



Let's figure out what a noun is and what role it plays in English. First of all, this is part of the speech that indicates the subject. It can be an optional lifeless object ( *table, house* ), but also a living being ( *girl, man* ). It is impossible not to mention that nouns are not only material, but also abstract.

*Love, kindness, knowledge* - abstract nouns, those that can not be touched or put in a pocket.

That is, we can say that a noun expresses an object with all the variety of its characteristics.

Classification of English nouns.

**In meaning**, nouns in English are divided into proper names and common nouns .

*Consider in detail the proper names (Proper Nouns).*

These include:

1. personal names given to a person ( *Carl Bormann, Michael Standy* )
2. geographical names ( *Atlantic Ocean, Moscow* )
3. names of months and days of the week ( *August, Wednesday* )
4. names of ships, hotels, clubs ( *Mayflower, Tropicana, House of Blues* )

What is characteristic, many personal nouns in the process of word formation have become common ( *Take a bottle of **champagne** with you* ).

*Nouns common nouns*

1. The union of people or objects and regarded as a whole (family, peasantry - peasantry)
2. Various materials ( *steel, iron ore, wood* )
3. Abstract concepts ( *kindness, responsibility* ).

**By construction**, English nouns are divided into:

1. **Simple** - nouns that do not have suffixes / prefixes, the word is represented only by the stem ( *mouse, chain, table* ).
2. **Derivatives** are nouns formed by adding suffixes / prefixes. In turn, it is possible to allocate conditionally productive and unproductive

suffixes. Productive suffixes are named so because they participate in the derivation of the modern language. Unproductive, respectively, vice versa.

Here is a small table:

Productive suffixes	Unproductive suffixes
- <i>er</i> - driver, collector	- <i>hood</i> - neighborhood, childhood
- <i>ist</i> - journalist, accompanist	- <i>dom</i> - freedom, boredom
- <i>ess</i> - mistress, actress	- <i>ship</i> - friendship, ownership
- <i>ness</i> - madness, redness	- <i>ment</i> - judgment, development
- <i>ism</i> - socialism, anarchism	- <i>ance</i> - importance, appearance
	- <i>ence</i> - dependence, difference
	- <i>ly</i> - slowly, lively
	- <i>ity</i> - curiosity, clarity

3. **Complex nouns** consist of two or more simple words.

Ways to form complex nouns:

- The basis of the noun + the basis of the noun ( *snowball*, *skyscraper* )
- The basis of the **adjective** + the basis of the noun ( *blackmail*, *gentleman* )
- The basis of the **verb** + the stem of the noun (ringtone, pickpocket)

#### *Countable and uncountable nouns*

Also nouns of the English language are divided into **countable and uncountable**.

By **countable** are nouns that we can count

*I have two toys. How many toys do you have? - I have five toys (toy - toys)*

*My friends always help me with my homework. (friend - friends)*

With the [uncountable](#) everything is somewhat more complicated. There are several categories of words. Like this:

- Liquids (water, beer, wine)
- Materials (plastic, glass)
- The branches of science (mathematics, history)
- Languages (Japanese, German)
- Diseases (flu, mumps)

And also many other categories. **Uncountable nouns in the English** language can be both singular and [plural](#)

This news is very depressing. (news - always in the singular)

The police did all they could to arrest the criminal.

I want to buy a new pair of jeans, the old ones are torn. (police, jeans - always in the plural)

Some words, depending on the context, can be both countable and uncountable.

This toy is made of paper. (uncountable, material)

I want all your papers on my table by lunch time. (countable, papers as documents)

*Category of the number of English nouns (The category of number in English)*

Numerical nouns in English form a [plural](#) by adding club-clubs, changing wives, and changing the basis (mouse-mice).

### ***Family category***

Is the category of the genus as such in the modern English language difficult to say? In fact, there is only one suffix that forms the genus of the noun, it is the feminine suffix -ess. Used quite rarely (host - hostess, waiter - waitress, poet - poetess)