The Noun & Its Kinds

Kinds of Noun
Noun can be further divided into five following groups:

- Common Noun
- Proper Noun
- Abstract Noun
- Collective Noun
- Material Noun

1. Common Noun
Common Noun is a name given to any person, place, or thing in general. The name 'boy' refers to all boys (Rakesh, Raju, Amit, Rajesh, Mayank etc.) but does not mention any particular boy. Hence, the name 'boy' is a common noun. Similarly, the name 'city' refers to any city in the world (Delhi, Patna, Japan, New York, etc.) but does not mention any particular city. Thus, 'city' is a common noun. (We must use an article before a singular Common noun.)

2. Proper Noun
Proper noun is the name given to a particular person, place or thing.
For example, Rakesh and Amit are the names of boys; Delhi, the name of a city; Taj Mahal, the name of a monument; Ganga the name of a river; Mt Everest, the name of a mountain range. Hence Rakesh, Mayank, Delhi, Taj Mahal, Ganga and Mt. Everest are proper nouns.
Note: A Proper noun always begins with a capital letter.

3. Abstract Noun
Abstract Noun is not the name of something which we can see, or touch, but of something that we can think of. They are names given to some quality, feeling, state or action. Charity is an abstract noun for it is the name of a quality which cannot be seen but can only be understood by seeing certain actions or behavioural pattern of a person.

Formation of Abstract Nouns
Abstract nouns can be formed from adjectives, verbs, and common nouns.

- vain vanity
- miser miserly
- cruel cruelty
- efficient efficiency

- honest honesty
- brave bravery

By addition of ness

Word	Word + ness
good	goodness
calm	calmness
foolish	foolishness
great	greatness
bright	brightness

Addition of 'ce' replacing 't'

Word	Addition of 'ce' replacing 't'
intelligent	intelligence
brilliant	brilliance
obedient	obedience

Addition of 'th' and change in vowels

Word	Addition of 'th' and change in vowels
strong	strength
long	length
high	height
broad	breadth
deep	depth
true	truth

Deletion of 'y'

Word	New word
Easy	ease
worthy	worth
greedy	greed

By addition of "ence or ance or ce"

Word	Abstract Noun
good	goodness
calm	calmness
foolish	foolishness
great	greatness
bright	brightness

Abstract nouns formed from verbs by addition of "tion/sion"

Verb	Abstract Noun
attract	attraction
create	creation
prevent	prevention
protect	protection
bother	botheration

Abstract nouns formed from common nouns by addition of "hood":

Common Noun	Abstract Noun
child	childhood
man	manhood
woman	womanhood
boy	boyhood
girl	girlhood
parent	parenthood

Names of Arts and Sciences, Grammar, Physics, Music, Pottery etc. are also Abstract nouns.

4. Collective Noun
A Collective Noun is the name given to a collection of persons, animals, things taken together as one.
Example:

- An army is a group of soldiers,
- A swarm is a collection of bees or flees,
- A flock is a group pf sheep, gang
- A shoal is a group of fish.

5. Material Noun
Material noun is the name of substances or materials.
For example: gold, iron, steel are material nouns.