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
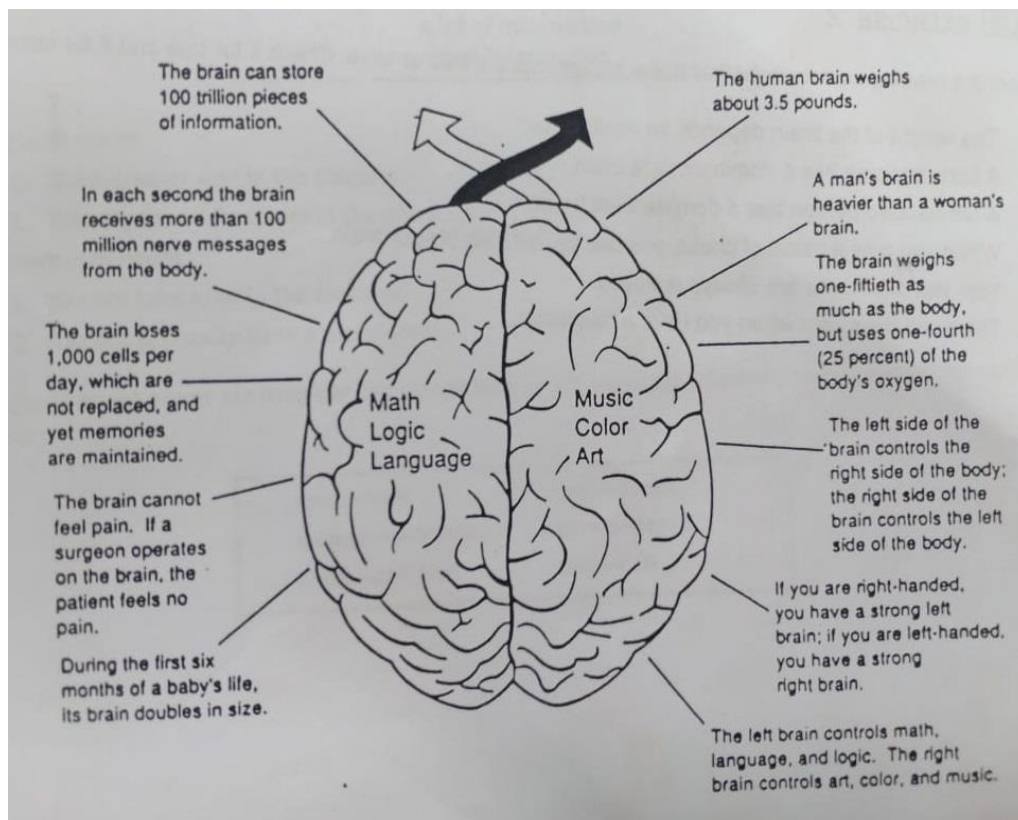2. Students are expected to understand types of nouns

C. GUIDANCE AND METHODS OF LEARNING

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

D. MATERIAL DESCRIPTION

I. INTRODUCTION:

The Brains

The brain can store 100 trillion pieces of information.

The human brain weighs about 3.5 pounds.

In each second the brain receives more than 100 million nerve messages from the body.

A man's brain is heavier than a woman's brain.

The brain weighs one-fiftieth as much as the body, but uses one-fourth (25 percent) of the body's oxygen.

The brain loses 1,000 cells per day, which are not replaced, and yet memories are maintained.

Math
Logic
Language

Music
Color
Art

The left side of the brain controls the right side of the body; the right side of the brain controls the left side of the body.

The brain cannot feel pain. If a surgeon operates on the brain, the patient feels no pain.

If you are right-handed, you have a strong left brain; if you are left-handed, you have a strong right brain.

During the first six months of a baby's life, its brain doubles in size.

The left brain controls math, language, and logic. The right brain controls art, color, and music.

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 than ……………brains.

3. The brain uses one-quarter, or ……………of 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*.

Look at the following table:

	Singular	**Plural**
Count noun	A cell	Cells
	One cell	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 neutron 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 <u>person's lifetime</u>, the brain can store <u>100 trillion</u> <u>pieces</u> of <u>information</u>s.

                   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: <u>Each part</u> of <u>the brains</u> controls <u>a separate part</u> of <u>the body</u>.

         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: <u>Human brain</u> are more powerful than those <u>of other species</u> because of their <u>complex</u>

         A   B   C

    <u>circuitry</u>.

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

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

    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 <u>fifty thousands</u> <u>neurons a day</u> and yet maintains its <u>basic patterns</u> and
                     A   B   C

 <u>memories</u>.
    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. <u>The potato</u> was <u>the staple</u> of Ireland and when <u>the crop</u> failed in 1840, there was <u>mass</u>
       A   B   C

 <u>starvations</u>.
    D

2. <u>Sharks</u> can maneuver considerably faster than <u>other</u> <u>fish</u> because they have no <u>bones</u>.
      A   B   C   D

3. Although sugar <u>cane</u> and sugar <u>beet</u> look very different, <u>the sugars</u> that is refined
                    A   B   C

 from them tastes almost <u>the same</u>.
                            D

4. <u>Textiles industries</u> are as widespread as <u>food industries</u> because both <u>supply basic</u>
      A   B   C

 <u>human needs</u>.
    D

5. Many <u>animal species</u> are <u>totally colorsblind</u>, but <u>the condition</u> is very rare <u>in humans</u>.
            A   B   C   D

6. <u>Our skulls</u> is made up of <u>eight cranial</u> and <u>fourteen</u> facial <u>bones</u>.

    A   B   C   D

7. <u>Diamond</u>s, which is about <u>40 times</u> as hard as <u>talc</u>, is made up of <u>pure carbon</u>.

    A   B   C   D

8. <u>The oceans</u> contain about <u>97 percent </u>the world's <u>water supply</u>, and about another 2

    A   B   C

percent of the world's water supply is <u>ices</u>.

                                              D

9. <u>Brain waves patterns</u> <u>vary among</u> <u>different people</u> and in <u>different activities</u>.

              A   B   C   D

10. <u>The ancestor</u> of <u>today's horse </u>was a little mammal called eohippus, which first

    A   B

appeared <u>54 millions</u> <u>years ago</u>.

               C   D

11. <u>Lasers</u> are of great value in areas such as communications, <u>industry</u>, <u>medicine</u>, and

    A   B   C

<u>scientific research</u>.

    D

12. <u>Dinosaurs</u> are classified <u>as reptiles</u>, although <u>some appear </u>to have been <u>warms-</u>

    A   B   C   D

<u>blooded</u>.