

# **GATE**



## **ALL BRANCHES**



### **Verbal Aptitude**



### **Parts of Speech**



**Lecture No: 2**

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# TOPICS TO BE COVERED



Nouns



Pronouns



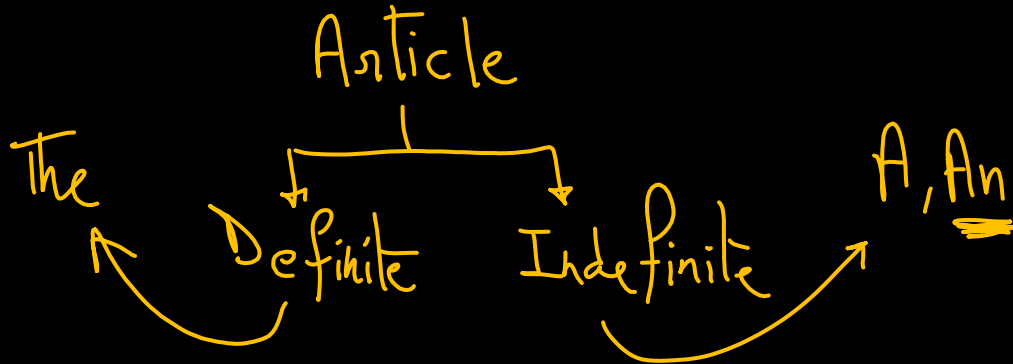
## Important Rules for the usage of Nouns:

1. A proper noun becomes a common noun when it is used in the plural form or when an article is placed before it.

✓✓ There are two Hitlers in this house. ✓✓

Construct

Kalidas is the Shakespeare of India.



Modus operandi

or  
method, procedure



## 2. Collective noun takes singular verb

The group consists of five members.

He goes

★ (Exception: The committee have taken their seats.)

Suffix

Noun / Verb

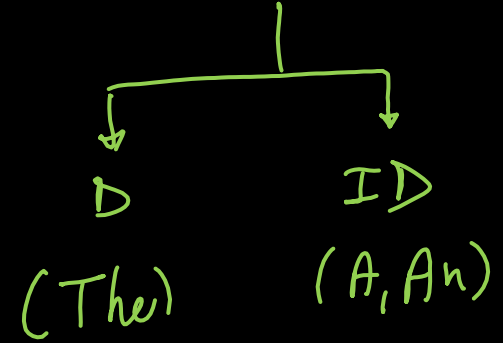
↳ which comes later.



3. Abstract noun as common noun by placing an article before it.

Sushma is a beauty.

a beauty → Noun



Sushma is beautiful.

beautiful → Adj.



4. Abstract noun as collective noun takes a plural verb.

Youth are the pillars of the nation.


Youth

~~Youth is the pillar of the nation.~~

~~Youths~~



5. Material noun representing a mass of the matter, plural form is not used.

Their house is made of ~~bricks~~ and ~~stones~~. 

Their house is made of brick and stone. 

6. Some nouns are used in singular only

Advice, grain, hair, information.

(Advice-Noun ✓)

Advise-Verb)

advised ✓  
c x

eg. The advice of the doctor is that I should not smoke.

The doctor advised me not to smoke.





Summons-singular



Summonses-plural



Some nouns are always used in plurals

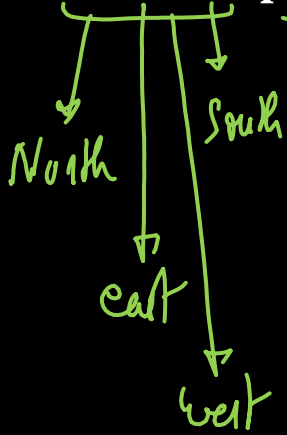
Scissors, Biceps, Trousers, Earnings

earning → verb



## 7. Apparently plural but actually singular in use

News, physics, economics.





8. Always in plural //

Cattle, police, people.



9. When a plural noun represents the whole, verb must be in singular form.

Ten thousands rupees is a large amount. ✓





10. Possessive noun (use of apostrophe) not used for inanimate objects.

Table's leg ✓✓

Leg of the table ✓✓





11. Inanimate objects representing beauty or grace etc. they are represented as Feminine gender. ✓✓

eg. Moon

12. Inanimate objects representing strength, superiorty, violence etc they are respresented as male gender. ✓✓

eg. Sun, death, war.

13. Possessive case (apostrophe) with the name of personified objects. ✓

eg. Death's icy hands. ✓

14. When the noun is in the plural form, the possessive case follows

eg. Girls' hostel ✓✓

★ birds' nest ✓✓

crink's



15. Possessive case: plural form without s

eg. Men's club, women's day

16. Many words forming a noun, pronoun; possessive case is used for last word

eg. The Prime Minister of India's visit. ✓✓

17. When two or more nouns are connected (eg. and), the possessive case is used by adding to the last noun.

eg. Amar and Anil's visit was successful. ✓✓

18. Compound noun: possessive case is used for the last word.

eg. Commander in chief's office



## Pronoun:

### 1. Use of it:

To introduce a sentence. ✓

eg. It is not certain that president will come.

To emphasise to the noun or pronoun.

eg. It was you who started the argument.

For inanimate or impersonal

eg. It rains.

To show distance ✓✓

eg. It is not far to walk.



To indicate time ✓

eg. It is ten o'clock now.



2. while confessing the fault, (expressing a negative idea),  
the sequence of the pronouns will be ☆

eg. I, you and he will be punished.

3. while expressing a positive idea, the sequence of  
pronouns will be

eg. You, he and I will be awarded. ✓ ✓ ☆ ☆ ☆

4. Two singular nouns joined by and and represent same  
person or thing then pronoun should be singular.

eg. The account officer ✓ and treasurer ✓ should be careful in  
his work.



## Each and every

5. Two singular nouns joined by and and preceded by each and every, then pronoun should be in the singular form.

eg. Every student and every teacher took his or her seat.

6. Singular noun and plural noun are combined by either.....or / neither.....nor, then singular noun comes first in the sentence and pronoun must be in plural.

eg. Either the manager or his subordinates failed in their

★ duties.

★

★



7. Personal pronouns (yours, ours, hers etc.) are written without apostrophe.

eg. Your's sincerely ✗

Yours sincerely ✓✓

one → one's  
his/her

8. One is in general about people but never use pronoun as his/her, always use one's

eg. One should do his duties. ✗

One should do one's duties. ✓

9. Relative pronoun: it must be placed to the noun (antecedent) as near as possible.

eg. This is the manager who abused the clerk.



10. Relative pronoun in the objective case is generally omitted.

eg. The student (whom) you wanted to punish is absent today.

11. Use of which:

(i) for infants, objects, small animals etc

eg. This is the baby which was lost in the theatre.

(ii) for selection

eg. Which of these watches do you want to purchase?

(iii) Refer to a sentence/situation

eg. He was said to be drunk, which was not true.



## 12. Usage of that

I. For persons, lifeless things etc (whether it is singular or plural)

eg. This is the girl that failed in the exam.

This is the mobile that I bought yesterday.

The weather of Hyderabad is far better than Mumbai.

The weather of Hyderabad is far better than that of Mumbai.



13. Either and Neither: two persons, objects or things etc.

eg. Neither Mohan nor Sohan is intelligent.

14. Each other and One another:

Each other-for two persons, places or things.

eg. These two students love each other.

One another- more than two persons, places or things.

eg. Those four friends always agree with one another.





15. Anybody, everyone, everybody etc.

Must follow the masculine or feminine gender accordingly.

eg. Everyone of the boys got his admit card.



## ➤ Adjectives:

Usage:

Ramesh is a good player.

Ramesh is intelligent.



Positive Degree: No other player in the team is as good as Prakash.

Comparative Degree: Prakash is better than any other player in the team.

Superlative Degree: Prakash is the best player in the team.



**“as.....as” and “so.....as”**- used in positive degree

**“adjective + er.....than”** – used in comparative degree

**“the + adjective in superlative form”** – used in superlative form



1. when selection of the two persons or things of the same kind

the better of

eg: She is the better of the two sisters.



2. most of the adjectives form their comparative degree by adding “r” or “er”

Most of the adjectives form their superlative degree by the addition of “st” or “est”

eg: great.....greater.....greatest

brave.....braver.....bravest



### 3. some adjectives having more than two syllables

Comparative degree-----more

Superlative degree-----most

eg: beautiful.....more beautiful.....most beautiful  
interesting.....more interesting.....most interesting



4. when two qualities are compared in the same person or thing

Comparative degree is formed by using more instead of “r” or “er”

eg: Rekha is more wise than intelligent. (not wiser)





5. Any other

X -----Gold is more precious than any metal.

Gold is more precious than any other metal.



6. Some words can not be used in comparative and superlative forms

eg: interior, exterior, ulterior, major, minor etc.

X-----This is more interior than that.

This is interior to that.



7. Some comparative adjectives are followed by “to” not by “than”

eg: superior, senior, junior, inferior, prior, anterior, posterior, prefer etc



8. Some adjectives not used with comparative and superlative degree

eg: empty, excellent, circular, extreme, chief, entire, complete, perfect, final, last, unique, universal, round, square, triangular, eternal.



9. Some adjectives can be used only in positive and superlative degree.

eg: top.....topmost  
eastern.....easternmost



10. Preferable is not used with more.  
Preferable is followed by “to”

eg:

X-----This is more preferable than that.

This is preferable to that.



11. Two adjectives which refer to the same noun or pronoun must be in the same degree of comparison.

eg: Gandhi ji is the noblest and wisest of all national leaders.



12. Some adjective when preceded by “the”, they become nouns in plural, hence plural verb is used with them.

eg: rich, poor, needy, aged, blind, dead, meek, wicked

The rich usually hate the poor.





13. Farther.....Further

farther----distance----significant distance

further----in addition to something.



## 14. Many, a great many, a good many

Plural noun and plural verb

eg: A great many people died in the accident.  
My brother has a good many friends.



15. Many + a + singular noun + singular verb

Many a scientist is attending the meeting.



## 16. Few, Little, Much, many

- Few is used with plural nouns.
- Little is used with singular noncountable nouns.
- Without Articles Few & Little usually have negative meaning
- With articles Few & Little are positive in meaning.

eg: There are few books on Machines in the library.

There are a few eggs in the basket.

- Fewer & Less: Fewer is used with countable nouns and less before uncountable nouns.
- Many & Much: Many is used for countable nouns and Much is used with uncountable nouns.



## 17. Too, Very, Enough

- Very means high degree but not impossibility
- Too suggests impossibility
- Enough suggests possibility/sufficient degree.



## 18. Hardly, Scarcely, rarely, Seldom, Without, & Only

- Scarcely & Hardly are followed by “when” and not “than”
  - No sooner is followed by “than”
  - No sooner + had + Subject + Past participle + .....
- eg: No sooner had I reached the station than the train left.
- No sooner + did + subject + present tense verb +  
.....



19. Some verbs related to sensation are followed by adjectives not by adverbs

eg: feel, look, seem, appear, smell, taste and sound

X-----He feels badly.

He feels bad.

X-----The soup smells deliciously.

The soup smells delicious

