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NOMINAL COMPOUNDS

WHAT IS A NOMINAL COMPOUND?

Sometimes a **Noun** and a **Noun-equivalent** or a **Noun-phrase** are joined in a compact manner in order to express clearly and precisely a person or a thing. This is called a **Nominal Compound**.

কখনো কখনো একটি **Noun** এবং একটি **Noun-equivalent** বা একটি **Noun-phrase** কোনো ব্যক্তি বা বিষয়কে ভালোভাবে এবং সংক্ষেপে প্রকাশ করার জন্য ঘনবদ্ধ ভাবে সংযুক্ত হয়। তাকে বলে **Nominal Compound**; এগুলিকে বাংলা ব্যাকরণের সমাসের সঙ্গে তুলনা করা যায়।

এখানে মনে রাখা দরকার **Noun** বা নামবাচক বিশেষ্য পদ ছাড়াও সর্বকম বিশেষ্য-সম পদ বা পদগুচ্ছকে সাধারণভাবে **Nominals** বলা হয়। সেজন্য বিশেষ্যর মতো ব্যবহৃত **Adjective** (বিশেষণ), **Verb** (ক্রিয়া), **Pronoun** (সর্বনাম) প্রভৃতি পদও **Nominal** হিসাবে বিবেচিত হয়। আর **Noun-phrase**-এর মধ্যে সব রকম Parts of speech-ই Nominal sense সৃষ্টি করতে পারে। তাই **Nominal Compound**-এর মধ্যে দুটি **Noun** যেমন যুক্ত হতে পারে, তেমনি তিনটি বা ততোধিক বিভিন্ন Parts of Speech যুক্ত হতে পারে।

Formation of Nominal Compounds :

NOUN + NOUN

EXPANSION

[A]

Adult literacy

[literacy for adults]

Air condition

[a system to control temperature]

Air hostess

[a hostess to attend the air-passengers]

Air man

[a man (crew) of an aircraft]

All clear

[a signal clearing all dangers]

Arm chair

[a chair with arms for comfort]

Ash tray

[a tray to put tobacco ash]

Atom bomb

[a bomb with atomic power]

[B]

Bath-tub

[a tube for bath]

Battle-ground / field

[a field or ground for battle]

Bedroom

[a room for sleeping on bed]

NOUN + NOUN**EXPANSION**

Bedtime	[time to go to bed]
Birth day	[a day to celebrate one's birth]
Boat man	[a man who controls a boat]
Boat-racing	[racing by boat]
Bodyguard	[a guard on duty for protection of anybody]
Box camera	[a camera looking like a box]
Box office	[an office (a counter) to sell tickets]
Book-binder	[a binder of books]
Book fair	[a fair to display and sell books]
Book-stall	[a stall for books]
Book-store	[a store for keeping books]
Book worm	[a man (worm) fond of (reading) books]
Brain child	[a child (thought) out of one's brain]
Brain wash	[a wash to wipe out old thoughts of a brain]
Brief case	[a case (suitcase) for carrying briefs (records, money) etc.]
Bus fare	[fare for travelling by bus]
Bus journey	[a journey by bus]
Business-man	[a man who lives on business]
Business deal	[a deal (transaction) of a business]
Button hole	[a hole to push in a button]

[C]

Ceiling fan	[a fan hanging from ceiling]
Census report	[a report containing census]
City life	[life spent on city]
City park	[a park in a city]
Chair-person	[a person presiding on chair]
Chess-board	[a board for playing chess]
Charge-sheet	[a sheet (papers) for some charges]
Cotton textiles	[textiles made of cotton]
Cottage industry	[industry running in a cottage]
Country cottage	[a cottage in a country]

**[D]**

Daydream	[a dream dreamt in daytime]
Daybreak	[the time when a day breaks i.e. dawn]
Day light	[light during day time]
Day school	[a school held in daytime]
Death bed	[a bed in which a person is dying]
Death trap	[a trap causing death to someone]
Doormat	[a mat at the door]
Door bell	[a bell on the door for the visitors]

NOUN + NOUN

EXPANSION

Dust heap	[heap of dust]
Dust bin	[a bin used for throwing dust and rubbish]
Dust storm	[storm blowing dust]

[E]

Ear drop	[a drop of medicine into ears]
Ear-ring	[a ring for wearing on ear as an ornament]
Ear phone	[a phone (hearing aid) worn on the ear]
Earth quake	[a quake shaking earth's surface]
Education system	[a system to conduct education]
Election fever	[feverish sensation during election]
Election fund	[a fund for conducting an election]
Evening show	[a show showed in the evening]
Evening star	[a star seen in the evening sky]
Eye glass	[glasses to help the eyesight]
Eye sore	[a sore (an unpleasant thing) to see by the eye]
Eye witness	[a person who saw the incident]

[F]

Fact finding	[finding of fact]
Farm house	[a house built in the farm yard]
Fault finding	[finding of fault]
Ferry boat	[a boat to ferry persons/things]
Fibreglass	[glass in the form of fibre]
Field work	[a work done in the practical field]
Film producer	[a producer of film]
Fire brigade	[a brigade to fight fire]
Fire place	[a place for a fire in a room]
Fire station	[a station for a fire brigade]
Fish plate	[a plate for joining railway lines]
Flower vase	[a vase for keeping flower]
Flower show	[a show of flower]
Football match	[a match played with football]
Football club	[a club with an object of playing football]
Footpath	[path for walking on foot]
Fortune hunting	[hunting of fortune]

[G]

Gas cylinder	[cylinder full of gas]
Gas oven	[oven lit by gas]
Glasshouse	[a house made of glass]
Goods train	[a train for carrying goods]
Guest-room / house	[a room / house for receiving guest]

NOUN + NOUN

EXPANSION

[H]

Health centre

[a centre offering health care]

Heart attack

[an attack on heart]

Heat wave

[wave for hot weather]

Home comfort

[comfort felt at home]

[I]

Icebag

[a bag full of ice]

Ink bottle

[a bottle containing ink]

Iron determination

[determination as strong as iron]

Iron gate

[a gate made of iron]

Iron safe

[a safe (सिन्दुक) made of iron]

Ivory tower

[a tower made of ivory]

[L]

Law court

[a court for deciding a case by law]

Land slide

[sliding of a mass of land, rock, etc.]

Letter-box

[a box for getting letters into]

Lifetime

[time throughout life]

Life insurance

[insurance covering risk of life]

Lunchbox

[a box containing lunch]

[M]

Machine cloth

[cloth made by machine]

Marble palace

[a palace made of marble]

Mountain streams

[streams in the mountains]

Moonlight

[light of the moon]

Mud guard

[a guard over a wheel to reduce mud]

[N]

Necktie

[a tie worn on neck]

News bulletin

[bulletin for news]

Newspaper

[paper for news]

Night club

[a club to enjoy a night]

Nursery rhyme

[rhyme for reading in nursery]

[O]

Oil lamp

[a lamp lit with oil]

Opera house

[a house for performing operas]

[P]

Paper merchant

[a merchant dealing in paper]

Paper bag

[a bag made of paper]

Paper mill

[a mill for manufacturing paper]

Picture book

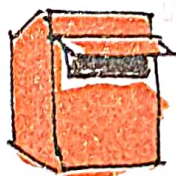
[a book containing pictures]

Pleasure trip

[a trip for pleasure]

Pocket book

[a book short enough to keep in a pocket]



NOUN + NOUN**EXPANSION**

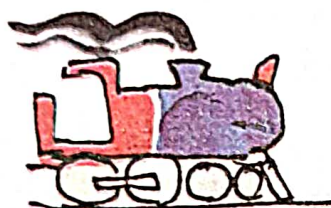
Postman	[a man for delivering postal articles]
Post-office	[an office of the Postal Department]
Potato chips	[chips of potato]
Poverty line	[line marking poverty]

[R]

Radio programme	[a programme on the radio]
Routine work	[work regulated by routine]

[S]

Safety razao	[a razor with guard for safety]
Sea-sickness	[sickness while travelling on sea]
Science fiction	[a fiction on science]
Sportsman	[a man skilled in sports]
Steam engine	[engine worked by steam]
Stone wall	[a wall made of stone]
Summerday	[a day in summer]

**[T]**

Tea cup	[a cup for taking tea]
Tea garden	[a garden of tea plants]
Tea-stall	[a stall for serving tea]
Tear drop	[a drop of tear]
Tear gas	[gas causing tear]
Telephone operator	[an operator operating a telephone-exchange]
Toothpaste	[paste used for tooth]
Toy train	[a train enjoyed as a toy]
TV serial	[a serial on TV]

[W]

Warship	[a ship used in war]
Windmill	[a mill driven by wind]
Wristwatch	[a watch for using on wrist]

[Y]

Youth hostel	[a hostel for youth]
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NOUN + VERB / VERBAL NOUN**EXPANSION**

Boat-racing	[racing by boat]
Book-binder	[a binder of books]
Bus stop	[a spot where buses stop]
Clay modelling	[modelling on clay]
Daybreak	[the time when a day breaks i.e. dawn]
Data processing	[processing of data on a computer]
Fact finding	[finding of fact]

Fault finding	[finding of fault]
Folk dance/song/tale	[a dance/song/tale traditional to the rural folk]
Fortune hunting	[hunting of fortune]
Loudspeaker	[an instrument by which one can magnify sound]
Oil-painting	[painting with oil colour]
Rainfall	[falling of rain]
Record breaking	[that which breaks the record]
Sunrise	[rising of the sun]
Snake-bite	[biting of a snake]
Sword-fighting	[fighting with sword]
Tax-payer	[one who pays tax]



VERB / VERBAL NOUN / PARTICIPIAL + NOUN EXPANSION

Breakfast	[a tiffin that breaks fasting overnight at day-break]
Burial ground	[the ground where burial is done]
Burning ghat	[a ghat for burning dead bodies]
Dining table	[a table for dining on]
Dotted graph	[a graph that is recorded with dots]
Driving Licence	[licence for driving a vehicle]
Fishing boat	[a boat for fishing]
Flash back	[a part of a play flashing (showing) back]
Flying fish	[a fish that flies, i.e. jumps out of water]
Frying pan	[a pan for frying food]
Hunger-strike	[a strike carried by fasting]
Pickpocket	[one who picks somebody's pocket]
Shuddering reaction	[reaction that causes shuddering]
Watch dog	[a dog that watches]
Withered violet	[a violet that is withered]

ADJECTIVE + NOUN EXPANSION

Blackboard	[a board painted black]
Blue blood	[one born of an aristocratic family]
Common room	[a room for common students/teachers]
Common sense	[a sense gained by common experience]
Daily routine	[a routine of work followed daily]
Darkroom	[a room for photo processing in darkness]
Dead line	[a line (limit) not to cross]
First aid	[aid given first before going to a doctor]
Full moon	[the moon appearing in full form]
Hot pot	[a pot to keep food hot]
Juvenile court	[a court trying juveniles (young ones)]

Leaden heart

Magic lantern

Magic show

Main spring

Metal money

Red card

Solar energy

[heart that is made of lead]

[a lantern used for projecting pictures on slides]

[a show displaying magic]

[a spring which operates the main function]

[money made of metal]

[a card to warn an errant player]

[energy emitting from the sun]

NOMINAL COMPOUND CONSISTING OF MORE THAN TWO WORDS

Aircraft-control system

Birthday party

Jute-producing areas

Kolkata bus routes

Labour-saving method

Low cost house

Machine-made clothes

One-parent family

(a system that controls aircraft)

[a party to celebrate birthday]

(areas that produce jute)

[routes for buses in Kolkata]

[a method that saves labour]

[a house made at a cost that is low]

[clothes made by machine]

[a family consisting of one parent]



SOME MORE LIST OF NOMINAL COMPOUNDS

Noun + Adjective

Noun + Preposition

Pronoun + Noun

Reflexive Pronoun + Noun

" "

" "

" "

Reflexive Pronoun + Nominal

" "

Reflexive Pronoun + Verb

Reflexive Pronoun + Adjective (derived from verb):

" " "

" " "

" " "

Adjective + Noun

Adjective + Nominal

Adjective + Adjective

Adjective + Verb

Adjective + Verb

Adjective + Preposition

Verb + Noun

Verb + Pronoun

: eco-friendly

snow-white

: lock-up

: he-goat

: self-control

: self-confidence

: self-sufficiency

: self-respect

: self-seeker

: self-supporting

: self-help

: self-taught

: self-employed

: self-willed

: self-centred

: easychair

: bestseller

: blue-black

: short cut

: whitewash

: leftover

: wash-basin

: holdall



Verb + Verb	hearsay
Verb + Adverb	knowhow
Verb + Preposition	make-up
	cover-up
	turnover
	walkout
Adverb + Adverb	wherever, whenever
Preposition + Noun	overtime
	over-production
	by-law
	by-pass
	offprint
	overcoat
	oversight
	overwork
	over-exercise
	outgrowth
Preposition + Verb	overflow
	outcry
	outlet
	outlook
	uplift
	uproar
	upstart

APPLIED SECTION

Writing procedure for Nominal Compound

- (i) Some **Nominal Compounds** are written with hyphen mark (-) :
(কিছু Nominal Compound হাইফেন চিহ্ন দিয়ে লেখা হয়) over-flow, over-production, know-how, pen-friend, self-centred, self-control, self-respect etc.
- (ii) Some **Nominal Compounds** are written without a hyphen mark and with a little space between the words : (কিছু Nominal Compound-এ হাইফেন চিহ্ন লাগে না; এক্ষেত্রে শব্দগুলির মধ্যে একটু ফাঁকা জায়গা থাকে।) football match, pocket book, film star, radio programme, post office etc.
- (iii) Some **Nominal Compounds** are written with either a hyphen mark or a space between the words : (কিছু Nominal Compound হাইফেন চিহ্ন দিয়ে অথবা বিকল্পে হাইফেন চিহ্ন না দিয়ে একটু ফাঁক রেখে লেখা হয়।)
mountain-stream/mountain stream
flower-vase/flower vase; ink-bottle/ink bottle
ivory-tower/ivory tower; ice-bag/ice bag
- (iv) A few **Nominal Compounds** are written without a hyphen mark or a space between the words i.e. in a compact way, making a single word : (কয়েকটি Nominal Compound হাইফেন চিহ্ন না দিয়ে এবং মাঝখানে কোনো ফাঁক না দিয়ে লেখা হয়।) postman, birthday, newspaper, boatman, necktie, breakfast, wherever, whenever etc.

- (v) A few **Nominal Compounds** having more than two words are written with hyphens between first two words and with space between later words : (কয়েকটি Nominal Compound, যেগুলিতে দু'বছর বেশি word আছে, সেগুলিতে প্রথম দুটি শব্দ বা দুইটি শব্দ থাকে এবং পরবর্তী শব্দ দুটিতে সীলিত করা থাকে।)

concealment family, jute-producing areas etc.

- (vi) A few **Nominal Compounds** having more than two words are written without hyphens but the first two words as a single word and the later words with a little space : (কয়েকটি Nominal Compound, সেগুলিতে দু'বছর বেশি word আছে, সেগুলিতে প্রথম দুটি শব্দ single word হিসাবে এবং পরবর্তী word-টি একটু সীলিত করা থাকে।) birthday party, breakfast table etc.

EXERCISE

1. Make Nominal Compounds from the following :

Meaning	Nominal Compounds
(a) a wall made of stone	
(b) a method that saves labour	
(c) clothes made by machine	
(d) streams in the mountains	
(e) a serial on TV	
(f) a programme on the radio	
(g) a path for walking on foot	
(h) a train enjoyed as a toy	
(i) a man skilled in sports	
(j) a party to celebrate birthday	
(k) a report containing census	

2. Write down the meanings of the following Nominal Compounds :

Nominal Compounds	Meaning
(a) jute textile	
(b) ceiling fan	
(c) teaspoon	
(d) frying pan	
(e) gas stove	
(f) swimming	
(g) bosom friend	
(h) science fiction	
(i) tear gas	
(k) film producer	
(l) traffic police	
(m) book fair	
(n) wheat-producing countries	
(o) aircraft-control system	



- (v) A few **Nominal Compounds** having more than two words are written with hyphens between first two words and with space between later words :
(কয়েকটি Nominal Compound, যেগুলিতে দুয়ের বেশি word আছে, সেগুলিতে প্রথম দুটির মধ্যে হাইফেন চিহ্ন থাকে এবং পরবর্তী শব্দ দুটিতে ফাঁকা জায়গা থাকে।)
one-parent family, jute-producing area etc.
- (vi) A few **Nominal Compounds** having more than two words are written without hyphens but the first two words as a single word and the later words with a little space : (কয়েকটি Nominal Compound, যেগুলিতে দুয়ের বেশি word আছে, সেগুলিতে প্রথম দুটি শব্দ single word হিসাবে এবং পরবর্তী word-টি একটু ফাঁকা জায়গা দিয়ে ব্যবহৃত হয়।) birthday party, breakfast table etc.

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(o) aircraft-control system	



3. Use the following Nominal Compounds in your own sentences. One has been done for you :

Nominal Compound	Sentence
book-binder	He is an excellent book-binder.
book shelf	
gas cylinder	
cottage industry	
poison gas	
tea garden	
film star	
telephone operator	
birthday party	
bus fare	
breakfast	



4. Shorten the following sentences by using '-ing' or '-ed' words or phrases :

- Have you ever seen a fish that flies?
- A child that has been fed well will be healthy.
- The angel saw the dead swallow in the heap of dust.
- The violet which was withered lay on the table.
- It is a table meant for dining.
- When a little poison is added, the plant shows its reaction with shuddering.

5. Use Nominal Compounds to avoid Relative Clauses :

- These streams which are flowing from mountains are following in the sea.
- Bring me the bag that is full of ice.
- This is a mill which is driven by wind.
- The children are riding a train which is enjoyed as a toy.
- Go to the room which is meant for sleeping on bed.
- We should give due importance on industry running in cottages.
- He deserves praise as one who pays tax.
- The man is famous as he charms snakes.