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Grade 8 Term 3

English Summary

Common and proper nouns

The difference between a common noun and a proper noun is what type of thing they are referring to. Common nouns refer to generic things while proper nouns refer to specific things. For example, the noun *country* is a common noun because it refers to a general, non-specific place. On the other hand, the noun *Spain* is a proper noun because it refers to a specific country located in Europe (another proper noun). Grammatically, there is one main difference between common and proper nouns: proper nouns are always capitalized whereas common nouns are only capitalized in very specific situations.

➤ Common nouns

As has been said, common nouns refer to generic people, places, and things...
Common nouns can refer to people, places, things, and ideas.

- **People:** man, woman, child, cop, criminal, butcher, baker, neighbour, friend, enemy, person, stranger, judge, jury, executioner, knights, bishops, kings, queens
- **Places:** city, town, country, neighbourhoods, islands, beaches, province, state, outside, upstairs, basement, hallway, lobby, rooms, alleys, campsites
- **Things:** guitar, drums, apples, oranges, snow, rain, ice, fire, dirt, cars, trucks, knee, elbows, food, water, sky, stars, day, weeks, month, years
- **Ideas, emotions, concepts:** happiness, sadness, fear, courage, questions, answers, government, chaos, hunger, confusion, doubt, loneliness, friendship, science

➤ Proper nouns

Proper nouns can also refer to people, places, things, and ideas. However, proper nouns refer to more specific people and things.

- **People:** Harriet Tubman, King Richard the Lionheart, Miles Davis, Emily Dickinson, Helen of Troy, Superman, Lady Gaga, Captain Crunch
- **Places:** New York City, Moscow, Cairo, Portugal, Zimbabwe, Peru, Europe, Asia, Australia, Main Street, Rocky Mountains, Colorado River, Sahara Desert
- **Things:** Jupiter, Google, Twitter, Kawasaki Ninja, PlayStation 5, *Star Wars*, Band-Aids, *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, Apollo 13, Great Wall of China
- **Ideas and Concepts:** Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Romanticism, Cubism, Industrial Revolution, Dark Ages, Monday, November

Preposition

A preposition is a word used to link nouns, pronouns, or phrases to other words within a sentence.

Prepositions are usually short words, and they are normally placed directly in front of nouns.

Examples:

- ✦ I prefer to read in the library.
- ✦ He climbed up the ladder to get into the attic.
- ✦ Please sign your name on the dotted line after you read the contract.
- ✦ Go down the stairs and through the door.
- ✦ He swam across the pool.
- ✦ Take your brother with you.

Types of prepositions

Prepositions show the relationships between things usually in terms of place, time and movement.

- Prepositions of movement:
show motion or movement to or from a place.

Examples:

- ✦ Down
- ✦ Along
- ✦ out of
- ✦ through
- ✦ up
- ✦ over
- ✦ under

- Prepositions of place:
show where one thing is in relation to another - position.

Examples:

- ✦ Under
- ✦ on top of
- ✦ next to
- ✦ behind
- ✦ in

- Prepositions of time:
show when something takes place.

Examples:

- ↗ at
- ↗ on
- ↗ in
- ↗ during
- ↗ since
- ↗ next

Tenses

Tenses are used in our everyday written and spoken language.

Tenses tell us whether actions happened in the past, are happening or happen now, or will happen.

Past tense:

- ↗ Teddy drove to school daily.
- ↗ Jane baked the cupcakes for the party.
- ↗ Mack, Jenny, and Javier walked their dog.
- ↗ I have looked for the lost ball.
- ↗ He found his cap under the bed.

Present tense:

- ↗ Monica eats sweets all day.
- ↗ Eva likes dark chocolate.
- ↗ Tess plays netball.
- ↗ It rains here almost every day.
- ↗ Sally plants flowers in the garden.

The simple future tense is used to express something which will happen or something which will be true in the future.

One way to form this tense is to use: “will” + the simple present tense form of the verb.

We use “will” or “shall” when the subject is volunteering to do something in the future or deciding to do something in the future while speaking.

Examples:

1. We (clean) the room every day. (will)
We will clean the room every day.

2. They (mop) the floor. (shall)
They shall mop the floor.
3. The house is dirty. I (clean) it on Monday. (will)
The house is dirty. I will clean it on Monday.
4. I (ask) the teacher for extra work. (shall)
I shall ask the teacher for extra work.
5. We (carry) the groceries to the car. (will)
We will carry the groceries to the car.
6. I (ride) by bus to school. (shall)
I shall ride by bus to school.
7. I (buy) doughnuts for breakfast. (will)
I will buy doughnuts for breakfast.

Proverbs

An English proverb is a short, pithy statement that usually offers life advice, wisdom, or a truth.

- The apple doesn't fall far from the tree.
 - Meaning: Children tend to resemble their parents in appearance and behavior.
- All that glitters is not gold.
 - Meaning: Something that appears valuable or true may not be.
- A picture is worth a thousand words.
 - Meaning: Artwork or images can convey meanings that go beyond verbal description.
- Beggars can't be choosers.
 - Meaning: People who depend on the generosity of others must be content with what is offered to them.
- A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.
 - Meaning: What you already have in hand is better than what you might get.
- An apple a day keeps the doctor away.
 - Meaning: If you eat healthily, you will be healthy.
- Better safe than sorry.
 - Meaning: It is better to be precautionary than to have regrets later on.
- Blood is thicker than water.
 - Meaning: Relationships between family members are the strongest of all.
- When in Rome, do as the Romans do.
 - Meaning: When you visit a new place, leave all judgments behind and embrace the local ways of life.
- Don't count your chickens before they hatch.
 - Meaning: Don't make plans based on events that haven't happened.

Idiomatic expressions

An idiom is a phrase that, when taken as a whole, has a meaning you wouldn't be able to deduce from the meanings of the individual words.

4 types of idioms:

↪ **Pure idiom**

This is your typical idiom, the meaning of which can't be deduced by its individual components. When someone says, "Spill the beans," they're asking someone to reveal a secret, not to pour out a can of beans. But you wouldn't know that by looking at each word of that phrase.

↪ **Binomial idiom**

This idiom is a phrase that contains two words joined by a conjunction or a preposition. Some examples include "by and large" (everything considered), "dos and don'ts" (guidelines on what to do and/or avoid in a certain situation), and "heart-to-heart" (a candid conversation between two people).

↪ **Partial idiom**

This idiom is one that's been shortened into one part, with the second part generally being understood by fluent speakers. People often use the partial idiom "when in Rome," with the understanding that the other person knows the second part: "do as the Romans do."

↪ **Prepositional idiom**

This idiom is a phrase that combines a verb and a preposition to create a verb with a distinct meaning. The phrase "agree on" is a prepositional idiom that combines the verb "agree" with the preposition "on" and is used to express that you share an opinion with someone.

Examples:

- ↪ Under the weather
Meaning: Not feeling well
- ↪ Break a leg
Meaning: To wish someone good luck
- ↪ Once in a blue moon
Meaning: Rarely
- ↪ The ball is in your court
Meaning: A decision is up to you
- ↪ You can say that again
Meaning: That is true
- ↪ Beat around the bush
Meaning: To avoid saying something
- ↪ Hit the sack

Meaning: To go to bed

- ✦ Kick the bucket

Meaning: To die

- ✦ By the skin of your teeth

Meaning: Barely made it

Adjectival and adverbial clauses

- Adjectives are words that modify and describe nouns, and nouns are words that name things or persons. For example, red, happy, and affluent are examples of adjectives that modify different nouns.

- ✦ A **red** jacket

Red is an adjective that modifies the noun jacket.

- ✦ An **affluent** mother

Affluent is an adjective that describes the noun mother.

- ✦ A **happy** puppy

Happy is an adjective that modifies the noun puppy.

Examples:

- ✦ Let's eat at the pizzeria **next to the grocery store**.
- ✦ The dog **with the red scarf** belongs to my brother.

- Adverbs, on the other hand, modify verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs.

Examples:

- ✦ Omar has a **really** happy puppy.
- ✦ Jamal **slowly** walked to the door.
- ✦ Joseph picked up the phone **really** quickly.

Synonyms

A synonym is a word/phrase, the meaning of which is the same or nearly the same as another word or phrase. Words that are synonyms are described as synonymous.

Examples:

- ✦ Artful – Crafty
- ✦ Ballot – Poll
- ✦ Chorus – Refrain
- ✦ Deceptive – Misleading
- ✦ Enormous – Immense

Antonyms

An antonym is a word/phrase that means the opposite of another word or phrase. Check the examples.

Examples:

- ↗ Admire – Detest
- ↗ Bravery – Cowardice
- ↗ Crooked – Straight
- ↗ Dainty – Clumsy
- ↗ Economise – Waste

Homonyms

Homonyms are words that sound alike and have different meanings. They either sound the same or are spelt the same, but their meanings are different.

Examples:

- ↗ Address – location/ to speak to
- ↗ Bark – the sound of dogs/ tree's outer layer
- ↗ Band – a ring/ a musical group
- ↗ Arm - body part/ division of a company
- ↗ Bat - an implement used to hit a ball/ a nocturnal flying mammal
- ↗ Bright - very smart or intelligent/ filled with light
- ↗ Circular - taking the form of a circle/ a store advertisement
- ↗ Current - up to date/ flow of water
- ↗ Kind - a type of something/ caring
- ↗ Match - to pair like items/ a stick for making a flame

Punctuation:

❖ Ellipses

The three ellipses dots indicate that a sentence is incomplete or that something has been omitted.

Examples:

- ↗ He walked to the edge of the cliff and ...
- ↗ You'd better give back my money or else...

❖ Question mark

A question mark, also known as an interrogation point or interrogation mark, is a punctuation mark that is used to indicate that a sentence is a question.

- ✦ How are you?
- ✦ Is the test on Friday?
- ✦ She asked me, "Where is the storage closet?"
- ✦ The train comes when?
- ✦ Where is the bathroom?
- ✦ Are you home?
- ✦ Why did you stop here?
- ✦ How did you do that?
- ✦ What colour is the shirt?
- ✦ When will you arrive?

❖ **Exclamation mark**

An exclamation mark, also known as the exclamation point, is a punctuation sign that is used to indicate strong emotions and feelings. It is used in exclamatory sentences and with interjections.

Using an Exclamation Mark in Exclamatory Sentences

- ✦ How careless can you be!
- ✦ What an amazing life!
- ✦ That is really wonderful!

Using an Exclamation Mark at the End of an Interjection

- ✦ Wow! That is great news.
- ✦ Oh! I am so sorry.
- ✦ Alas! That is really bad. What are you going to do about it?

Using an Exclamation Mark in Direct Speech

- ✦ Sam said, "I love this movie!"
- ✦ What nerve she has to say, "You are rude"!
- ✦ The team shouted together, "Whoa! We finally did it."

Using an Exclamation Mark at the End of Phrases/Individual Words

- ✦ Careful! Will you?
- ✦ What a day!
- ✦ Get out! You have pulled the last straw.

❖ **Full Stop**

A full stop, also known as a period, is chiefly used to end a sentence. It is mostly used at the end of declarative sentences and imperative sentences. A full stop marks a longer pause than a comma and a semicolon. Furthermore, it marks the end of a thought and the beginning of another.

A full stop is used

- ✦ To mark the end of a sentence, primarily
- ✦ To mark the end of commands, instructions, orders and requests
- ✦ After short forms and abbreviations
- ✦ After an initial
- ✦ At the end of a sentence containing an indirect question
- ✦ In website URLs and email addresses

Using a Full Stop at the End of a Declarative/Assertive Sentence

- ✦ Today is the last working day for us.
- ✦ Cathy is a teacher.
- ✦ No one is ready yet.
- ✦ She likes listening to music.
- ✦ We will be dancing at my cousin's reception.

Using a Full Stop at the End of an Imperative Sentence

- ✦ Please send the materials as soon as possible.
- ✦ Turn off the lights and fans when you leave the room.
- ✦ Kindly see to it that you do not leave any column empty.
- ✦ Turn left after the junction.
- ✦ Eat quickly and leave.

Using a Full Stop after Abbreviations or Short Forms

- ✦ I had to buy pencils, pens, erasers, notebooks, etc.
- ✦ Mr. Dennis and Ms. Sheena will be the guests for the evening.
- ✦ We will be reaching Bangalore around 9 p. m.
- ✦ Prof. Neelaveni is our H.O.D.
- ✦ St. Francis of Assisi was known for his missionary work in India.

Using a Full Stop after Initials

- ✦ M. Kumaran is the manager.
- ✦ D. H. Lawrence was known for the imagery in his poetry.
- ✦ Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam was one of the best presidents of India.
- ✦ C. S. Lewis was a British writer.
- ✦ T. J. Matthew had come to meet you.

Using a Full Stop at the End of an Indirect Question

- ✦ The teacher asked us if we were ready for the theoretical geometry test.
- ✦ Usha asked Danny if he knew anything about the new educational policy.
- ✦ I wonder what is taking them so much time.
- ✦ They wanted to know if it would be okay for us to meet them at a club.
- ✦ My father asked me what time it was.

Using a Full Stop in Website URLs and Email Addresses

Multiple full stops are used in website URLs and email addresses. For example, `www.byjus.com`, `name.123@example.com`.

❖ Comma

Used to separate items on a list.

Example

➤ Dad bought pens, books, erasers and glue.
(there is no comma before and)

Shows additional information.

Example

➤ Ronaldo, the famous soccer player, scored the winning goal.
(brackets or dashes can also be used to show additional information)

Placed before and after certain conjunctions.

Example

- He went to town, but forgot to buy his shoes.
- Nevertheless, she will make up for her mistake.

Used after introductory words in direct speech.

Example

- Bill said, "I will meet her."
- Joanne asked, "Can I come with?"

Used to separate repeated words in a sentence.

Example

- Whatever you want to say, say it now.

Adverbs of place and frequency

❖ Adverbs of Place

Adverbs that change or qualify the meaning of a sentence by telling us where things happen are defined as adverbs of place.

- An adverb of place always talks about the location where the action of the verb is being carried out.
- Adverbs of place are normally placed after a sentence's object or main verb.
- Adverbs of place can be directional. For example: Up, down, around, away, north, southeast
- Adverbs of place can refer to distances. For example: Nearby, far away, miles apart
- An adverb of place can indicate an object's position in relation to another object. For example: Below, between, above, behind, through, around and so forth.

- Many adverbs of place indicate movement in a particular direction and end in the letters “-ward or -wards”. For example: Toward, forward, backward, homeward, westward, eastwards onwards

Examples:

- John looked **around** but he couldn't see the monkey.
- I searched **everywhere** I could think of.
- I'm going **back** to school.
- Come **in**!
- What are you doing **up there**?
- Come **over here** and look at what I found!
- **Here** comes the bus!
- **There** goes the bell!
- **There** it is!
- **Here** they are!

❖ Adverbs of Frequency

An adverb of frequency is a word that is employed in a sentence to give more information about the verb, adjective or another adverb. Adverbs of frequency can be placed after the noun or pronoun that acts as the subject and before the verb if there is just one verb in a sentence. If there is more than one verb in a sentence (e.g., auxiliary verb), the adverb of frequency can be positioned before the main verb.

Examples:

- Ashish **often** likes to have food from hotels.
- Wiley **always** buys groceries from the supermarket.
- The teachers have been instructed to take attendance **every hour**.
- **Everyday**, the hospitals see a huge inflow of accident casualties.
- We **never** like to have litchi juice from any other store.

Question forms

4 Types of questions in English

❖ General or Yes/No Questions

Common questions that can be answered with a simple “yes” or “no” are logically called yes/no questions.

As a rule, this kind of question relates to the whole sentence, and not to a separate element of it.

Examples:

- ↪ Do you like this country?
- ↪ Does Jane know about your new job?
- ↪ Can I call my sister?
- ↪ Is it cold outside?
- ↪ Are they ready for the trip?
- ↪ Are you hungry?

To ask such general questions, the appropriate rising intonation should be used at the end of the sentence.

The answer can be a brief “yes” or “no.” Or, a longer answer can be given: “Yes, I do.” “No, I don’t like this country.” The response to a question depends on the verb used.

Try to remember this formula: answer the question the way it was asked.

If the question begins with a form of the verb “to be” – am, is, are – then answer “Yes, I am/he is/they are,” or “No, I am not/he isn’t/they aren’t.”

It is similar to auxiliary verbs (do/does, did, will, have/has):

- ↪ Did she clean the room? – Yes, she did/No, she didn’t.
- ↪ Have you done your homework? – Yes, I have/ No, I haven’t.
- ↪ Will you buy that dress? – Yes, I will/ No, I won’t.

❖ Special or Wh-Questions

A special question, as you can guess, uses a certain word at the beginning of the sentence to ask a specific question. The questions words who, what, where, when, why, how, how many, etc., are used to begin the question:

- ↪ Where is he from?
- ↪ When did you come here?
- ↪ How did you meet her?
- ↪ How many eggs do we need for this cake?
- ↪ Whose children are playing in the yard?

Note that questions about a subject (who? what?) have their own special structure; they do not require an auxiliary verb, we replace the subject with the question word.

Examples:

- ↪ We go to the cinema. – Who goes to the cinema?
- ↪ The glass is on the table. – What is on the table?
- ↪ Most girls here wear skirts. – Who wears skirts here?

You can see that after the question words who and what, the third-person singular form of the verb should be used.

We use special questions to get specific information. This implies that the answer will be more detailed.

You can find even more information on this topic in our article on basic small talk questions.

❖ **Choice Questions**

Choice questions are questions that offer a choice of several options as an answer (you might recognize them from your exams as multiple-choice questions). They are made up of two parts, which are connected by the conjunction or.

Choice questions can be either general, open-ended questions or more specific ones. If the question does not center on the subject of the sentence, a complete answer is needed.

Examples:

- ✦ Does she like ice cream or sweets? – She likes ice cream.
- ✦ Where would you go, to the cinema or the theatre? – I would go to the cinema.
- ✦ Is he a teacher or a student? – He is a student.

However, when the question concerns the subject, the auxiliary verb comes before the second option. The answer is short:

- ✦ Does she make it or do you? – She does.
- ✦ Did they buy that house or did she? – They did.

❖ **Disjunctive or Tag Questions**

This type of question is also made up of two parts, where the first part is a positive statement, and the second part is negative, or vice-versa.

The first part of the sentence defines the expected answer. If the statement is positive, a positive answer is expected; if the statement is negative, a negative answer is expected.

Examples:

- ✦ She sent him an invitation, didn't she? – Yes, she did.
- ✦ You aren't getting married, are you? – No, I am not.
- ✦ Jane isn't in France, is she? – No, she isn't.
- ✦ Our dad will come soon, won't he? – Yes, he will.
- ✦ There are also exceptions:
- ✦ I am going with you, aren't I? – Yes, you are.

You can't say, "I am a great person, am I not?" That would be incorrect. Just remember that when the pronoun "I" is used, the tag is are/aren't.

Tag questions are only used in conversational speech to clarify information or to confirm or refute something if there are doubts.

You can find more materials on this and other types of questions by reading our article on conversation questions to sharpen your skills and catch native speaker's attention.

Euphemisms

The term 'euphemism' refers to those words or a phrase that can be used to convey something unpleasant, sad or considered taboo. It is the art of communicating something in a less annoying and much lighter tone or in an indirect manner.

- ✦ His great-grandfather **passed away** last week.
- ✦ It is so unfortunate that we have to **let you go**.
- ✦ Sandra seems to be **between jobs**.
- ✦ The **collateral damage** that resulted from the war was saddening.
- ✦ We have a **differently-abled** man working as security.
- ✦ We got to know that the family was **on the streets**, and so we are trying to help them in every way possible.
- ✦ Shankar belongs to a **well-to-do** family.
- ✦ The company has been facing **negative cash flow** for the past few years.
- ✦ Devan's grandmother seems to be enjoying her **golden years** happily and peacefully.
- ✦ Rory was planning to go over to her parents' house to break the news of the **bun in the oven**.

Figurative and literal meaning

Literal language is used to mean exactly what is written. It is the dictionary meaning of the words that are used. This is referred to as denotation.

For example: "It was raining heavily, so I took the bus home."

In this example of literal language, the writer means to explain exactly what is written: that he or she chose to take the bus home because of the heavy rain.

Figurative language is used to mean something other than what is written, something symbolic, suggested, or implied. This is referred to as connotation. Poets often used figurative language to give multiple possible meanings to their poems.

For example: It was raining cats and dogs, so I rode the bus.

- In this example of figurative language, cats and dogs were really not falling from rain clouds, instead, the rain felt so heavy and large that it was almost as if small animals were falling from the sky!

Pun

A pun, also known as paronomasia, is a form of word play that exploits multiple meanings of a term, or of similar-sounding words, for an intended humorous or rhetorical effect.

Types of puns:

- **Homophonic**

A homophonic pun is one that uses word pairs which sound alike (homophones) but are not synonymous. Walter Redfern summarized this type with his statement, "To pun is to treat homonyms as synonyms." For example, in George Carlin's phrase "atheism is a non-prophet institution", the word prophet is put in place of its homophone profit, altering the common phrase "non-profit institution".

- **Homographic**

A homographic pun exploits words that are spelled the same (homographs) but possess different meanings and sounds. Because of their origin, they rely on sight more than hearing, contrary to homophonic puns. They are also known as heteronymic puns. Examples in which the punned words typically exist in two different parts of speech often rely on unusual sentence construction, as in the anecdote: "When asked to explain his large number of children, the pig answered simply: 'The wild oats of my sow gave us many piglets.'" An example that combines homophonic and homographic punning is Douglas Adams's line "You can tune a guitar, but you can't tuna fish. Unless of course, you play bass." The phrase uses the homophonic qualities of tune a and tuna, as well as the homographic pun on bass, in which ambiguity is reached through the identical spellings of /beɪs/ (a string instrument), and /bæs/ (a kind of fish). Homographic puns do not necessarily need to follow grammatical rules and often do not make sense when interpreted outside the context of the pun.

- **Homonymic**

Homonymic puns, another common type, arise from the exploitation of words that are both homographs and homophones. The statement "Being in politics is just like playing golf: you are trapped in one bad lie after another" puns on the two meanings of the word lie as "a deliberate untruth" and as "the position in which something rests". An adaptation of a joke repeated by Isaac Asimov gives us "Did you hear about the little moron who strained himself while running into the screen door?" playing on strained as "to give much effort" and "to filter".

- **Compounded**

A compound pun is a statement that contains two or more puns. In this case, the wordplay cannot go into effect by utilizing the separate words or phrases of the puns that make up the entire statement. For example, a complex statement by Richard Whately includes four

puns: "Why can a man never starve in the Great Desert? Because he can eat the sand which is there. But what brought the sandwiches there? Why, Noah sent Ham, and his descendants mustered and bred." [8] This pun uses sand which is there/sandwiches there, Ham/ham, mustered/mustard, and bred/bread.

➤ **Recursive**

A recursive pun is one in which the second aspect of a pun relies on the understanding of an element in the first. For example, the statement " π is only half a pie." (π radians is 180 degrees, or half a circle, and a pie is a complete circle). Another example is "Infinity is not in finity", which means infinity is not in finite range.

➤ **Visual**

148th Fighter Squadron emblem, a visual pun in which the squadron's motto, "Kickin' Ass", is depicted literally as an ass in the act of kicking even though "kicking ass" is a colloquial expression for winning decisively or being impressive.

Visual puns are sometimes used in logos, emblems, insignia, and other graphic symbols, in which one or more of the pun aspects is replaced by a picture. In European heraldry, this technique is called canting arms. Visual and other puns and word games are also common in Dutch gable stones as well as in some cartoons, such as Lost Consonants and The Far Side.

Abbreviations

There are a few ways abbreviations can be made: you can use only the first few letters, and omit the rest, like in cont. instead of continued or Dec. instead of December. Sometimes the middle of the word is omitted instead, like when using Mr. in place of mister. What you may have noticed with these examples is that even though the word is shortened, there's no change in how it's pronounced.

Examples:

- ↗ Ave. (Avenue)
- ↗ Etc. (Etcetera)
- ↗ St. (Street)
- ↗ Atty. (Attorney)
- ↗ Govt. (Government)

Singular and plural

Singular Number

Singular number is the form of nouns that denotes one person, place, thing.

Examples:

- ↪ Girl
- ↪ Brother
- ↪ Sister
- ↪ Mother
- ↪ Carpenter
- ↪ Man
- ↪ Snake
- ↪ Box
- ↪ Knife
- ↪ Cow

Plural Number

Plural Number is the form of nouns that refers to more than one person, place or thing.

Examples:

- Girls
- Brothers
- Sisters
- Mothers
- Carpenters
- Men
- Snakes
- Boxes
- Knives
- Cows

Types of Plurals:

Regular Plurals

In order to change singular noun into plural form, we usually add 's'. The words which take 's' in plural form they are called regular plurals.

- ↪ Book- Books
- ↪ Table- Tables
- ↪ Pen – Pens
- ↪ Cow – Cows
- ↪ Girl- Girls

- ↪ Ball- Balls

Irregular Plurals

There are many nouns which don't follow the simple rule. They are called irregular plurals.

- ↪ Sheep – Sheep
- ↪ Foot- Feet
- ↪ Child – Children
- ↪ Woman – Women
- ↪ Person – People
- ↪ Mouse – Mice

Past Continuous Tense

Verbs refer to actions or states of being. We use lots of verbs, and they come in many different types of verb tenses. The tense of the verb says when in time something happened or when it was in a certain state. Right now, we are going to look closer at an especially versatile verb tense: the past continuous tense, also known as the past progressive tense.

- ↪ They **were playing** basketball after school.
- ↪ He **was eating** food.
- ↪ She **wasn't watching** the movie.
- ↪ They **were going** to the library.
- ↪ He **was doing** a great job.
- ↪ I **was not writing** a letter.
- ↪ My television **wasn't working** properly.
- ↪ We **were celebrating** a festival.
- ↪ The teacher **was teaching** in a class.
- ↪ The dog **was barking** at a man.

Gender

Masculine: words denoting male Feminine: words denoting female

➤ Gender for people:

Masculine

actor
bachelor
boy
bridegroom
brother
conductor
count

Feminine

actress
spinster
girl
bride
sister
conductress
countess

dad

mum

➤ Gender for animals:

Animal	Masculine	Feminine
rabbit	buck	doe
horse	stallion	mare
sheep	ram	ewe
pig	boar	sow
chicken	rooster	hen
duck	drake	duck
cattle	bull	cow
goose	gander	goose
fox	fox	vixen
tiger	tiger	tigress
lion	lion	lioness

Diminutives

A diminutive form (abbreviated dim) is a word-formation device used to express such meanings. In many languages, diminutives are word forms that are formed from the root word by affixation. In most languages, diminutives can also be formed as multi-word constructions such as "Tiny Tim", or "Little Dorrit". Diminutives are often employed as nicknames and pet names when speaking to small children and when expressing extreme tenderness and intimacy to an adult.

Examples:

- Charlie from Charles
- Chuck from Charles
- darling from dear
- duckling from duck
- ringlet from ring
- doggie from dog

Direct and reported speech

- Direct speech repeats the exact words the person used, or how we remember their words.
- Indirect speech focuses more on the content of what someone said rather than their exact words.

Examples:

- Direct speech- Maya said 'I am busy now'.
- Indirect speech- Maya said that she was busy then.
- Direct- She said, 'I am happy'.
- Indirect- She said (that) she was happy.
- Direct- He said, 'We cannot live without air'.
- Indirect- He said that we cannot live without air
- Direct- She says/will say, 'I am going'
- Indirect- She says/will say she is going.
- Direct- "I am playing the guitar", she explained.
- Indirect- She explained that she was playing the guitar.

Fact and opinion

❖ **Fact:**

A fact is a statement that can be verified. It can be proven to be true or false through objective evidence.

Examples:

- Dogs have fur.
- The Beatles were a band.
- The last day of school is May 22nd.

❖ **Opinion**

An opinion is a statement that expresses a feeling, an attitude, a value judgment, or a belief. It is a statement that is neither true nor false. Or it may feel true for some, but false for others.

Examples:

- Dog fur is pretty.
- The Beatles sang great songs.
- May 22nd is the best day of the year.

Ambiguity

Something with ambiguity is unclear.

Think about the sentence, "Jill saw the man with binoculars." If you are wondering whether

Jill or the man had the binoculars, you are noticing the ambiguity, or the double meaning, of this sentence.

Examples:

- ↗ I went out in the woods and found a bat.
- ↗ Sam went for a walk with her friend in the red shirt.
- ↗ The result of the research ensures that young women and men are healthy.
- ↗ My sister saw bat.
- ↗ The boy carries the light box.
- ↗ I invited the person with the microphone.
- ↗ The turkey is ready to eat.