

Puzzle 1: plurals in English and general number in Bayso

If submitting for feedback, submit electronically via QM+ by Monday, **30 January 2023, 11.55pm**

If submitting for assessment, submit electronically via QM+ by Thursday, **20 April 2023, 11.55pm**

Please answer both questions.

Question 1

Consider the following English example:

(1) **Lina didn't buy books at the fair**

Is (1) true or false if Lina bought one book at the fair? Does our treatment of English plural nouns as [-atomic] predict the correct meaning for *books* in (1)? Explain why in detail.

Question 2

Bayso has, in addition to singular and plural, so-called general number (data from Corbett 2000 *Number* and from Corbett 2012 *Features*, both from Cambridge University Press):

singular	plural	general	
lubántiti	lubanjool	lúban	'lion'
áartiti	aaraar	aar	'bull'
abbati	abbalaal	abba	'sister'
kimbírtiti	kimbirjool	kimbír	'bird'

(1) **Lúban** **hudure**
lion.GENERAL sleep
'Lions/A lion slept'

(2) **Lubán-titi** **hudure**
lion-SG sleep
'A lion slept'

(3) **Luban-jool** **hudure**
lion-PL sleep
'Lions slept'

Notice that (1), with general number, is interpreted as meaning that one or more lions slept. How should general number in Bayso be accounted for? Be precise about the syntactic and semantic aspects of your proposal.

Note on word count. Examples, definitions, tests, etc. do not count towards the word count. You should aim for 600-700 words of prose per puzzle.