

# Re: Computer Number Concord

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Prai Jei <[pvstowndsend@zyx-abc.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:pvstowndsend@zyx-abc.fsnet.co.uk)> wrote:

- > *Any automatic message generator would need to have the singular and*
- > *plural forms (and dual, if applicable) coded up separately to allow for*
- > *"irregular" plurals or where several plural endings are available*

Yes indeed – though it might use dictionary lookup, using the singular form passed as a parameter as key, fetching information that indicates the declination type used for that word, and generating the declined word.

But that would be more complicated and would mean that `_someone_` has to do the coding anyway, and to do quite job, encoding declination information in a form that can be used in automatic processing. On the other hand, such work has already been done to some extent when creating data that can be used in the generative part of an automatic translation system.

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