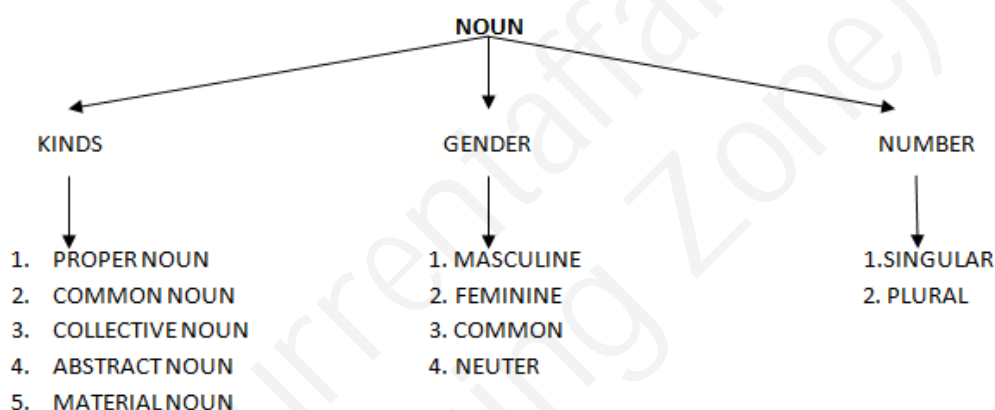


NOUN

- A noun is a word that names something: **either a person, place, or thing**. In a sentence, nouns can play the role of subject, direct object, indirect object, subject complement, object complement, appositive, or adjective.

TYPES OF NOUNS

There are several ways to classify the types of nouns that exist in the English language. In traditional grammar, nouns are taught to be words that refer to people, places, things, or abstract ideas. While modern linguistics find this definition to be problematic because it relies on non-specific nouns such as thing to specifically define what a noun is, much of our social understanding of what nouns are defers to the traditional definition.



CLASSIFICATIONS OF NOUNS

Common Nouns

- Common nouns are used to name a **GENERAL** type of person, place or thing.
- Common nouns can be divided into smaller classes such as countable and uncountable nouns, concrete and abstract nouns and collective nouns.

Examples of common nouns: girl, city, animal, friend, house, food

Proper Nouns

- Proper nouns are used to name a **SPECIFIC person, place or thing**. In English, proper nouns begin with a capital letter.
- Proper nouns do not normally have a determiner before them (e.g. the London, the Mary etc.) though there are some exceptions (e.g. Is she the Mary that we met at the conference?).

Examples of proper nouns: John, London, Pluto, Monday, France

Compound Nouns

- Compound nouns are two or more words that create a noun. Compound nouns are sometimes one word (haircut), words joined by a hyphen (son-in-law) or as separate words (bus stop).
- The main stress is normally on the first part of the compound word (sunglasses, swimming pool)

Examples of compound nouns: toothbrush, rainfall, sailboat, mother-in-law, well-being, alarm clock, credit card.

Countable Nouns

- Countable nouns are nouns that CAN be counted. They have a singular and a plural form and can be used with a number. Sometimes countable nouns are called count nouns.

Examples of countable nouns: car, desk, cup, house, bike, eye, butterfly

Uncountable Nouns

- Uncountable nouns are nouns that CANNOT be counted. These are sometimes called Mass Nouns. Uncountable nouns often refer to:
 - substances: paper, wood, plastic
 - liquids: milk, oil, juice
 - gases: air, oxygen
 - abstract ideas: happiness, time, information

Examples of uncountable nouns: water, coffee, cheese, sand, furniture, skin, wool, gold, fur

Collective Nouns

Collective nouns are words that refer to a set or group of people, animals or things.

Examples of collective nouns: staff, team, crew, herd, flock, bunch

- Our **class** took a field trip to the natural history museum.
- The **herd** of bison ran across the prairie, leaving a massive dust cloud in its wake.
- 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.
- He comes from a huge **family**: he's the oldest of eleven kids.
- The rock **group** has been on tour for months.
- Everyone in the **audience** applauded loudly when Elvis appeared on stage.

List Of Collective Nouns Given Below.....

Concrete Nouns

- Concrete nouns are nouns which refer to people and things that exist physically and that at least one of the senses can detect (can be seen, felt, heard, smelled/smelt, or tasted).

Examples of concrete nouns: dog, tree, apple, moon, coin, sock, ball, water

Abstract Nouns

- Abstract nouns are nouns that have no physical existence and are not concrete. They refer to ideas, emotions or concepts so you CANNOT see, touch, hear, smell or taste something that is an abstract noun. Many abstract nouns are uncountable.

Examples of abstract nouns: love, time, happiness, bravery, creativity, justice, freedom, speed

Countable vs. Uncountable Nouns

A) Most nouns have singular and plural forms. They are countable nouns.

Example:- One letter, two letters

- There is **a letter** on the table for you. (singular)
- There are **letters** on the table for you. (plural)

B) Some nouns only have one form. They are uncountable nouns.

Example:- Money

- There is no **money** in my bank account.
- There is a lot of **money** in my bank account.

C) Many uncountable nouns refer to substances:

Example:- Chocolate, water, coffee, milk, sugar, salt, cheese, bread, rice, wood, glass, plastic, soap, toothpaste.

- Do you have any **chocolate**?
- The **milk** is sour - let's make **cheese**.
- **Rice** is only edible when it has been cooked.

D) Many uncountable nouns refer to abstract ideas or emotions.

Example:- love, sadness, happiness, education, knowledge, and grammar.

- Money can't buy **love**.
- We like to experience **happiness**.
- This **education** is priceless.

E) You can use a/an with singular countable nouns.

Example:- an umbrella, a wheel, a mistake.

- It's raining so I need **an umbrella**.
- I made **a mistake**.
- This is **a job** for superman.

F) You can use plural countable nouns alone.

Example:- apples, bees, clouds.

- There are **clouds** in the sky today.
- There are **bees** making honey.
- We eat **apples** for breakfast.

G) You can't use an article with an uncountable noun.

Example:- time, sand, electricity.

- We need **electricity** to use our heater.
- I lost track of **time** and we stayed up very late.
- The beaches in Brazil have very nice **sand**.

H) It is very common in English to use some / any with plural nouns and uncountable nouns

Example:- They don't listen to any **advice**.

- We don't have any **toys** for the children.
- There are many **lessons** in life, this is just one more.
- It is important to have some **knowledge** of grammar.

I) There are a range of nouns that are uncountable in English but are countable in other languages.

These include: accommodation, advice, baggage, behaviour, bread, chaos, damage, furniture, information, luck, luggage, news, permission, progress, scenery, traffic, weather and work.

J) For comparison purposes, look at these sentences:

Countable	Uncountable
I'm looking for a job.	<i>I'm looking for work.</i>
What a beautiful view!	<i>What beautiful scenery!</i>
It's a nice day today.	<i>It's nice weather today.</i>
We had a lot of bags and suitcases.	<i>We had a lot of luggage.</i>
These chairs are mine.	<i>This furniture is mine.</i>
It was a good suggestion.	<i>It was good advice.</i>

Collective Nouns

- A **collective noun** is a word that refers to a set or group of people, animals or things.
- Collective Nouns are sometimes called Group Nouns.
- Collective nouns are often followed by **OF + PLURAL NOUN**

Example:- a bunch of flowers, a flock of seagulls, a set of tools.

Groups of people working together

Staff: the people who work in a company or place of work.

Cast: the actors in a certain movie or play.

Company: a group of actors that usually perform together in different plays.

Crew: all the working members on a ship or plane.

Team: a group of individuals playing on the same side generally with the same objectives.

Platoon: a group of soldiers being commanded by a lieutenant.

Groups of people in general

Gang: a group of organized criminals

Crowd: a group of people, gathered together

Throng: a busy group of people or animals

Mob: A large disorderly crowd

Movement: a group of (generally young) people with similar tendencies for political/musical/social factors affecting them. **For example:-** The Punk Movement

Party: a group of political people that have been organized with an intention.

Groups of animals and insects

Herd: a herd of cows, a herd of goats, a herd of deer

Flock: A flock of sheep, a flock of birds

Shoal / School: a shoal of fish, a school of fish

Swarm: a swarm of bees (swarm is used for a group of flying insects)

Pack: a pack of wolves, a pack of dogs

Litter: a litter of kittens (usually of baby animals)

Gaggle: a gaggle of geese

Pride: a pride of lions

Groups of things

Stack: a stack of chairs, a stack of books, a stack of work, a stack of plates

Set: a set of tools, a set of underwear, a set of compasses, a set of cutlery

Pile / Heap: a pile of clothes, a heap of bodies.

Bunch: a bunch of flowers, a bunch of grapes, a bunch of bananas.

Bundle: a bundle of newspapers, a bundle of sticks, a bundle of nothing.

Batch: a batch of homebrew, a batch of letters, a batch of recruits.

Stash: a stash of cash, a stash of beer, a stash of weapons. (usually the things are hidden)

Plural Nouns

In general the plural of a noun is formed by adding -S to the noun.

Singular	Plural
car	cars
house	houses
book	books
bird	birds
pencil	pencils

However:

1. When the noun ends in S, SH, CH, X or Z*, we add -ES to the noun.

Singular	Plural
kiss	kisses
wish	wishes
match	matches
fox	foxes
quiz	quizzes*

- I have a **box** in my bedroom.
- I have three **boxes** in my bedroom.

* With words that end in Z sometimes we add an extra Z to the plural form of the word (such as with the plural of quiz).

2. When the noun ends in a VOWEL + Y, we add -S to the noun.

Singular Plural

<i>boy</i>	<i>boys</i>
<i>holiday</i>	<i>holidays</i>
<i>key</i>	<i>keys</i>
<i>guy</i>	<i>guys</i>

3. When the noun ends in a CONSONANT + Y, we remove Y and add -IES to the noun.

Singular Plural

<i>party</i>	<i>parties</i>
<i>lady</i>	<i>ladies</i>
<i>story</i>	<i>stories</i>
<i>nanny</i>	<i>nannies</i>
<i>city</i>	<i>cities</i>

4. If the noun ends in F or FE, we remove the F/FE and add -VES to the noun.

Singular Plural

<i>life</i>	<i>lives</i>
<i>leaf</i>	<i>leaves</i>
<i>thief</i>	<i>thieves</i>
<i>wife</i>	<i>wives</i>

Some exceptions: roof - roofs, cliff - cliffs, chief - chiefs, belief - beliefs, chef - chefs

5. If the noun ends in a CONSONANT + O, we normally add -ES to the noun.

Singular Plural

<i>tomato</i>	<i>tomatoes</i>
<i>potato</i>	<i>potatoes</i>
<i>echo</i>	<i>echoes</i>
<i>hero</i>	<i>heroes</i>

Some exceptions: piano - pianos, halo - halos, photo - photos

NOTE: **Volcano** has two correct forms of plural. Both **volcanos** and **volcanoes** are accepted.

6. There are a number of nouns that don't follow these rules. They are irregular and you need to learn them individually because they don't normally have an S on the end.

Singular Plural

man	men
woman	women
child	children
foot	feet
tooth	teeth
goose	geese
mouse	mice

- There is a **child** in the park.
- There are many **children** in the park.

7. There are some nouns in English that are the same in the singular and the plural.

Singular Plural

fish	fish
sheep	sheep
deer	deer
moose	moose
aircraft	aircraft

- I can see a sheep in the field.
- I can see ten sheep in the field.
- The next rules are a lot more advanced and even native speakers have difficulty with these. Unless you are an advanced student, I wouldn't recommend learning them just now.

8. If the noun ends in IS, we change it to ES. Words that end in IS usually have a Greek root.

Singular Plural

analysis	analyses
basis	bases
crisis	crises

9. If the noun ends in US, we change it to I. Words that end in US usually have a Latin root.

Singular Plural

cactus	cacti
fungus	fungi
stimulus	stimuli
syllabus	syllabi

- **Some exceptions:** octopus - octupuses (because it is from Greek, not Latin), walrus – walruses.

Noun + To Be + Noun

Nouns are words that name things. Some common nouns include those used for animals, countries, food, languages, cities and countries.

When we are explaining things, we use **Noun + To Be + Noun**:

- English is a language. (Noun + To Be + Noun)
- A chicken is a bird. (Noun + To Be + Noun)

Singular Noun + IS + Singular Noun

We use **IS** between the two singular nouns.

- Champagne **is** a drink.
- Paris **is** a city.
- France **is** a country.
- French **is** a language.
- Europe **is** a continent.

Note that we normally use an article (A / AN) before a singular noun.

Articles + Nouns

'A' or 'AN' are articles. In English we normally use **articles** before singular nouns.

A is used before a word that begins with a **consonant**.

AN is used before a word that begins with a **vowel**.

Vowels: A, E, I, O, U.

Consonants: B, C, D, F, G, H, J, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z.

For example:

- Chile is **a** country. (A before consonant)
- Santiago is **a** city. (A before consonant)
- An apple is **a** fruit (A before consonant)
- A dog is **an** animal. (AN before vowel)
- A mosquito is **an** insect. (AN before vowel)
- Qantas is **an** airline. (AN before vowel)

Plural Noun + Are + Plural Noun

Singular Noun + **IS** + Singular Noun

Plural Noun + **ARE** + Plural Noun

Note that we **do not** use an article (A / AN) with a plural noun.

For example:

- A dog is an animal. (singular)
- Dogs are animals. (plural)
- Spanish is a language. (singular)
- Spanish and Italian are languages. (plural)
- Cities are places. (plural)
- Countries are states. (plural)

Possessive Case - Genitive Case/ The Apostrophe S - ('S)

Also called the possessive case, the genitive case is when we add apostrophe S ('s) to show possession, that something belongs to another or a type of relationship between things.

Example: Woodward's house, Your brother's friend

The meaning of X's Y is:

= The Y of X

= The Y belonging to X (Y is normally a thing)

= The Y which has some relation with X (Y is often a person)

The Rules:

We normally use the 's with people, animals though it can also be used with places, organizations and companies (which suggest a group of people).

It is not common to use the 's with non-living things.

1. Singular nouns

add 's (apostrophe S)

- My mother's house is next to the beach. (= the house of my mother)
- Jason's car was stolen last night. (= the car of Jason)
- Tomorrow, we're all going to see the museum's new art exhibit.

2. Plural nouns ending in -s

only add the apostrophe ' (without the S)

- The two sisters' house is next to mine. (= the house of the two sisters)
- The plumbers' tools were rusty. (= the tools of the plumbers)
- The players' boots were dirty and smelly after the game. (= the boots of the players)

Notice that the pronunciation is the same for certain possessives:

- My friend's house = the house of my friend = 1 friend
- My friends' house = the house of my friends = 2 or more friends

You can usually distinguish whether the speaker is referring to one or two friends by listening to the context of what the speaker says.

3. Plural nouns not ending in -s:

add 's

- Be careful not to trip over the children's toys. (= the toys of the children)
- The women's bathroom is currently flooded with water.
- The presidential candidate is often called the people's favorite politician.

4. Singular noun ending in -s:

a. Most names: add 's (apostrophe S)

- They had a really good time at James's barbecue last Friday.
- We spent the day admiring Frances's new car.

b. Classical or religious names: add ' (only the apostrophe)

- Jesus' disciples carried out the teachings of Jesus.
- Sophocles' plays are still performed today.

5. Possessive nouns as part of a phrase

Sometimes more than one word/noun is a possessive. The same rules as above are still valid:

- The **King of Sparta's** wife was called Helen.
- The **President of Chile's** speech was very long.
- I accidentally took **someone else's** bag home by mistake.
- I had to give my boss **three weeks'** notice that I was leaving the company.

If there are two owners of something, we add 's to the final name:

- Rick and Steve's car is quite old.

But, if each person owns a car, then add 's to both names:

- Rick's and Steve's cars are quite old.

Notice how the verb is in plural form.

6. No Noun

If the meaning is clear, we can use the possessive without a noun after it.

- Her hair is longer than Jill's. (= Jill's hair)
- We ate at Billy's last night. (= Billy's Diner or Billy's house)
- Whose bag is this? It's Jane's. (= Jane's bag)

Gerund

Gerund is the name given to the present participle form of a verb that is used as a noun. In the following sentences the gerund is shown in red:

- **Smoking** is bad for your health. (gerund as subject)
- A popular hobby in England is **stamp-collecting**. (gerund as complement)
- I dislike **shopping**. (gerund as object)

Gerunds are not difficult to use as subjects or complements, as in the above sentences. The problem arises when the learner wants to use the verb-noun as an object and does not know whether the gerund or the infinitive is required. Here are some examples of the variety of use:

- She doesn't enjoy **working** on Sundays. (gerund only)
- She objects to **working** on Sundays. (gerund only)
- She agreed to work on Sunday. (infinitive only)
- She hates to **work** on Sundays. / She hates **working** on Sundays. (both infinitive and gerund possible: same meaning)
- She stopped **eating**. (gerund - meaning: she did not eat any more)
- She stopped to eat. (infinitive - meaning: she stopped what she was doing and started to eat)

This is a difficult aspect of English grammar. The learner must use the dictionary carefully case-by-case to make the correct choice of gerund or infinitive.

FORMING THE POSSESSIVE

The possessive form is used with nouns referring to people, groups of people, countries, and animals. It shows a relationship of belonging between one thing and another.

To form the possessive, add apostrophe + s to the noun. If the noun is plural, or already ends in s, just add an apostrophe after the s.

Examples:

- the car of John = John's car
- the room of the girls = the girls' room
- clothes for men = men's clothes
- the boat of the sailors = the sailors' boat

For names ending in s, you can either add an apostrophe + s, or just an apostrophe. The first option is more common. When pronouncing a possessive name, we add the sound /z/ to the end of the name.

Examples:

- Thomas's book (or Thomas' book)
- James's shop (or James' shop)
- the Smiths's house (or the Smiths' house)

FUNCTIONS OF THE POSSESSIVE

'Belonging to' or 'ownership' is the most common relationship the possessive expresses.

Examples:

- John owns a car. = It is John's car.
- America has some gold reserves. = They are America's gold reserves.
- The possessive can also express where someone works, studies or spends time

The possessive can also express where someone works, studies or spends time

Examples:

- John goes to this school. = This is John's school.
- John sleeps in this room. = This is John's room.
- The possessive can express a relationship between people.

The possessive can express a relationship between people.

Examples:

- John's mother is running late.
- Mrs Brown's colleague will not be coming to the meeting.
- The possessive can express intangible things as well.

The possessive can express intangible things as well.

Examples:

- John's patience is running out.

- The politician's hypocrisy was deeply shocking.

FIXED EXPRESSIONS

There are also some fixed expressions where the possessive form is used.

Examples With Time:

- a day's work
- a month's pay
- today's newspaper
- in a year's time

Other Examples:

- For God's sake! (= exclamation of exasperation)
- a stone's throw away (= very near)
- at death's door (= very ill)
- in my mind's eye (= in my imagination)

The possessive is also used to refer to shops, restaurants, churches and colleges, using the name or job title of the owner.

Examples:

- Shall we go to Luigi's for lunch?
- I've got an appointment at the dentist's at eleven o'clock.
- Is Saint Mary's an all-girls school?

Questions For Practice

1. The parliament is divided on the bill.

Explanation: The parliament is divided, it is not being divided thought of a whole, but in terms of its constituents. Hence, use plural verb. 'The parliament are divided on the bill.'

2. His brother committed thiefhood in his house.

Explanation: The abstract noun from common noun thief is theft, not thiefhood. 'His brother committed theft in his house'.

3. He wears glass to aid his short sighted eye.

Explanation: This sentence intends is spectacles made of glass. So we use plural 'glasses'. 'He wears glasses to aid his short sighted eye'.

4. The same board is used chess as well as draught.

Explanation: The game is not draught but draughts. 'The same board is used chess as well as draughts'.

5. Take care of the vixen because they are wily creatures.

Explanation: Vixen is the feminine gender of fox, not its plural. 'Take care of the foxes because they are wily creatures' / 'Take care of the vixen because she is a wily creatures'.

6. The Indians are a religious-minded people.

Explanation: The sentence is correct. People usually, is used as a plural. But when it means a nation, as it does here, it is used as a singular. 'The Indians are a religious-minded people'.

7. Time passes in its chariot majestically.

Explanation: In this sentence time is personified and takes masculine gender. 'Time passes in his chariot majestically'.

8. The practices of the lawyers vary from those of the doctors.

Explanation: In this sentence, it is talking of persons from different professions-lawyers and doctors. Thus practice means exercise of a profession. This meaning does not have a plural. 'The practice of the lawyers varies from those of the doctors'.

9. The bright lamps gave much lights.

Explanation: If one light gives light, do you think two lights give two lights? Light is not countable so it does not have plural form. 'The bright lamps gave much light'.

10. Devi is Anand of our chess class.

Explanation: Devi is not Viswanathan Anand . Anand here is compared with Devi. 'Devi is the Anand of our chess class'.

11. You will be promoted in the time of a year.

Explanation: Possessive is used with nouns denoting time . 'You will be promoted in a year's time'.

12. The cup's base was rounded.

Explanation: The cup is not a living thing . so it does not take possessive sign. 'The base of the cup was rounded'.

13. The Earth treats us as his children, not strangers.

Explanation: The earth is personified and it takes feminine gender.. 'The Earth treats us as her children, not strangers'.

14. The fleet of ships move at a uniform speed.

Explanation: The fleet is a collective noun. It should be in the singular. 'The fleet of ships moves at a uniform speed'.

15. Queen Elizabeth is the monarchess of England.

Explanation: Monarch does not have feminine gender. It is of common gender. 'Queen Elizabeth is the monarch of England'.

16. Aurangzeb's religious bigotry caused severe harm to the Mughal empire.

Explanation: Aurangzeb's religious bigotry caused severe harm to the Mughal empire.

17. The tin is a precious metal.

Explanation: Tin is a material noun. A material noun does not take an article before it. 'Tin is a precious metal'.

18. The mildwoman said that she would not supply milk on holidays.

Explanation: The feminine for milkman is milkmaid, not milk woman. 'The milkmaid said that she would not supply milk on holidays'.

19. The team camped at Namkum. They followed a rigorous routine.

Explanation: Team like army is a collective noun. Collective nouns are neuter gender . so it takes the pronoun 'it'. 'The team camped at Namkum. It followed a rigorous routine'.

20. Who will win if there is a contest between the dwarves and the giants.

Explanation: Plural for dwarf is dwarfs. 'Who will win if there is a contest between the dwarfs and the giants?

ALL THE BEST!!!!