

## The Noun

### Objectives:

This course is designed to provide learners with a complete understanding of nouns in English, covering their types, functions, formation, and usage.

-By the end of the course, learners will be able to have a strong grasp of nouns and their role in English grammar.

### What is a Noun ?

A **noun** is a word that names a person, place , thing, idea, or concept. \*Nouns are one of the most important parts in a sentence because they act as a subject or an object .

### 2. Types of Nouns ;

#### 1. **Common Nouns**

- Refer to general people, places, or things.
- Examples: *dog, city, chair, teacher.*

#### 2. **Proper Nouns**

- Refer to specific names of people, places, or things. Proper nouns always start with a capital letter.
- Examples: *John, Paris, Coca-Cola, Monday.*

#### 3. **Concrete Nouns**

- Refer to things that can be seen, touched, or physically experienced.
- Examples: *apple, table, river, building.*

#### 4. **Abstract Nouns**

- Refer to ideas, feelings, qualities, or concepts that cannot be seen or touched.
- Examples: *happiness, freedom, love, intelligence.*

#### 5. **Countable Nouns**

- Can be counted and have both singular and plural forms.
- Examples: *book/books, car/cars, apple/apples.*

#### 6. **Uncountable Nouns**

- Cannot be counted and are often treated as singular.
- Examples: *water, sugar, information, money.*

#### 7. **Collective Nouns**

- Refer to a group of people, animals, or things as one unit ..
- Examples: *team, family, herd, audience.*

- **3. Functions of Nouns ;** Nouns are used as subjects, objects, and complements.

#### 1. **Nouns as the Subject:**

- The noun performs the action of the verb.
- Example: *The cat is sleeping.*

#### 2. **Nouns as the Object:**

- The noun receives the action of the verb.
- Example: *He bought a car.*

### 3. Nouns as the Object of a Preposition:

- The noun follows a preposition in a phrase.
- Example: *The book is on the table.*

### 4. Nouns as a Complement:

- The noun renames or gives more information about the subject.
- Example: *She is a doctor.*

### Examples of Nouns in Sentences:

Sentence	Nouns
<i>The dog is barking.</i>	<i>dog</i>
<i>Paris is a beautiful city.</i>	<i>Paris, city</i>
<i>Happiness is important in life.</i>	<i>Happiness, life</i>
<i>My family loves traveling.</i>	<i>family</i>
<i>The students are reading books.</i>	<i>students, books</i>

### 4.Plural Forms of Nouns

Most nouns form their plural by adding **-s** or **-es**, but there are some irregular forms:

#### A//2 Regular Plural Forms:

- **1/** Most nouns add **-s** to form the plural.  
Example:
  - Book → Books
  - Car → Cars
- **2//** If the noun ends in **-s, -sh, -ch, -x, or -z**, add **-es**.  
Example:
  - Bus → Buses
  - Box → Boxes
  - Watch → Watches
- If the noun ends in a consonant + **-y**, change **-y** to **-ies**.  
Example:
  - Baby → Babies
  - City → Cities
- If the noun ends in a vowel + **-y**, just add **-s**.  
Example:
  - Toy → Toys
  - Key → Keys

#### B//2 Irregular Plural Forms:

- Some nouns do not follow the regular rules.  
Example:
  - Man → Men
  - Woman → Women

- Child → Children
- Tooth → Teeth
- Foot → Feet
- Mouse → Mice

### **C//Uncountable Nouns:**

- These nouns do not have a plural form (e.g., water, rice, information, furniture).

### **D// Nouns that Stay the Same in Singular and Plural:**

2. Some nouns have the same form in singular and plural.  
Example:

singular	plural
-Sheep	-Sheep
- Fish	-Fish
-Deer	- Deer

### **\* // Possessive Nouns :**

#### **a//What are Possessive Nouns?**

A possessive noun shows ownership or something that belongs to someone or something.

Example:

1. This is Sarah's book. (*The book belongs to Sarah.*)
2. The dog's tail is long. (*The tail belongs to the dog.*)

#### **b//Rules for Forming Possessive Nouns:**

**1// Singular Nouns:** Add's to the noun.

Example:

1. The cat's toy. (*The toy belongs to the cat.*)
2. My friend's car. (*The car belongs to my friend.*)

**2// Plural Nouns That End in -s:**

Add only an ' (apostrophe) after the -s.

Example:

3. The boys' room. (*The room belongs to the boys.*)
4. The teachers' lounge. (*The lounge belongs to the teachers.*)

**3// Plural Nouns That Do not End in -s:**

Add 's to the noun.

Example:

5. The children's playground. (*The playground belongs to the children.*)
6. The men's jackets. (*The jackets belong to the men.*)

#### 1. Possessive Pronouns vs. Possessive Nouns:

Be careful not to confuse **possessive pronouns** (mine, yours, his, hers, ours, theirs) with **possessive nouns**.

1. Possessive noun: John's house
2. Possessive pronoun: **His** house

### 6. Compound Nouns :

1. **Definition:** Two or more words combined to form a noun.

- Example: *toothbrush, mother-in-law, high school.*

2. **Types of Compound Nouns:** -Compound nouns can be categorized into several types based on their structure. Here are the main types:

**1. Closed Compound Nouns:** These are formed by joining two words together without any spaces or hyphens. Examples: toothpaste / basketball / bedroom.

**2. Hyphenated Compound Nouns :** These are formed by connecting two or more words with hyphens.

Examples: mother-in-law / editor-in-chief / runner-up

**3. Open Compound Nouns :** These consist of two or more words that are used together but are separated by a space.

Examples: coffee shop / swimming pool / full moon.

**4. Compound Nouns Made of a Noun and a Verb :** These typically involve a noun followed by a verb.

Examples: swimming pool/ driving license / dancing shoes.

**5. Compound Nouns Made of an Adjective and a Noun:** These combine an adjective with a noun.

Examples: high school/ blackboard / greenhouse

#### Summary Table:

Type	Examples
- Closed Compound Nouns	- toothpaste, basketball
- Hyphenated Compound Nouns	- mother-in-law, editor-in-chief
- Open Compound Nouns	- coffee shop, swimming pool
- Noun + Verb	- swimming pool, driving license

- Adjective + Noun

- high school, blackboard

**-The plural of the Compound Nouns:** The plural of compound nouns can be formed in different ways depending on the structure of the compound.

Here are some common patterns:

**Noun + Noun:** The plural is usually formed by adding an "s" to the main noun.

Example: toothbrush  toothbrushes

**Adjective + Noun:** Typically, add "s" to the noun.

Example: greenhouse  greenhouses

**Verb + Noun:** Add "s" to the noun.

Example: swim coach  swim coaches

**Noun + Verb:** Also typically involves adding "s" to the noun.

Example: runner-up  runners-up

**Preposition + Noun:** Add "s" to the last noun.

Example: brother-in-law  brothers-in-law

### **Summary Table:**

Compound	Structure	Singular	Plural
Noun + Noun		<u>toothbrush</u>	<u>toothbrushes</u>
Adjective + Noun		<u>greenhouse</u>	greenhouses
Verb + Noun		swim coach	swim coaches
Noun + Verb		runner-up	<u>runners-up</u>
Preposition + Noun		brother-in-law	brothers-in-law

### **Practice Activities**

### **Activity 1: Identify the Nouns**

Underline the nouns in these sentences:

1. The teacher is writing on the board.
2. Love is a beautiful feeling.
3. The team won the match.

### **Activity 2: Sort the following nouns into proper, common, concrete, and abstract:**

- John, happiness, book, city, freedom, table, London, anger.

### **Activity 3: Fill in the Blanks/ - Complete the sentences with appropriate nouns:**

3. I need to buy a \_\_\_\_\_.
4. She went to \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is the key to success.

### **Activity 4 : Write the plural form of the following nouns:**

1. Dog → \_\_\_\_\_
2. Box → \_\_\_\_\_
3. Baby → \_\_\_\_\_
4. Key → \_\_\_\_\_
5. Bus → \_\_\_\_\_

Write the plural form of the following nouns:

1. Man → \_\_\_\_\_
2. Child → \_\_\_\_\_
3. Tooth → \_\_\_\_\_
4. Woman → \_\_\_\_\_
5. Mouse → \_\_\_\_\_

Which of these nouns stay the same in plural form? Write "Same" or "Different":

1. Sheep → \_\_\_\_\_
2. Deer → \_\_\_\_\_
3. Cat → \_\_\_\_\_
4. Fish → \_\_\_\_\_
5. Dog → \_\_\_\_\_