

GRAMMAR LAND

6



**With
Students'
App**

Kinds of Nouns and Compound Nouns



Kinds of Nouns

We already know that a **noun** is the name we give to a person, place, animal, thing or idea.

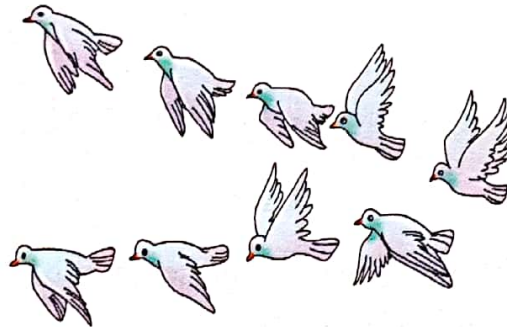
Let us look at this table to revise the kinds of nouns and their uses.

Kind of Noun	Uses	Example
Common noun	name given to a person, place, animal or thing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • boy • tree • city • monkey
Proper noun	special name given to a particular person, place or thing (It always begins with a capital letter.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anup • Farida • Red Fort • Chennai
Concrete noun	name for an object that we can see, touch or smell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • flower • table • house • aeroplane
Abstract noun	name for a thing which we cannot smell, touch or feel physically—a quality, action, state or idea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • kindness • laughter • childhood • ignorance
Collective noun	name of a group of people, things or animals that we think of as a whole	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • herd • flock • family • crowd

A Circle the common nouns and underline the proper nouns.

<u>Australia</u>	wisdom	<u>circus</u>	fleet
Kilimanjaro	restaurant	swarm	generosity
Mount Everest	flock	feet	juice
Agra	youth	April	basket
diamond	team	television	supermarket

B Write whether the highlighted nouns are common nouns, proper nouns, abstract nouns or collective nouns.



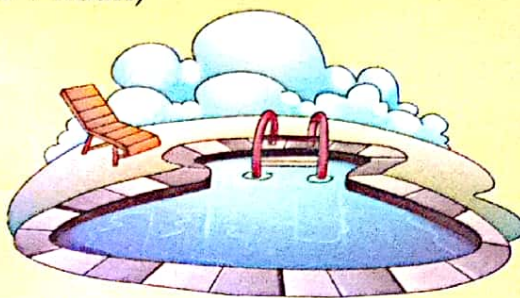
1. They have plans to go to the **cinema**.
..... common noun
2. I'm going to **London** next month.
.....
3. That **song** was very familiar in the past.
.....
4. We saw a **flock** of birds flying high.
.....
5. **Honesty** is such a rare trait.
.....
6. The dress is made out of **wool**.
.....
7. Would you like some **lemonade**?
.....
8. A **team** of technicians are here.
.....
9. The boy was rewarded for his **bravery**.
.....
10. They are sending a rocket to **Mars**.
.....

 **Compound Nouns**

Compound nouns are formed from two or more words.

Usually the second word in a compound noun is the main word. The first word(s) usually modifies the second word.

- homework, teaspoon, farmhouse (noun + noun)
- silkworm, blackboard, greenhouse (adjective + noun)
- cupful, spoonful (noun + adjective)
- swimming pool, frying pan, driving licence (verb + noun)
- haircut, waterfall, sunrise (noun + verb)
- take-out, standby, checkout (verb + preposition)
- underground, bystander, onlooker (preposition + noun)



A compound noun may be written in three different ways.

1. hyphen between the words
 - make-up, mother-in-law
2. two words with a space in between
 - tennis shoe, bus stop
3. two words combined together
 - supermarket, bedroom

C Match the words in column A with those in column B to make compound nouns.

A	B
1. finger	a. house
2. suit	b. machine
3. light	c. ware
4. straw	d. print
5. soft	e. board
6. washing	f. ground
7. butter	g. berries
8. back	h. dream
9. ironing	i. case
10. day	j. fly



- D** Combine words from Box A and Box B to make compound nouns. Then, use them to complete these sentences.

Box A

moon	camp	grand	sun
foot	book	water	cross

Box B

fire	melons	light	roads
shelf	mother	flowers	ball

1. My grandmother is a very successful writer.
2. When we came to the, we weren't sure which way to go.
3. The waves in the sea sparkled in the
4. We enjoyed sitting around the and sharing jokes.
5. Both boys and girls in my neighbourhood play
6. Since summer is here, there are so many everywhere.
7. Suddenly, I came across a field of It was so beautiful!
8. This has many books on space travel.



Countable and Uncountable Compound Nouns

Some compound nouns are **countable** and others are **uncountable**.

- address book, fire engine, pen friend (countable)
- sunshine, common sense, fast food (uncountable)

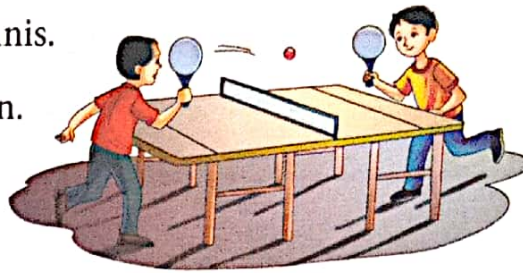
- E** Underline the compound nouns in these sentences. Write C if they are countable or UC if they are uncountable.

1. I've set my alarm clock for 6.30 in the morning.
2. He bought some tracing paper for his art project.

C



3. My younger sister won't go to sleep unless I read out a fairy tale to her.
4. They are giving us lessons in first-aid at school.
5. Pranav and Atul are playing table tennis.
6. I now have a bank account of my own.
7. A policeman was trying hard to ease the traffic on the roads.
8. Let's cross at the zebra crossing.



F Complete this passage with the correct compound nouns from the box.

money order	old age	post office
alarm clock	newspaper	bank account

Our house is on the same street as the post office, so it is convenient for my grandfather. He goes there every month to collect his pension and send a to his old friend in the village. Grandfather also has a, but the bank is far from our home so my father helps him with bank-related work. can be frustrating. As he is dependent on others, at times, he gets angry. What he likes is reading the in the morning. He gets up very early. His makes a cuckoo sound at 4.30 a.m.

DIY Exercise

Make a list of compound nouns we can form with the given words. Then, compare your list with your friend's.

- | | | | |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. sun | | | |
| 2. tooth | | | |
| 3. rain | | | |
| 4. room | | | |
| 5. foot | | | |
| 6. back | | | |

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Countable and Uncountable Nouns

As we already know, nouns may be classified as countable and uncountable nouns.

Countable nouns (also called **count nouns**) are things we can count. They can be singular or plural.

- chair – chairs
- bottle – bottles

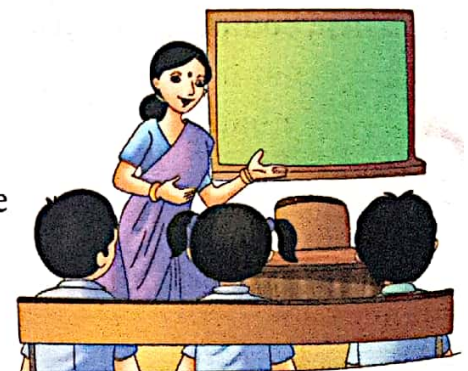


Uncountable nouns (also called **non-count nouns**) are things we cannot count. They are always singular and do not have a plural form.

- milk, furniture, money

A Underline all the nouns in these sentences. List them in the columns of the table on the next page.

1. The smoke made me choke.
2. I borrowed a pencil from Sunita.
3. History gives us a glimpse of life as it used to be.
4. She bought two candlestands made of silver.
5. We will need two more glasses I think.
6. The teacher spoke to the class about the importance of good behaviour.
7. Both the windows are open.
8. I like the red skirt more than the yellow one.
9. Turn on the light, would you?
10. I'm looking for some information on dinosaurs.



Countable nouns	Uncountable nouns
	smoke

We must be careful with the words that we use with countable and uncountable nouns. Some can be used with countable nouns and some others with uncountable nouns. We can use only a few with both.

Let us look at the table to understand this better.

Used with countable nouns	<i>a, an, the</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a bag • an hour • the table
	<i>some, many, any, few, a few, a lot of, lots of, How many?, these, a large number of, no, enough, plenty of</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some flowers • many friends • any container • few questions • a few problems • a lot of biscuits • lots of toffees • How many apples? • these seats • a large number of students • no babies • enough tables • plenty of pillows

Used with uncountable nouns	<i>the</i> (when referring to something specific)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the milk
	<i>much, a little, any, How much?, a lot of, lots of, this, a large amount of, no, enough, plenty of</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • much time • a little patience • any time • How much sugar? • a lot of courage • lots of space • this liquid • a large amount of oil • no peace • enough money • plenty of enthusiasm
Used with both countable and uncountable nouns	<i>the, some, any, no, a lot of, lots of, no, enough, plenty of</i>	

B Write a or an where necessary in these sentences. If a sentence does not need either, put a cross (×) in the blank.

1. × paragliding is an adventure sport.
2. tea and coffee are popular drinks.
3. microscope can show you new world.
4. grass is always greener on the other side of fence!
5. tomato is fruit, not vegetable.
6. education can give you good start in life.
7. chair is piece of furniture.
8. cutlery nowadays is usually made of steel.



C Use some or any to complete these sentences.

1. Have you got any books about space travel?
2. I can see boats on the lake.
3. There aren't good films at the cinema tonight.
4. Is there coffee in the pot?
5. There are nice pictures in this book.
6. I'm going to buy pencils and pens.
7. I don't play musical instruments.
8. There are students in the library.



D Complete these sentences using a lot of and the correct words from the box.

questions	rice	people	coins
courage	flowers	paper	work

1. There are a lot of people at the stadium today.
2. was strewn all over the floor.
3. You have served to me today.
4. I have to finish before I leave.
5. There are in her piggy bank.
6. He had about the lesson.
7. I can see on the tree.
8. It takes to take such a big risk.





1. How many birds are there in that tree?
2. rice should we cook today?
3. soup do you want?
4. players are there in a football team?
5. time did you spend at the supermarket?
6. pages does the book have?
7. glasses of lemonade have you had?
8. water do you usually drink?



Nasruddin earned his living selling eggs. One day, someone came to his shop and said, "Guess what I have in my hand."

"Give me a clue," said Nasruddin.

“I shall give you several clues: it has the shape of an egg, and the size of an egg. It looks like an egg, tastes like an egg and smells like an egg. Inside, it is yellow and white. It is liquid before it is cooked, becomes thick when heated. It was moreover, laid by a hen...”

“Aha! I know!” said Nasruddin. “It’s some sort of cake!”

Countable nouns	Uncountable nouns
eggs	

DIY Exercise

Work in pairs. Talk about the six differences between these pictures.
Remember to use countable and uncountable nouns in your sentences.



1. Is there any milk?
2. Are there six eggs?

We already know that a **pronoun** is a word we use in place of a noun. It helps us refer to the noun and avoid repeating it.

- Smita is twelve years old. Smita has a younger sister.

Smita is twelve years old. **She** has a younger sister.

Let us look at this table to revise the different kinds of pronouns and their uses.

Kind of pronoun	Pronoun		Uses	Example
Personal pronouns	Subject Pronoun	Object Pronoun	refers to a person, thing or group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I gave her a book. He told you to come. They invited us to lunch.
	<i>I</i>	<i>me</i>		
	<i>you</i>	<i>you</i>		
	<i>he</i>	<i>him</i>		
	<i>she</i>	<i>her</i>		
	<i>it</i>	<i>it</i>		
	<i>we</i>	<i>us</i>		
	<i>they</i>	<i>them</i>		
Possessive pronouns	<i>mine</i> <i>yours</i> <i>his</i> <i>hers</i> <i>its</i> <i>ours</i> <i>theirs</i>		shows that someone owns something	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This bag is mine. Those shoes are hers.

Kind of pronoun	Pronoun	Uses	Example
Demonstrative pronouns	<i>this</i> <i>that</i> <i>these</i> <i>those</i>	points out things and also stands for the thing that is pointed out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That is Amar. • Those are apple trees.
Reflexive pronouns	<i>myself</i> <i>yourself</i> <i>himself</i> <i>herself</i> <i>itself</i> <i>ourselves</i> <i>yourselves</i> <i>themselves</i>	refers back to the subject of the sentence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roshan fell from the swing and hurt himself. • Let us give ourselves more time.
Emphasising (emphatic) pronouns	<i>myself</i> <i>yourself</i> <i>himself</i> <i>herself</i> <i>itself</i> <i>ourselves</i> <i>yourselves</i> <i>themselves</i>	emphasises a noun or pronoun in a sentence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did you paint this yourself? • I myself heard the noise.
Indefinite pronouns	<i>somebody</i> <i>someone</i> <i>something</i> <i>anybody</i> <i>anyone</i>	refers to a person or thing in a manner that is not definite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there anyone / anybody there? • Someone / Somebody will be there in the house.

Kind of pronoun	Pronoun	Uses	Example
Indefinite pronouns	<i>anything</i> <i>everybody</i> <i>everyone</i> <i>everything</i> <i>nobody</i> <i>no one/none</i> <i>nothing</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tell me everything. There's nothing left here.

Note

A reflexive pronoun is an important part of a sentence. If we remove it, the sentence will not be complete. Whereas, if an emphasising pronoun is removed, the sentence will still make complete sense.

A Underline the demonstrative pronouns in these sentences.

1. These are dirty windows.
2. This is a brand new pencil.
3. Those are thin cows.
4. That is my car.
5. These are my friends.
6. That is her painting.
7. This is where we were supposed to meet.
8. These are stale.
9. This is not hers.
10. Take those.



B Complete these sentences with a suitable reflexive or emphasising pronouns. Then, write R for reflexive and E for emphasising pronouns.

1. My brother considers himself the best student in the class. R
2. I hurt on a sharp rock.
3. My sister understands Urdu though I do not.
4. They mended the roof
5. You and your sister must solve the problem
6. We must prepare for a long wait.
7. All the prize-winners thought lucky.
8. You and I should teach to cook.
9. Ms Ravi could not play the piano better.
10. Don't oppose the plan, Nitesh. You suggested it, after all.

C Rewrite these sentences using personal pronouns instead of the highlighted words.

1. My father asked me to wash my hands.

He asked me to wash my hands.

2. The bicycle was damaged in an accident.

.....

3. His sisters are very hardworking.

.....

4. My aunt and I are going to Hyderabad.

.....

5. Peter and you should work harder.

.....

6. This work is difficult. The boys have not been taught how to do this work.

.....

7. My mother is on her way to the office.

.....

8. When is Sara leaving school?

.....



D Write a sentence each for these possessive pronouns.

1. mine That bicycle is mine.

2. yours

3. his

4. hers

5. ours

6. theirs

E Complete these sentences with suitable indefinite pronouns.

1. Shall we start for the picnic? Is everyone ready?

2. Have we got we need for the picnic?

3. The computer has broken down. Is there here who can repair it?

4. There is more beautiful than modern art.
The only problem is that I don't understand it.

5. Is there else you need or will that be all?

6. told me that I would find him here.

7. It's, I assure you I'm fine.

8. She said she needs to talk to us about



F Complete these sentences with suitable demonstrative or indefinite pronouns.

1. I don't want to buy this dress. Show me something else.

2. is more than I can eat. I won't be able to finish it.

3. Let's check again, just to be sure we haven't missed

4. When I went there, answered the door.
The house seemed empty. So, I left.

5. is exactly what I need.

6. won't fit you. They are a size too small.

7. I'm sure can direct me to Mr Sen's apartment.

8. Here, you can have, since you like them so much.



G Complete this passage using suitable pronouns.

"Can I do anything for you?" The receptionist asked the visitor;
only put the question not to a regular visitor, but to a thief!
"..... am sure can do for me, and
..... is to keep mouth shut. may ring
for the police after am through with job."

DIY Exercise

Read these tongue-twisters aloud. Now, write three of your own tongue-twisters using different pronouns suitably. Remember to choose words that are tricky to pronounce together. Read them aloud with a friend and have some fun.

1. She sells seashells on the seashore.
2. You will see sheep if you peep in the hold of the sheep ship.
3. So this is a thin stick, that is a thick brick.
4.
.....
5.
.....
6.
.....