

ENGLISH : GRAMMAR –1 : the noun

The Noun

Definition: A **noun** is a word that names a person, place, thing, or idea.

1- Concrete nouns name people, places, or things that you can touch, see, hear, smell, or taste.

Person	Place	Thing
<i>man</i>	<i>river</i>	<i>dog</i>
<i>Mrs. Jones</i>	<i>Paris</i>	<i>book</i>
<i>doctor</i>	<i>mountains</i>	<i>sports car</i>
<i>Maddie</i>	<i>home</i>	<i>Ferrari</i>

2- Abstract nouns name ideas, concepts, or emotions. These nouns are intangible, which means you cannot touch, see, hear, smell, or taste them using your five senses.

Idea	Emotion
<i>love</i>	<i>happiness</i>
<i>intelligence</i>	<i>anger</i>
<i>justice</i>	<i>excitement</i>
<i>religion</i>	<i>fear</i>
<i>time</i>	<i>surprise</i>

3- Common and proper nouns

Definition: **Common nouns** name any person, place, thing, or idea. They are not capitalized unless they come at the beginning of a sentence. **Proper nouns** are the names of specific people, places, things, or ideas. Proper nouns should always be capitalized.

Common	Proper
<i>boy</i>	⇒ <i>James</i>
<i>river</i>	⇒ <i>Mississippi River</i>
<i>car</i>	⇒ <i>Ford</i>
<i>doctor</i>	⇒ <i>Doctor Jefferson</i>
<i>town</i>	⇒ <i>Rockledge</i>
<i>candy bar</i>	⇒ <i>Baby Ruth</i>

Hint:

Don't forget to capitalize all parts of proper nouns. Many people forget to capitalize words like *river* and *county* in proper nouns like *Yellow River* and *Orange County*.

4- Singular and plural nouns :

Definition: **Singular** means only one. **Plural** means more than one.

In order to make a noun plural, it is usually only necessary to add *s*. However, there are many irregular nouns that add *es*. The rules for spelling plural nouns are based on the letters at the end of the word. The chart below breaks up the rules into categories so that they are easier to remember.

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Rule	Examples
Most nouns	Add <i>s</i> to form the plural. <i>cat</i> ⇒ <i>cat<u>s</u></i> <i>truck</i> ⇒ <i>truck<u>s</u></i> <i>bug</i> ⇒ <i>bug<u>s</u></i>
Nouns that end in <i>s, sh, x, ch, or z</i>	Add <i>es</i> to form the plural. For words that end in <i>z</i> , add an extra <i>z</i> before the <i>es</i> . Hint: It is too hard to pronounce the words without the <i>e</i> . Try it – buss, brushes, foxs... You sound like a snake!
Nouns ending in <i>f</i> or <i>fe</i>	Some nouns ending in <i>f</i> or <i>fe</i> just add <i>s</i> . Sometimes it is necessary to change the <i>f</i> to a <i>v</i> . In that case, always end the word with <i>es</i> . Hint: Check a dictionary if you are unsure which rule a noun follows.