



## 2.8- Compound Nouns (Noun + Noun form) and the second vowel harmony rules

A compound noun is a noun that is made up of two or more words in order to make its basic meaning more specific and clear. Compound nouns can be made using different combinations of the words. We are going to study “Noun + Noun” form which includes a modifier noun that modifies the meaning of the second noun.

There are **certain suffixes** that are added to the end of the second noun in order to form compound nouns including two nouns. These suffixes are chosen according to the **last vowel of the second noun**. Now let’s study the classification of the vowels in the table below.

Turkish Vowel Harmony Rules			
Undotted <b>A, I, O, U</b>	are followed by	<b>A</b> - Undotted suffix	FIRST RULE
Dotted <b>E, İ, Ö, Ü</b>	are followed by	<b>E</b> - Dotted suffix	
Undotted <b>A</b> or <b>I</b>	are followed by	<b>I</b> - Undotted suffix	SECOND RULE
Dotted <b>E</b> or <b>İ</b>	are followed by	<b>İ</b> - Dotted suffix	
Undotted <b>O</b> or <b>U</b>	are followed by	<b>U</b> - Undotted suffix	
Dotted <b>Ö</b> or <b>Ü</b>	are followed by	<b>Ü</b> - Dotted suffix	

The second vowel harmony rule is applied in order to form compound nouns including two nouns. One of the certain letters in the table is added to the end of the second noun in the compound noun. The first noun (modifier) does not take any suffixes while using “Noun + Noun” form.

There is another little rule that must be learnt in order to form compound nouns. Since **two vowels** cannot come together in Turkish the second nouns that end with a vowel **firstly take the buffer letter “-S”** and after that take one of the suffixes in the table above.

Now let’s analyze the example compound nouns in the table below and naturally internalize this operation answering the questions loudly in the table at the next page.

Last Letter is A		Last Letter is I	
İSİMLER/NOUNS	COMPOUND NOUNS	İSİMLER/NOUNS	COMPOUND NOUNS
Gemi/adam	Gemi adamı	Aşk/şarkı	Aşk şarkısı
Yatak/oda	Yatak odası	Kapak/kız	Kapak kızı
Last Letter is O		Last Letter is U	
İSİMLER/NOUNS	COMPOUND NOUNS	İSİMLER/NOUNS	COMPOUND NOUNS
Tenis/top	Tenis topu	Sınav/soru	Sınav sorusu
Hediye/kupon	Hediye kuponu	Devlet/okul	Devlet okulu
Last Letter is E		Last Letter is İ	
İSİMLER/NOUNS	COMPOUND NOUNS	İSİMLER/NOUNS	COMPOUND NOUNS
Yaz/gece	Yaz gecesi	Sokak/kedi	Sokak kedisi
Balık/et	Balık eti	Korku/film	Korku filmi
Last Letter is Ö		Last Letter is Ü	
İSİMLER/NOUNS	COMPOUND NOUNS	İSİMLER/NOUNS	COMPOUND NOUNS
Gece/kör	Gece körü	Okul/müdür	Okul müdürü
Ağaç/kök	Ağaç kökü	Doğum/gün	Doğum günü