy <b>ll</b> aw	-	two hands
	un <b>b</b> ont	-	one bridge	dwy <b>b</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 <b>f</b> achgen	-	two boys	dau <b>g</b> i	-	two dogs
	dau <b>dd</b> yn	-	two men	dau <b>b</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 <b>ch</b> effyl	-	three horses
	tri <b>ph</b> lentyn	-	three children
	tri <b>th</b> ractor	-	three tractors
	chwe <b>che</b> iniog	-	six pennies (pence)
	chwe <b>ph</b> unt	-	six pounds
	chwe <b>th</b> egan	-	six toys

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

e.g.	Roedd Mair <b>yn d</b> doctor.	-	Mair was a doctor.
	Mae e' <b>n</b> filiwnydd. (S.W.)	-	He's a millionaire.
	Dydy o ddim <b>yn b</b> rifathro.	-	He isn't a headmaster. (N.W.)