

A noun is a word that names a person, animal, place or thing.

A 'thing' may include anything we can think of—any idea, state, quality, action, feeling, etc.

In short, we can say a noun is a naming word; it is the name of anything.

## Kinds of Nouns

There are five kinds of nouns:

- I. Common Noun 2. Proper Noun 3. Collective Noun
- 4. Material Noun 5. Abstract Noun

### Common Noun

A common noun is the name common to every person or thing of the same class, kind or group.

The words **boy**, **city**, **book**, **river** are all **common nouns**. Each of the words is shared by all of its kind. A *boy* is the common name of all the boys.

### Proper Noun

A proper noun is the name of a particular person or thing.

- Anil is my brother. (Particular name of a boy)
- New Delhi is the capital of India. (Particular name of a city)
- The Gita is a sacred book. (Particular name of a book)
- The Ganga is an important river. (Particular name of a river)

The words Anil, New Delhi, Gita, Ganga are all proper nouns.

A proper noun always begins with a capital letter.

# **Collective Noun**

A collective noun is the name of a collection of persons or things grouped together as one whole.

Words like army, crowd, fleet, bunch are collective nouns.

- A collection of soldiers is called army.
- A collection of people is called crowd.
- A collection of ships is called *fleet*.
- A collection of keys or grapes is called bunch.



#### Material Noun

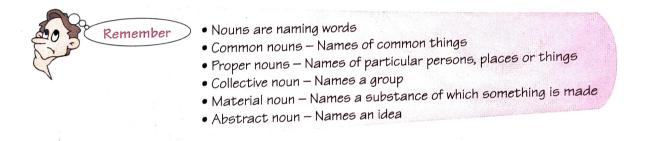
A material noun is the name given to a material or substance of which things are made.

The words like iron, glass, wood, cotton are material nouns

- Iron is required to build a ship.
- This almirah is made of teak wood.
- Cotton is used for making clothes.

#### Abstract Noun

An abstract noun is the name of some quality, state, action, idea, feeling, etc., which we can only think of or feel but cannot touch. Qualities like kindness, honesty, bravery or action like smile, theft, judgement or state like childhood, slavery, sickness, love, pain or idea like democracy, monarchy, communism are abstract nouns. We can realise or think of what beauty, bravery, judgement, love or pain is but we cannot touch it. None of them has any physical form.



Here is how we can change common nouns, adjectives and verbs into abstract nouns.

The following chart shows how abstract nouns are formed from common nouns, adjectives and verbs.

Noun	Abstract Noun	Adjectives	Abstract Noun
Common Noun	friendship	long	length
friend		young	youth
king	kingdom	cruel	cruelty
boy	boyhood	true	truth
hero	heroism	strong	strength
author	authorship	happy	happiness
patriot	patriotism		poverty
pilgrim	pilgrimage	poor	



, Verbs	Abstract Noun	Verbs	Abstract Noun
laugh	laughter	defend	defence
obey	obedience	think	thought
excel	excellence	see	sight
know	knowledge	advise	advice
choose	choice	punish	punishment
move	movement	free	freedom
depart	departure	judge	judgement
discover	discovery	succeed	success

## EXERCISES

Pick out the noun in each of the following sentences and write its kind next to each. One has been done for you.

I. My father is known for his strictness. Abstract noun Common noun 2. A crowd of children entered the hall. common collective 3. Happiness is something that all people like to have. abstract common 4. Now, tell the teacher the whole truth. abstract common 5. The postman brings us letters. 6. Queen Elizabeth II is the queen of Britain, property Proper common 7. Sweets are mostly made of milk. material common 8. We shall admire kindness and not cruelty. abstract 9. Ramesh went to Agra to see the Taj Mahal. croper Proper roper



Fill in the blanks by choosing the right words from the box.



sticks pupils ships sheep army herd library crowd

The word *flock* stands for a collection of <u>sheep</u>.....
The word <u>counce</u>... stands for a collection of <u>people</u>.
The word <u>fleet</u> stands for a collection of <u>...ships</u>....
The word <u>...Mend</u>... stands for a collection of cattle.
The word <u>bundle</u> stands for a collection of <u>...ships</u>....
The word <u>bundle</u> stands for a collection of <u>...ships</u>....
The word <u>bundle</u> stands for a collection of <u>...ships</u>....
The word <u>bundle</u> stands for a collection of <u>...ships</u>....
The word <u>class</u> stands for a collection of <u>...pupils</u>...



Make the abstract nouns from the following:

e.g. kind – kindness

Adjectives	Abstract Noun	Verlo	Abstract Noun	Common Noun	Abstract Noun
wise	wisdom.	correct	correct	mother	motherhood
beautiful	heauty	believe	belief	coward	cowardice
good	goodness	live	life	thief	threvery
healthy	health	think	though	hero	heroism



Complete each sentence by choosing the word from the box.

glass iron wood wool nylon rubber

- 4. They need .....glass. to make bottles.
- 5. My shirt is made of .....nylen
- 6. I want  $.. w \underline{0.00}$  to make this table.



Fill in the blanks with common nouns given in the box.

pan guitar nestling swan cricket doe submarine trousers

- I. a sport
- 2. a vessel for frying
- 3. a musical instrument
- 4. a female deer
- 5. a baby bird
- 6. a dress
- 7. a water bird
- 8. a type of ship

cricket pan

guetar dee

nestling

Trousers

Swan

submarine