

MEETING 1

N O U N S

A. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To explain the functions of nouns
2. To explain the types of nouns

B. THE AIMS OF THE TOPIC

1. Students are expected to understand nouns and their functions
2. Students are expected to understand types of nouns

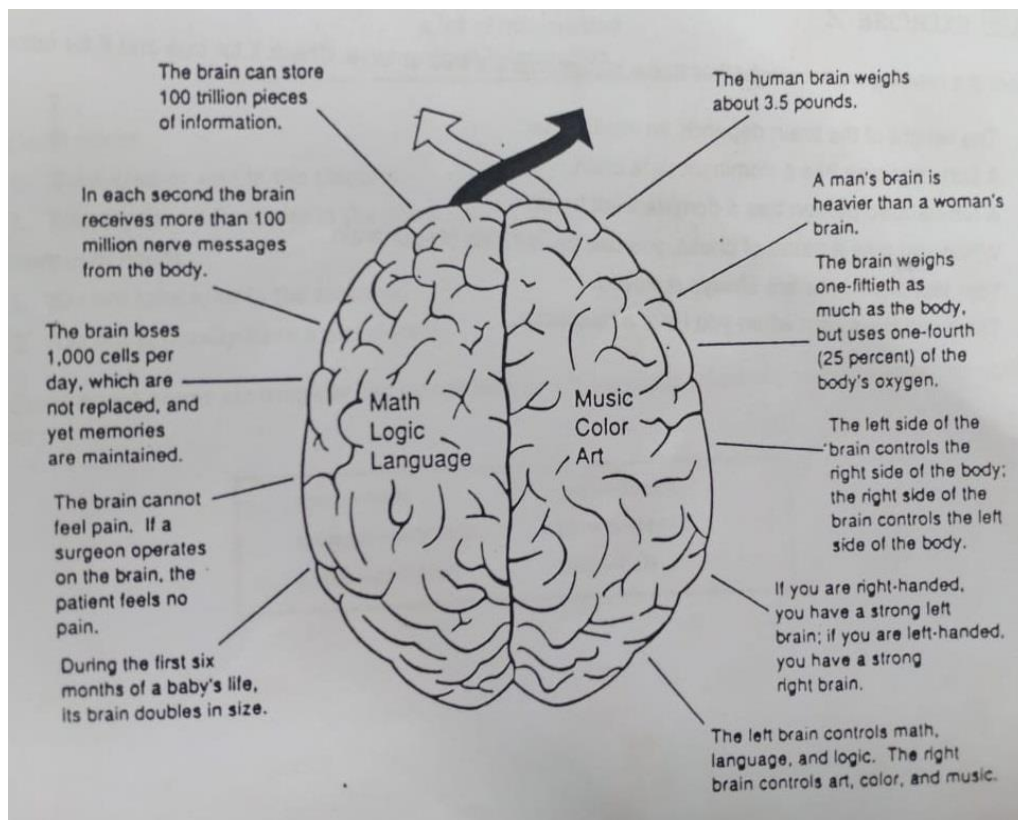
C. GUIDANCE AND METHODS OF LEARNING

1. Lectures
2. Discussions
3. Presentations
4. Practices

D. MATERIAL DESCRIPTION

I. INTRODUCTION:

The Brains



Exercise 1:

Nouns are tested on the TOEFL test. Complete these sentences with nouns.

1. The brain stores 100 trillion pieces of
2. Men's brains are heavier thanbrains.
3. The brain uses one-quarter, orof the body's program.
4. The left brain controls math,, and
5. The right brain controls color,, and
6. The human brain weighs about 3.5.....
7. The brain cannot feel.....
8. The brain receives more than 100.....messages from the body

Exercise 2:

From the reading work out whether statements are true or false. Check T for True and F for False.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1. The weight of the brain depends on intelligence. | T | F |
| 2. A jazz musician has a dominant right brain. | T | F |
| 3. A left handed person has a dominant left brain | T | F |
| 4. When you play a game of chess you use the left side of your brain | T | F |
| 5. Your lost brain cells are always replaced | T | F |
| 6. The brain feels pain when you have a new headache | T | F |

II. GRAMMARS:

Singular and Plural Nouns

Nouns can be classified into two groups: count nouns, which can be counted and which take an *s*, and non-count nouns, which cannot be counted and which usually do not take an *s*.

STRATEGY

Look for a non-count noun that is pluralized where it generally should not be.

Look at the following table:

	Singular	Plural
Count noun	A cell One cell	Cells Two cells Some cells A lot of cells Many cells
Non-count noun	Information Some information A lot of information Much information	

Count nouns

1. Take **a/an** or one for the singular.
2. Usually take a final **s/es** in the plural

Non-count nouns

1. Do not take **a/an** in the singular
2. Do not generally have a plural form.

Some count nouns are irregular and do not take an *s* in the plural. Here are some common irregular count nouns:

Man-men	foot-feet
Woman-women	tooth-teeth
Child-children	fish-fish

Non-count nouns cannot be counted because they come in a mass or in an uncountable form. Nouns such as *blood*, *music*, and *excitement* cannot be counted. The following is a short list of some non-count nouns:

food	Rice, sugar, fruit, milk, bread, butter, cheese
Fluids	Blood, water, oil, coffee, tea, gasoline
Raw material	Wood, paper, glass, iron, silver, wool
Gases	Oxygen, nitrogen, air, pollution, steam
General	Furniture, mail, money, traffic, equipment
Groups	Jewelry, machinery, luggage, clothing, cash
Languages	English, Chinese, Japanese, Spanish
Academic Subjects	Chemistry, mathematics, psychology
Abstract things	Education, freedom, health, intelligence, beauty, knowledge, sleep, time

1. QUANTIFIERS

A quantifier is a word that indicates an amount or quantity.

- a. Some quantifiers are used only with plural count nouns.

Both many a few several fewer

They are controlled by several nerves.

We have fewer cells as we get older.

- b. Some quantifiers are used only with singular count nouns.

Another each every

Each gland has a different purpose.

Every muscle has its own group of nerves.

- c. Some quantifiers are used only with non-count nouns.

A little much less amount

The amount of oxygen available to the brain is important.

If your brain gets less oxygen than it needs, you could become unconscious.

- d. Some quantifiers are used with both plural count nouns and non-count nouns.

All plenty of any a lot of

Enough most lots of some more

Brain cells use up a lot of energy.

Most animals rely on instinct.

Exercise 3:

Correct the errors in noun forms in the following sentences.

1. Intelligence is the ability to use thought and knowledges to understand things and solve problems.
2. Hormones help adjust the mixture of sugar, salt, and waters in your body.
3. Psychology, meaning the study of mind and how it works, comes from a Greek word meaning lifes or soul.
4. Brain cells use up a lot of energy, so they need a constant supply of oxygens.
5. Each hemisphere of the brain receives information about the opposite side of the visual field.
6. Although millions of brain neurons are active at any one time, they do not use much electricity power.
7. Lights entering the eye forms an image on 130 million tiny light cells.
8. Most animal are able to rely on learning and memory.

2. COMPOUND NOUNS

STRATEGY

Look for compound nouns in which both nouns are pluralized, instead of just the second noun.

Compound nouns are two nouns that are used together to make one word or idea. The first noun act as an adjective to the second noun and usually does not take *s*. The second noun can be plural:

Brain cell

brain wave

computer scientists

Compound nouns may also be used with number of expression.

STRATEGY

Beware of compound nouns with numbers, where the compound noun used as an adjective may be in the plural form!

The brain uses as much power as a ten-watt bulb. (noun used as an adjective)

The brain uses as much power as a lightbulb of ten watts. (noun used as noun)

He recited a 16,000-page book from memory. (noun used as an adjective)

He recited a book of 16,000 pages from memory. (noun used as a noun)

3. NUMBERS

STRATEGY

When you see nouns involving numbers, such as *hundred*, *thousand*, *million*, make sure that they are not in the plural forms when they follow number.

Numbers such as *hundred*, *thousand*, *million*, and *trillion* are plural when there are no numbers before them.

The brain receives 100 million messages a second.

The brain stores trillions of messages.

Exercise 4

Correct the errors in the following sentences.

1. People's brains weigh more now than they did 100 year ago.
2. Nerves impulses can travel at speeds of up to 488 feet per second.
3. The brain contains between 10trillions and 100 trillions neurons.
4. Each neuron is linked by synapses to thousand of other neurons.
5. Nerves endings below the skin's surface pick up sensation of cold, heat, and touch.
6. There are three to four millions pain receptors in the skin.
7. A three-year-old child's brain is two-thirds the size it will finally be.
8. The brain uses 25 percents of the blood's oxygen.

III. ON THE TOEFL TEST

Nouns are tested in written expression section of the exam. Check for the following types of error with nouns.

1. A non-count may be pluralized.

Eg: In a per so n's lifet ime, the brain can store 100 trillion pieces of informations.

A

B

C

D

The correct answer is (D): *information* is a noun-count noun and cannot be plural.

2. A plural noun may be used when the verb or phrase requires a singular noun.

Eg: Each part of the brains controls a separate part of the body.

A

B

C

D

The correct answer is (B): a singular noun *brain* must be used with “part of the”.

3. A singular noun may be used when the verb requires a plural noun.

Eg: Human brain are more powerful than those of other species because of their complex

A

B

C

circuitry.

D

The correct answer is (A): a plural noun *brains* must be used because the verb are is plural.

4. In compound nouns where two nouns are used together, both nouns may be pluralized instead of the just second noun.

Eg: Brain cells die at the rate of 100,000 per day by age 60, and they are not replaced like other body cells.

The correct answer is (A): the correct form is *brain cells*.

5. In compound nouns involving numbers and measurements, the compound noun used as an adjective may be in the plural form.

Eg: Man's three-pounds brain is the most complex and orderly arrangement of matter in the universe.

The best answer is (B): when a compound noun is used as an adjective, it is singular.

Therefore the correct answer is *three-pound*.

6. When noun phrases involving a number such as hundred, thousand, or million follow another number, the plural form may be used

Eg: The brain loses fifty thousands neurons a day and yet maintains its basic patterns and

A

B

C

memories.

D

The best answer is (A): the singular form of *thousand* should be used when it follows a number.

IV. EXERCISES on NOUNS

Directions: From the four underlined words or phrases A, B, C, or D, identify the one that is not correct.

1. The potato was the staple of Ireland and when the crop failed in 1840, there was mass

A

B

C

starvations.

D

2. Sharks can maneuver considerably faster than other fish because they have no bones.

A

B C

D

3. Although sugar cane and sugar beet look very different, the sugars that is refined

A

B

C

from them tastes almost the same.

D

4. Textiles industries are as widespread as food industries because both supply basic

A

B

C

human needs.

D

5. Many animal species are totally colorsblind, but the condition is very rare in humans.

A

B

C

D

6. Our skulls is made up of eight cranial and fourteen facial bones.
 A B C D
7. Diamonds, which is about 40 times as hard as talc, is made up of pure carbon.
 A B C D
8. The oceans contain about 97 percent the world's water supply, and about another 2 percent of the world's water supply is ices.
 A B C D
9. Brain waves patterns vary among different people and in different activities.
 A B C D
10. The ancestor of to day's horse was a little mammal called eohippus, which first appeared 54 millions years ago.
 A B C D
11. Lasers are of great value in areas such as communications, industry, medicine, and scientific research.
 A B C D
12. Dinosaurs are classified as reptiles, although some appear to have been warms-blooded.
 A B C D