

PARTS OF SPEECH

NOUNS

Nouns refer to/ name a persons, animals, places, things, ideas, or events

Noun can be a/an -

- **Person** – a name for a person: - Max, Julie, Catherine, Michel, Bob, etc.
- **Animal** – a name for an animal: - dog, cat, cow, kangaroo, etc.
- **Place** – a name for a place: - London, Australia, Canada, Lahore, etc.
- **Thing** – a name for a thing: - bat, ball, chair, door, house, computer, etc.
- **Idea** – A name for an idea: - devotion, superstition, happiness, excitement, etc.

Example of noun in sentences

- **Alex** is a wonderful **player**.
- **Sydney Lions** is the **team** he plays for.
- He was not born in this **country**.
- The **jug** is on the **table**.
- There is also a **pen** and a **diary** on it.
- **Truthfulness** is a **virtue** that is rare nowadays.

Different types of nouns

1. Proper Noun:

A **proper noun** is a name which refers only to a single (particular) person, place, or thing and there is no common name for it. In written English, a proper noun always begins with capital letters.

Example:

- **Melbourne** (it refers to only one particular city),
- **Steve** (refers to a particular person),
- He has a house across the **Georges** River.
- He goes for a walk by the river every **Monday**.
- His friend **Max** accompanies him.
- **Max** was born in **South Africa**.

2. Common Noun:

A **common noun** is a name for something which is **common** for many things, person, or places. It encompasses (refers) a particular type of things, person, or places.

Example:

Country (it can refer to any country, nothing in particular),

city (it can refer to any city like Melbourne, Mumbai, Toronto, etc. but nothing in particular).

So, a **common noun** is a word that indicates a person, place, thing, etc. In general and a **proper noun** is a specific one of those.

Examples:

- His **friend** accompanies him.
- They talk about **movies** and **celebrities**.
- He has a **dog** named Poppy.
- He has a **house** and a **car** also.
- He has a **house** across the **river**.
- Sydney is the **city** he lives in.

3. Abstract Noun:

An **abstract noun** is a word for something that cannot be seen but is there. It has no physical existence. Generally, it refers to ideas, qualities, and conditions.

Example: Truth, lies, happiness, sorrow, time, friendship, humor, patriotism, etc.

- **Truthfulness** is a **virtue** that is rare nowadays.
- **Honesty** depends mostly on **truthfulness** and **integrity**.
- **Childhood** is the best **time** to build it.
- Different people may have different **ideas**, **opinions**, and **beliefs**.
- But some **virtues** receive universal **acknowledgment**.

4. Concrete Noun:

A **concrete noun** is the exact opposite of abstract noun. It refers to the things we see and have physical existence.

Example: Chair, table, bat, ball, water, money, sugar, etc.

- I have a cricket **bat** in my **closet**.
- My brother has a mobile **phone**.
- Your **shirt** has a **button** short.
- Can I pet (adopt/ take) your **dog**?
- Please pass the **salt**.
- Your sweater is made of such soft **wool**.

5. Countable Noun:

The nouns that can be counted are called **countable nouns**.

Countable nouns can take an article: *a, an, the*.

Example: Chair, table, bat, ball, etc. (you can say 1 chair, 2 chairs, 3 chairs – so chairs are countable)

- I bought a **book** of neurology.
- The book has 269 **pages** in it.
- Alex has four **pencils**.
- The car contains four **seats**.
- He had a **cat** when he was young.
- The cat used to eat a **cookie** every day.

6. Non-countable Noun:

The nouns that cannot be counted are called **non-countable nouns**.

Example: Water, sugar, oil, salt, etc. (you cannot say "1 water, 2 water, 3 water" because water is not countable)

Abstract nouns and **proper nouns** are always non-countable nouns, but **common nouns** and **concrete nouns** can be both count and non-count nouns.

Examples

- I need some drinking **water**.
- Have some **juice**, please.
- Do you need some **gas** for your car?
- We need a lot of **money** for the **business**.
- Do you want some **milk**?
- How much **time** do you need?
- I need some more **time**.

7. Collective Noun:

A **collective noun** is a word for a group of things, people, or animals, etc.

Example: family, team, jury, cattle, etc.

Collective nouns can be both plural and singular

Examples:

- We waited anxiously for the **jury** to come to a verdict.
- This year's basketball **team** includes three players who are over six feet tall.
- Napoleon's **army** was finally defeated at Waterloo.
- The town **council** has approved plans to create a new park.

8. Compound Noun:

A compound noun contains two or more words that join together to make a single noun. Compound nouns can be two words written as one (closed form), such as **softball** and **toothpaste**; words that are hyphenated (hyphenated form), such as **six-pack** and **son-in-law**; or separate words (open form), such as **post office** and **upper class** that go together by meaning.

Example: six-pack, son-in-law, snowball, mailbox.

9. Material Noun

Material nouns refer to materials or substances from which things are made. Let's take the word "cotton." Cotton is an adjective when used in "*cotton* dress." However, cotton is a material noun when used to describe the crop.

Example:

- We use **cotton** from a local farm in our t-shirts.

10. Possessive Noun

Possessive nouns demonstrate ownership over something else. The best way to spot them is to look for an apostrophe.

Example:

- **Ann's** imagination ran wild as she daydreamed about her trip to Ireland.
- **Swat's** landscape is truly breathtaking.
- The **puppy's** favorite toy is the squeaky newspaper.

IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND:

If **plural nouns** or **plural compound noun** end with "s", simply add an apostrophe at the end i.e. **'s**.

Example:

- Airplanes' wings
- Alarms' ringing
- Bathrooms' taps
- Bosses' orders
- Dogs' adventures
- Girls' sports
- Investors' advice
- Knives' blades
- Couch potatoes' snacks
- Fact sheets' predictions
- Salesclerks' tips
- Printouts' clarity

Sentence Examples:

- Umbrellas' handles are sometimes carved.
- Witches' hats are usually pointed.
- The tables' legs were all wobbly(unstable) and needed repair
- The drive-ins' lines were all very long.
- My photocopies' font color turned out too dim.
- The officers' rooms were decorated beautifully.

If **plural nouns** or **Plural compound** do not end with "s," add an apostrophe and "s" i.e. **'s**.

Example:

- Gentlemen's association
- Media's influence
- Men's worries
- Mice's feet
- Nuclei's composition
- People's beliefs
- Attorneys at law's charges
- Attorneys General's mandate
- Colonels-in-chief's agenda
- Editors-in-chief's opinions
- Snowmen's noses
- Boatmen's supplies

Sentence Examples

- Dolphins got caught in the fishermen's nets.
- Postmen's bags are made of leather
- Servicemen's fees rise on working weekends.
- The Captains of the Guard's insignia was impressive.
- Both brother-in-law's dresses were blue.
- All Chiefs of Staff's appointment were deserved.
- Workmen's compensation is available if you are injured on the job.

Referring to Places

Examples:

- The grocer's
- The dentist's
- Domino's
- McDonald's

Sentence Examples

- McDonald's is opening next month.
- I've got an appointment at the dentist's at eleven o'clock.
- The grocer's will be closed tomorrow.