

# Noun



## Introduction

**Definition:** A word used to denote the name of anything like a person, place, thing or quality is called a noun. A noun is also called the naming word.

**For Example:** City, restaurant, love, compassion, etc.



## Kinds of Noun

There are five kinds of noun

1. Proper Noun
2. Common Noun
3. Collective Noun
4. Material Noun
5. Abstract Noun



## Proper Noun

Proper noun is a specific name of a place, a person, or a thing. The first letter of a proper noun is always represented by a capital letter.



## Proper Nouns in English

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. Name of the Month and Day | October, November, etc.                                   |
| 2. Name of a Company         | Infosys, Mahindra, etc.                                   |
| 3. Names of People           | Obama, James, etc.  |
| 4. Names of Places           | Mumbai, Chennai, etc.                                     |
| 5. Titles of People          | Sir William, President Obama , etc.                       |
| 6. Name of Books, Newspapers | The New York Times, The Morning Herald, The Ramayan, etc. |

### NOTE:

- ❖ There are some nouns, such as sun, moon, earth, which seem to be the names of particular individual objects, but they are not proper names.



## Common Noun

**Definition:** Common nouns are words for people, things, animals, or ideas.



## Common Noun for Persons

Secretary	Actor	Coach	Sailor
Salesman	Director	Burglar	Pianist
Architect	Tourist	Nurse	Dentist
Driver	Scientist	Trainer	Magician
Carpenter	Guardian	Barber	Veterinarian

### ➡ Common Noun for Relations

Father	Daughter	Mother	Son
Grandfather	Brothers	Grandmother	Sisters

### ➡ Common Noun for Fruits and Vegetables

Apple	Broccoli	Peach	Celery
Banana	Spinach	Fig	Cabbage
Apricot	Lettuce		

### ➡ Common Noun for Animals

Panda	Ant	Snake	Bee
Giraffe	Butterfly	Goose	Prawn
Duck	Crab	Eagle	Dolphin

### ➡ Common Noun for Places

Bank	Zoo	Street
Restaurant	Park	Terrace
School	Library	Ground
Office	Factory	Market

### ➡ Common Noun for Things

Toaster	Computer	Bat
Pencil	Shoes	Refrigerator
Fan	Camera	Television
Bicycle	Truck	Chair

### ➡ Common Noun for Ideas

Love	Brilliance	Freedom
Hate	Beauty	Silence
Pride	Anger	Victory

### The following is the list of common nouns

animal	babies	cabbage	dad	ear
abode	baby	cake	daughter	earth
account	back	cactus	day	earthquake
achieve	badge	calculator	death	edge
acoustics	bag	calendar	debt	education
act	bait	camera	decision	effect
action	balance	camp	deer	egg
activity	ball	can	degree	eggnog
actor	balloon	cannon	design	eggs
addition	banana		desire	elbow

adjustment	band	canvas	desk	end
advertisement	base	cap	destruction	engine
advice	baseball	caption	detail	error
aftermath	basin	car	development	event
afternoon	basket	card	digestion	example
afterthought	basketball	care	dime	exchange
agreement	bat	carpenter	dinner	existence
air	bath	carriage	dinosaurs	expansion
airplane	battle	cars	direction	experience
airport	bead	cart	dirt	expert
alarm	beam	cast	discovery	eye
amount	bean	cat	discussion	eyes
amusement	bear	cattle	disease	jail
anger	bears	cause	disgust	jam
jam	beast	cave	distance	jar
angle	bed	celery	distribution	jeans
animal	bee	cellar	division	jelly
answer	beef	cemetery	dock	jellyfish
ant	beetle	cent	doctor	jewel
apparatus	beggar	chain	dog	join
apparel	beginner	chair	doll	joke
apple	behavior	chalk	donkey	journey
appliance	belief	chance	door	judge
approval	bell	change	downtown	juice
arch	berry	channel	drain	jump
argument	bike	cheese	drawer	
arithmetic	bird	cherries	dress	
arm	birth	chess	drink	
army	birthday	chicken	driving	
art	bedroom	chickens	drop	
attack	alley	children	drug	
attempt	game	chin	drum	
attraction	garden	hair	duck	
authority	gate	haircut	ducks	
face	geese	hall	ice	
fact	ghost	hammer	icicle	
fairies	giants	hand	idea	
fall	giraffe	harbor	impulse	
family	girl	harmony	income	
fan	glass	hat	increase	
fang	glove	head	industry	
farm	glue	health	ink	
farmer	goat	hearing	insect	
father	heart	instrument		
fear	heat	insurance		

feast  
feather

feet

interest  
invention  
iron  
island



## Collective Noun

**Definition:** A collective noun is a word used to define a group of objects, where objects can be people, animals, emotions, inanimate things, concepts, or other things.

**For example:** Class, bundle, bunch, herd, swarm, etc. See the following list of collective nouns:

### Collective Name

herd  
army  
colony  
swarm  
culture  
colony  
sloth  
pack  
colony  
flight  
hive  
swarm  
congregation  
flight  
flock  
herd  
singular  
sunder  
herd  
rabble  
swarm  
wake  
flock  
army  
clowder  
dutter  
pounce  
drove  
herd  
team  
yoke  
flock

### Animal

of antelope  
of ants  
of ants  
of ants  
of bacteria  
of badgers  
of bears  
of bears (polar bears)  
of beavers  
of bees  
of bees  
of bees  
of birds  
of birds  
of birds  
of boar  
of boar  
of boar  
of buffalo  
of butterflies  
of butterflies  
of buzzards  
of camels  
of caterpillars  
of cats  
of cats  
of cats  
of cattle  
of cattle  
of cattle  
of cattle (two)  
of chickens

peep	of chickens
brood	of chicks
Chattering	of chicks
clutch	of chicks
cartload	of chimpanzees
quiver	of cobras
rag	of colts
sedge	of cranes
siege	of cranes
congregation	of crocodiles
float	of crocodiles
storytelling	of crows
murder	of cows
herd	of deer
leash	of deer
parcel	of deer
kennel	of dogs
pack	of dogs
pod	of dolphins
drove	of donkeys
herd	of donkeys
bevy	of doves
cote	of doves
dole	of doves
flight	of doves
brace	of ducks
flock	of ducks
team	of ducks
aerie	of eagles
convocation	of eagles
swarm	of eels
herd	of elephants
gang	of elk
herd	of elk
mob	of emus
haul	of fish
school	of fish
shoal	of fish
swarm	of flies
lead	of foxes
leash	of foxes
skulk	of foxes
army	of frogs
colony	of frogs
knot	of frogs

flock	of geese
herd	of giraffes
tower	of giraffes
cloud	of gnats
drove	of goats
herd	of goats
tribe	of goats
trip	of goats
charm	of goldfinches
glint	of goldfish
band	of gorillas
drove	of hares
down	of hares
husk	of hares
aerie	of hawks
cast	of hawks
kettle	of hawks
brood	of hens
hedge	of herons
sedge	of herons
siege	of herons .
herd	of horses
team	of horses
troop	of horses
cry	of hounds
mute	of hounds
pack	of hounds
charm	of hummingbirds
clan	of hyenas
smack	of jellyfish
herd	of kangaroos
mob	of kangaroos
troop	of kangaroos
deceit	of lapwings
ascension	of larks
exaltation	of larks
leap	of leopards
leap	of leopards
pride	of nons
sault	of lions
troop	of lions
lounge	of lizards
plague	of locusts
gord	of mallards
horde	of mice

company	of mole
tribe	monkeys
troop	of monkeys
troup	of monkeys
herd	of moose
barren	of mules
pack	of mules
watch	of nightingales
parliament	of owls
drove	of oxen
herd	of oxen
company	of parrots
bouquet	of pheasants (when flushed)
flight	of Pigeons
flock	of Pigeons
drove	of pigs
herd	of pigs
litter	of pigs
bevy	of quail
covey	of quail
bury	of rabbits
colony	of rabbits
colony	of rats
horde	of rats
mischief	of rats
pack	of rats
swarm	of rats
colony	of seals
crash	of seals
herd	of seals
school	of shark
shiver	of shark
flock	of sheep
fold	of sheep
host	of sparrows
dray	of squirrels
scurry	of squirrels
murmuration	of starlings
muster	of storks
flight	of swallows
bevy	of swans
herd	of swans
flock	of swifts
drift	of swine
souder	of swine

spring	of teals
ambush	of tigers
streak	of tigers
knot	of toads
hover	of trout
flock	of turkeys
colony	of vultures
mob	of wallabies
herd	of walruses
herd	of whales
pod	of whales
school	of whales
herd	of wolves
pack	of wolves
rout	of wolves
herd	of yaks
herd	of zebras
zeal	of zebras



## Material Noun

**Definition:** The name of a thing that exists only in the form of a mass and cannot be counted is called a Material Noun. A Material Noun is the name of a substance which can be measured or weighed.

### See the following Material Noun:

Glass, iron, clay, frost, rain, snow, wheat, wine, tea, sugar, etc.

### They may be placed in groups as follows:

- (i) The metals: Iron, gold, platinum, etc.
- (ii) Products spoken of in bulk: Tea, sugar, rice, wheat, etc.
- (iii) Geological bodies: Mud, sand, granite, rock, stone, etc.
- (iv) Natural phenomena: Rain, dew, cloud, frost, mist, etc.
- (v) Various manufactures: Cloth (and the different kinds of cloth, potash, soap, rubber, paint, celluloid, etc.



## Abstract Noun

**Definition:** The name given to a quality, state or action is called an Abstract Noun. A noun that is abstract is an aspect, concept, idea, experience, state of being, trait, quality, feeling, or other entity that cannot be experienced with the five senses.



## Common Abstract Nouns

### Emotions/Feelings

Love	Hate
Anger	Peace
Pride	Sympathy

### States/Attributes

Bravery	Loyalty
Honesty	Integrity
Compassion	Charity
Success	Courage
Deceit	Skill
Beauty	Brilliance
Pain	Misery

### Ideas/Concepts/Ideals

Beliefs	Dreams
Justice	Truth
Faith	Liberty
Knowledge	Thought
Information	Culture
Trust	Dedication

### Movements/Events

Progress	Education
Hospitality	Leisure
Trouble	Friendships
Relaxation	

Abstract forms of nouns are very common and an important part of communication. In many cases these types of nouns are derived from an addition of a suffix or alteration in the root word. Child is a concrete noun, for example, but childhood is an intangible state, so it is abstract. Nouns with the following suffixes are often abstract:

- ❖ -tion
- ❖ -ism
- ❖ -ity
- ❖ -ment
- ❖ -ness
- ❖ -age
- ❖ -ance/-ence
- ❖ -ship
- ❖ -ability

### ➡ Abstract Nouns formed from Adjectives

Bitter	bitterness
Brave	Bravery
Broad	Breadth
Dark	darkness
Deep	depth
False	falsehood
Great	greatness
High	height
Honest	honesty

Hot	heat
Humble	humility
Intelligent	Intelligence
Just	justice
Long	length
Poor	poverty
Proud	pride
Prudent	prudence
Short	shortness
Sole	solitude
True	truth
Vain	vanity
Wide	width
Wise	wisdom
Young	youth

**NOTE:**

- ❖ Youth may also be a Common Noun (a youth of seventh) and a collective Noun (Give youth its chance).  
In this latter sentence youth = young people thought of collectively.



### Abstract Nouns formed from Common Nouns

Common	Noun Abstract Noun
Agent	agency
Bond	bondage
Boy	boyhood
Captain	captaincy
Child	childhood
Friend	friendship
Hero	heroism
Infant	infancy
King	kingship
Man	manhood
Mother	motherhood
Owner	ownership
Priest	priesthood
Rascal	rascality
Regent	regency
Rogue	roguery
Slave	slavery



### Abstract Nouns formed from Verbs

Verb	Abstract Noun
Advise	Advice
Admit	admission

Arrive	arrival
Agree	agreement
Behave	belief
Choose	choice
Conceal	concealment
Defend	defence
Depart	departure
Die	death
Expect	expectation
Enter	entrance
Fail	failure
Free	freedom
Hate	hatred
Judge	judgment
Laugh	laughter
Live	life
Move	motion
Neglect	negligence
Obey	obedience
Permit	permission
Please	pleasure
Protect	protection
Punish	punishment
Relieve	relief
See	sight
Serve	service
Succeed	success
Seize	seizure
Think	thought
Unite	union/unity
Warn	Warmth



## Abstract Nouns of the same form as verbs

Verb	Abstract Noun
Cry	cry
Desire	desire
Fall	fall
Fear	fear
Hope	hope
Laugh	laugh
Love	love
Move	move
Order	order
Regret	regret

Ride	ride
Rise	rise
Run	run
Sleep	sleep
Sob	sob
Stand	stand
Stay	stay
Step	step
Stop	stop
Taste	Taste
Touch	touch
Walk	walk



## Countable and Uncountable Nouns

Nouns can be either countable or uncountable.

- ❖ Countable Nouns are those which can be counted. They have 'a' or 'an' before them in the singular form.
- ❖ Uncountable Nouns are those which cannot be counted. They do not have 'a' or 'an' before them.

### Read the following examples:

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| (i) She has <u>a dog</u> and a cat.                     | (Countable Nouns)   |
| (ii) He has <u>some sugar</u> in the bowl.              | (Uncountable Nouns) |
| (iii) Albert has <u>an elephant</u> and <u>an ass</u> . | (Countable Nouns)   |
| (iv) <u>Darkness</u> frightens me.                      | (Uncountable Nouns) |

You notice that dog and cat (common nouns) are countable. You can say one dog, two dogs, one cat or two cats. The words elephant and ass are also countable the words sugar and darkness are uncountable. You cannot count one sugar, two sugars or one darkness and two darkness.

### *Some nouns are used both as uncountable and countable.*

#### Read the following examples.

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| (i) Alisha has grey <u>hair</u> .                             | Uncountable |
| There is a <u>hair</u> in my shop.                            | Countable   |
| (ii) This statue is made of <u>stone</u> .                    | Uncountable |
| I have a <u>stone</u> in my hand.                             | Countable   |
| (iii) There is <u>cheese</u> in the fridge.                   | Uncountable |
| There were dozens of <u>cheeses</u> in the fridge.            | Countable   |
| (iv) <u>Sound</u> cannot travel in vacuum.                    | Uncountable |
| Animals make different kinds of <u>sounds</u> .               | Countable   |
| (v) <u>Noise</u> can make a person deaf.                      | Uncountable |
| There are many kinds of <u>noises</u> in the forest at night. | Countable   |

*The following nouns can be used both as countable and uncountable.*

Tea	Pain	Coffee	Protest
Shampoo	Pleasure	Cake	War
Land	Success	Rain	Difficult
Snow	Toothpaste	Abuse	Fear
Business	Life		

## PRACTICE EXERCISE



Find the kind of noun underline sentence has



Maruti is the most popular car in India.

**Answer:** Proper Noun:- A proper noun is the name of a particular person, place or things. So, Maruti is a name of a particular car (things).



Karan is a naughty boy.

**Answer:** Common Noun: A common noun is shared in common by every person, place or thing of the same class or kind. So, boy is the class of person.



Gold and Silver are used to make jewellery.

**Answer:** Material Noun: A material noun is the noun that exists only in the form of a mass and cannot be counted. So, gold and silver are in the form of a mass and cannot be counted.



Honesty is the best policy.

**Answer:** Abstract Noun: An abstract noun is the name of some state, quality, feeling or idea that we can only think of or feel but cannot touch or see.

## Commonly Asked

## QUESTIONS

*Read the noun of the underlined word:*



**Milk is a complete food.**

- (A) Common Noun (B) Proper Noun  
(C) Collective Noun (D) Material Noun  
(E) None of these

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:** Milk is a material noun. A Material Noun is the name of a substance which can be measured or weighed.

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**A clump of tree.**

- (A) Material Noun (B) Proper Noun  
(C) Common Noun (D) Collective Noun  
(E) None of these

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:** Clump is a Collective Noun. A Collective Noun is the group or collection of things.

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## SUMMARY



- ❖ Noun is the name of a person, place, animal, bird or thing.
  - ❖ A Proper Noun is the name of a particular person, place, thing or animal.
  - ❖ A Common Noun is the name given to the class of person, place, animal or thing.
  - ❖ A Collective Noun is the name of a group or collection of person, things or animals.
  - ❖ A Material Noun is the name of a substance which can be measured or weighed.
  - ❖ An Abstract Noun is the name of some state, quality, feeling or idea that we can only think of or feel but cannot touch or see.
  - ❖ All Common Nouns and Collective Nouns are regarded as countable.
  - ❖ Proper Nouns are also countable.
  - ❖ Abstract Nouns and Material Nouns are normally uncountable.
-

# Self Evaluation TEST



Duration  
10 Minutes

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*Find the kind of noun of the underlined word:*

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A fleet of ships.

- (A) Abstract Noun  
(B) Common Noun  
(C) Collective Noun  
(D) Material Noun  
(E) None of these
- 



A shoal of fish.

- (A) Proper Noun  
(B) Collective Noun  
(C) Common Noun  
(D) Material Noun  
(E) None of these
- 



A bunch of flowers.

- (A) Proper Noun  
(B) Common Noun  
(C) Material Noun  
(D) Collective Noun  
(E) None of these
- 



Coal and Petrol are fossil fuels.

- (A) Collective Noun  
(B) Common noun  
(C) Proper Noun  
(D) Material Noun  
(E) None of these
- 



Sugar comes from sugarcane plants.

- (A) Common Noun  
(B) Material Noun  
(C) Proper Noun  
(D) Collective Noun  
(E) None of these
- 



Honesty is the best policy.

- (A) Proper Noun  
(B) Collective Noun  
(C) Material Noun  
(D) Common Noun  
(E) Abstract Noun
-



Mass transport system in Mumbai has been changing rapidly.

- (A) Common Noun (B) Collective Noun  
(C) Proper Noun (D) Material Noun  
(E) None of these
- 



Truth always triumphs.

- (A) Proper Noun (B) Common Noun  
(C) Collective Noun (D) Material Noun  
(E) Abstract noun
- 



The Ganga river irrigates a large part of the northern plain.

- (A) Proper Noun (B) Common Noun  
(C) Material Noun (D) Collective Noun  
(E) None of these
- 



The performance of boys has reduced rapidly in comparison to girls in various exams.

- (A) Abstract Noun (B) Collective Noun  
(C) Proper Noun (D) Material Noun  
(E) Common Noun
-

# Self Evaluation Test

## SOLUTIONS



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### *Explanation for selected Questions*

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1. The name that refers to a group or collection regarded as a single unit is a collective noun. Fleet is a collection of ships.

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2. The name that refers to a group or collection regarded as a single unit is a collective noun. Shoal is a collection of fish.

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3. The name that refers to a group or collection regarded as a single unit is a collective noun. Bunch is a collection of flowers.

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4. The name of a thing that exists only in the form of a mass and cannot be counted is a Material Noun. Coal and petrol have a mass. They cannot be counted.

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5. The name of a thing that exists only in the form of a mass and cannot be counted is a Material Noun. Sugar has a mass. It cannot be counted.

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6. The name given to a quality, state or action is an Abstract Noun. Honesty is a quality.

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7. The name of a particular city is a Proper Noun. Mumbai is a particular name of a city.

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8. The name given to a quality, state or action is an Abstract Noun. Truth is a quality.

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9. The name shared in common by every person, place or thing of the same class or kind is a Common Noun. The Ganga is a name of river.

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10. The name shared in common by every person, place or thing of the same class or kind is a Common Noun. The word boy is a Common Noun.

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**Answer**

**1. C 2. B 3. D 4. D 5. B 6. E 7. C 8. E 9. B 10. B**