

A wide-angle landscape photograph of the Swiss Alps. In the background, several jagged mountain peaks are covered in patches of snow and ice, with some rocky outcrops visible. The sky is a clear, pale blue. In the foreground and middle ground, the terrain is a mix of steep, grassy slopes and dense evergreen forests. A winding road or path is visible on the left side of the valley. The overall lighting suggests a bright, sunny day, possibly in the late afternoon or early morning, given the soft shadows and the way the light hits the mountain peaks.

An Expedition to the Swiss Alps

Exploring the World, Story, and Language of Heidi



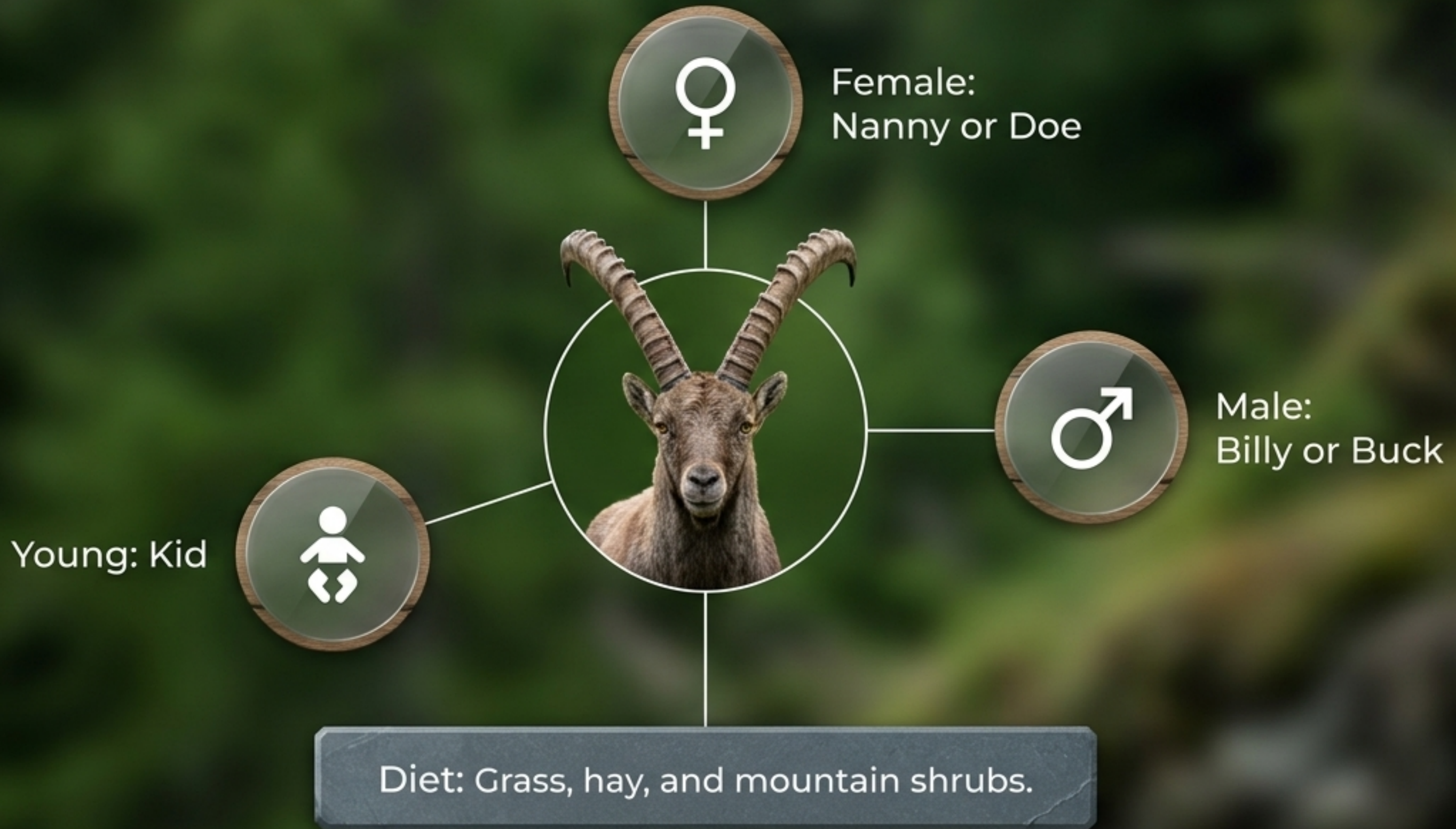
The Himalayas (India/Nepal/Tibet):
The highest mountain range in the world.
Home to Mount Everest, standing at
8,848 metres above sea level.

The Alps (Switzerland):
A towering mountain range in
Europe, and the setting for our
journey today. Mountains
provide essential fresh water,
energy, and resources.

The Alpine Explorer's Journal

Mapping Our Destination

Meeting the Alpine Locals





The Architect of the Alps

Johanna Spyri (1827):

Born in Switzerland, she spent her summers in the mountains, writing over fifty stories set in the Alps.

The Masterpiece (1880):

Spyri received worldwide acclaim for Heidi.

Global Impact:

The novel was translated from German into fifty different languages.

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Arrival at the Wooden House



Step 1: The Fir Trees

Three big, old fir trees stand at the back. The wind going through them sounds like singing.



Step 2: One Large Room

A big fireplace, a table, Grandfather's bed, and a cupboard holding bowls, plates, bread, and cheese.



Step 3: The Quote

"Where am I going to sleep, Grandfather?"



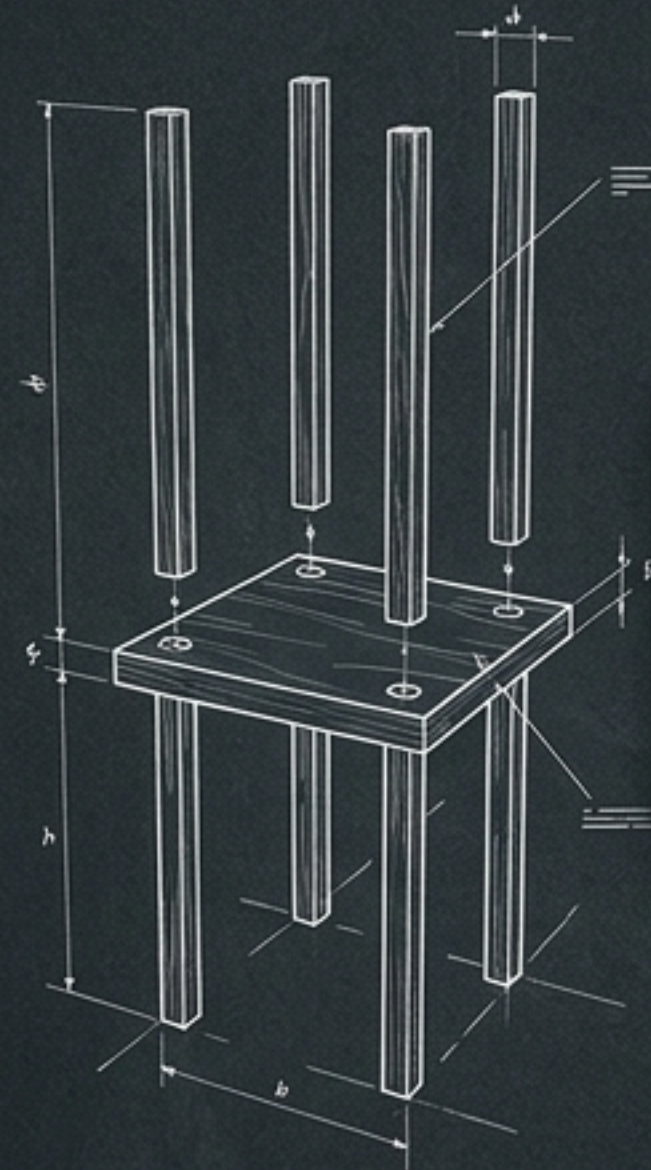
Step 4: The Hay Loft

Heidi climbs the corner steps to find a room under the roof. She makes a bed of hay that smells good, looking out a window at the mountains.

An Evening of Kindness

The Meal:

Grandfather cuts a large piece of cheese and toasts it near the fire until it is golden-brown. He fills Heidi's bowl with fresh goat's milk.



The Gift:

He cleans the goat house, then cuts four long sticks exactly the same length. He makes four holes in a piece of wood and sticks the legs in.

The Quote:

‘What do you think it is, Heidi?’
✓ ‘It’s a chair for me! Because it’s so high!’

A Morning Gleaming with Gold

The Return:

Eleven-year-old Goat-Peter arrives with the herd. Two goats, Snowy (white) and Brownie (brown), run directly to Grandfather to be milked.

The Awakening:

The sun shines through the round window, falling in golden rays on Heidi's bed.

The Lesson:

Everything seems to be gleaming with gold. The story reminds us that nature's priceless beauty brings a happiness that material goods cannot buy.



The Explorer's Plural Matrix

The Rule	Singular	Plural
Rule 1: Add -s	 bug	 bugs
Rule 2: Ends in -ch, -sh, -s, -x (Add -es)	 glass	 glasses
Rule 3: Ends in Consonant + y (Drop -y, add -ies)	 puppy	 puppies
Rule 4: Ends in Vowel + y (Add -s)	 ray	 rays
Rule 5: Ends in -f or -fe (Drop -f/fe, add -ves)	 leaf	 leaves

Navigating Irregular Terrain



The -O Rule Split:
Some words add -es
(echo → echoes), while
others just add -s
(piano → pianos).

Always the Same:
Some words never
change shape, whether
there is one or one
hundred (deer → deer,
sheep → sheep).



The -F Exceptions:
Sometimes you simply
add an -s (roof → roofs).
Sometimes both work!
(hoof → hoofs OR hooves).

Always Plural:
Some items exist only
in pairs (scissors,
trousers).



Inventory of the Cabin

Countable Nouns (Can be singular or plural):

Uncountable Nouns (Always singular):



Chairs



Bowls



Goats



Cheese



Milk

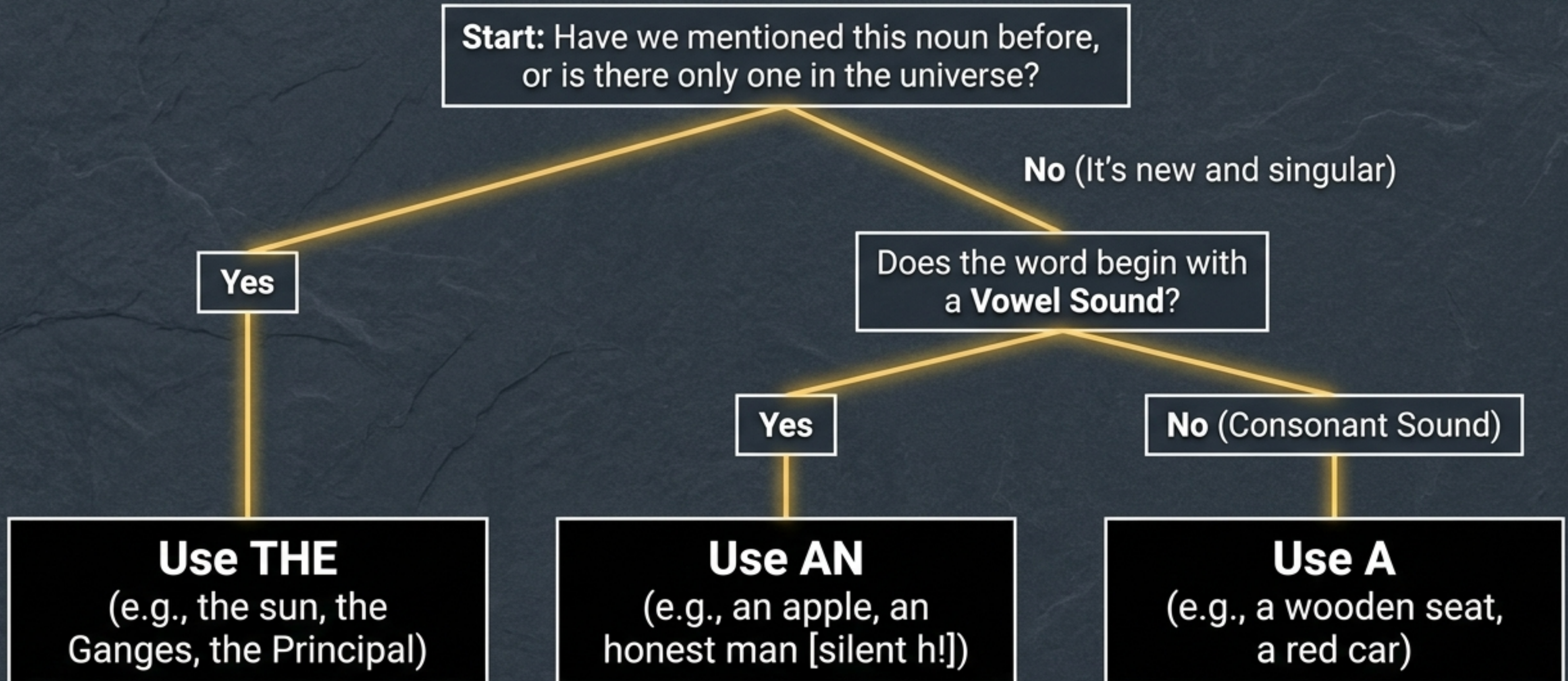


Hay

Note: We can use 'a', 'an', or numbers with these.

Note: We cannot count these individually.
We do not use 'a' or 'an' with them.

The Article Decision Engine



Sorting the Sounds of the Mountain

Long
(gate,
lake)

Short
(apple,
axe)

Long
(eat,
feet)

Short
(pen,
nest)

Long
(kite,
iceberg)

Short
(fit,
bill)

Long
(lonely,
only)

Short
(mop,
pot)

Long
(blue,
June)

Short
(pun,
bun)

A

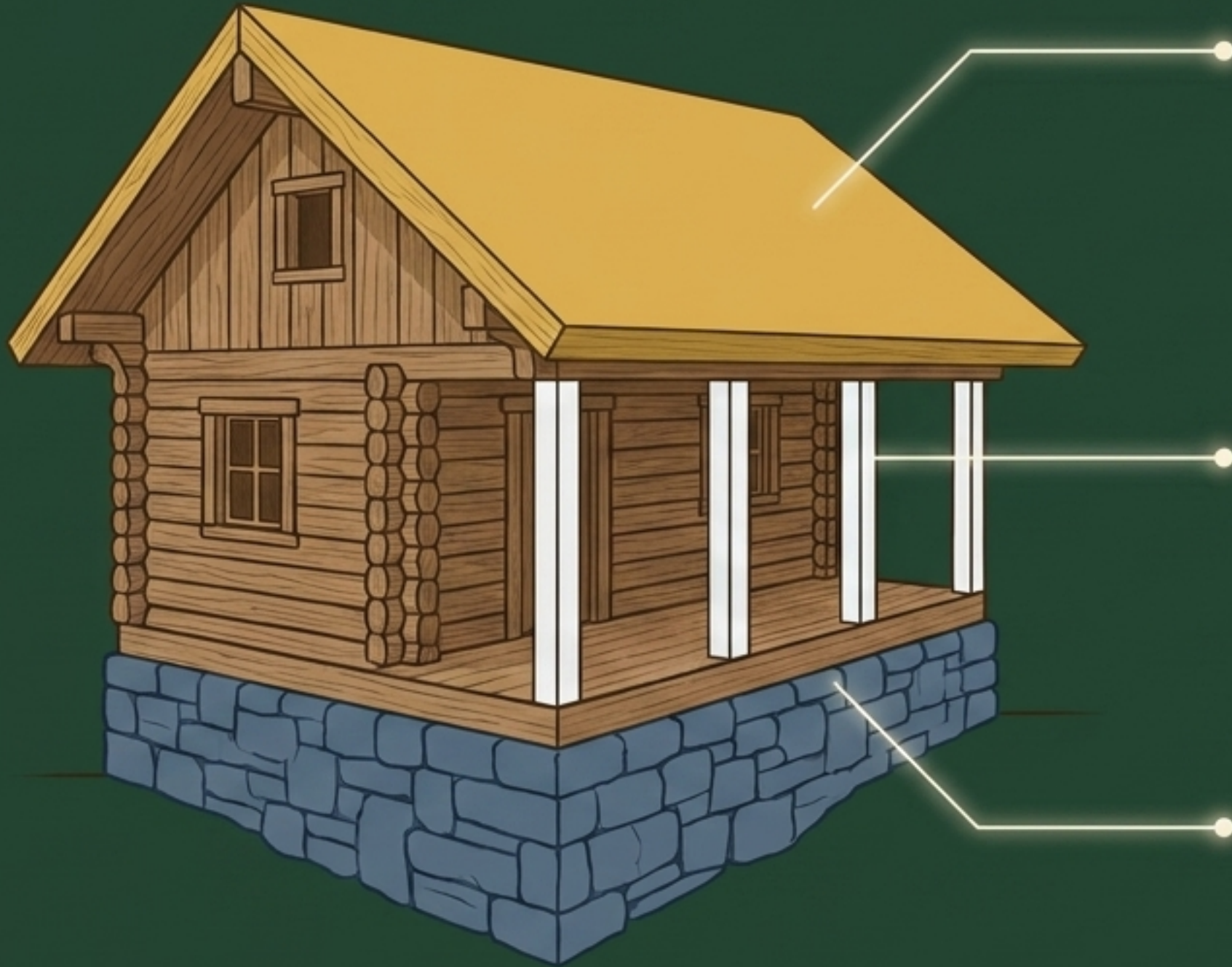
E

I

O

U

The Architecture of a Story



The Roof (Topic Sentence): The introduction. It covers the whole paragraph and tells the reader exactly what the topic is. (e.g., "My hobby is playing chess.")

The Pillars (Supporting Sentences): The details. These hold up the roof by explaining the topic, providing examples, and adding depth. (e.g., "I started when I was five. I participate in competitions.")

The Foundation (Concluding Sentence): The anchor. It wraps up the idea and leaves a final, strong impression. (e.g., "Playing chess keeps my mind cool, and I love it.")

Drafting Your Own Journal

Your Final Mission: Using the architecture of a paragraph, draft a story about "A Family Picnic".

Gather Your Supplies: Remember to use your countable/uncountable nouns correctly, check your plural endings, and choose the right articles (a/an/the).

Blueprint Hints:

- Topic: A bright, sunny holiday out with cousins.
- Support: Packing sandwiches, playing volleyball, making sandcastles.
- Conclusion: How you felt at the end of the day.

