

Date Turned In: _____

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

persons: man, lawyer, Mr. Johnston, (an) American

places: home, post office, Mexico, bedroom

things: rock, pencil, mountain, rain

ideas: beauty, freedom, honesty, happiness

DIRECTIONS: Write **person, place, thing** or **idea** next to the sentence to tell what the noun names. Also, find one more noun in each sentence and put an “N” above it.

N

1. _____ Grandmother sat and rocked on the front porch.
2. _____ The whiteness of the snow was blinding.
3. _____ The park is a good place to relax.
4. _____ A tree fell and blocked the road.
5. _____ There are thousands of books in the library.
6. _____ The pilot brought the plane down safely.
7. _____ I found a thumbtack on the floor.
8. _____ Darkness came early at the campsite in the valley.
9. _____ A German won the car race.
10. _____ The snake scared the children.

EXERCISE 2

DIRECTIONS: Write each of these **nouns** under the correct category below. Some categories may have more nouns than others.

NOUNS

boy	honesty	turtle	Saturday	Mr. Vega
store	baby	typewriter	table	restroom
cat	Alabama	minute	uncle	bravery
Ms. Humphrey	bank	driver	Dallas	woman
peace	worm	Harvard	courtesy	airport
Canada	pie	virtue	nurse	

PERSON

PLACE

THING

IDEA

COMMON NOUNS AND PROPER NOUNS

There are *two* kinds of **nouns**: *Common Nouns* and *Proper Nouns*.

COMMON NOUN

The name of **any of a kind** of person, place, thing, or idea.

man	river	girl
city	peace	day

PROPER NOUN

The name of a **special** or **specific** person, place, or thing beginning with a capital letter.

Mr. Phillips	Betty	Tuesday
London	Mississippi River	July

EXERCISE 3

DIRECTIONS: Write **Common** or **Proper** next to each sentence to tell the kind of noun for the underlined word.

EXAMPLE: proper Liberace is a famous pianist.

- _____ The President and his family live in the White House.
- _____ My parents live in an old white house.
- _____ The ladder wasn't tall enough to reach the third floor.
- _____ New Orleans is an old and interesting city.
- _____ We rowed to the island in a small boat.
- _____ Mr. and Mrs. Tatum ate in the cafeteria last night.
- _____ The Sanchez family visited some friends in Mexico.
- _____ We went to church last Sunday morning.

EXERCISE 4

DIRECTIONS: Write a **common noun**, which fits the definition given, in each blank.

EXAMPLE: a fruit *banana*

COMMON NOUN

- | | | |
|----|----------------------|-------|
| 1. | a piece of furniture | _____ |
| 2. | a flower | _____ |
| 3. | something to read | _____ |
| 4. | a body of water | _____ |
| 5. | something you drive | _____ |
| 6. | a bird | _____ |
| 7. | something to drink | _____ |
| 8. | a pet | _____ |

EXERCISE 5

DIRECTIONS: Write a **proper noun** beginning with a capital letter in each blank. The proper noun must fit in the given category.

EXAMPLE: a woman's first name *Barbara*

PROPER NOUN

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------|-------|
| 1. | a state | _____ |
| 2. | a man's first name | _____ |
| 3. | a river | _____ |
| 4. | a country | _____ |
| 5. | a family name | _____ |
| 6. | a mountain or mountain range | _____ |
| 7. | a pet dog's name | _____ |
| 8. | a U.S. President | _____ |

PLURAL NOUNS—SPELLING RULES

- The **TWO BASIC SPELLING RULES** for plural nouns are:

Most nouns are made plural by adding “s” or “es” to the end of the noun.

Nouns that end in the following 5 letter or letter combinations.

Add -es to words that end in *ch*, *sh*, *s*, *ss*, and *x*.

A few other spelling rules which are exceptions to this will help you spell many plural nouns correctly. Here are a few basic rules that you will need to know:

- **Nouns that end in y**

Most nouns that end in y become plural by changing the y to i and adding -es. When the letter before the y is a consonant, follow this rule.

example: city -- cities

When the letter before the y is a vowel, just add -s to the singular noun.

example: monkey -- monkeys

- **Nouns ending in f or fe**

Many nouns that end in *f* or *fe* become plural by changing the f to v and adding -s or -es.

example: leaf -- leaves knife -- knives

- **Some nouns that end in o**

Some nouns ending in o become plural by adding -es.

example: hero heroes potato potatoes

Most nouns ending in o and referring to *music* become plural by adding -s.

example: piano -- pianos solo -- solos soprano -- sopranos

- **Irregular noun plurals**

A few nouns become plural by changing the letters within the word or in other irregular ways.

example: man -- men foot -- feet tooth -- teeth goose -- geese

The singular and plural forms of some nouns are the same.

example: one deer -- two deer one sheep -- many sheep

- **Numbers and letters**

Form the plural of numbers and letters by adding an apostrophe (') and -s.

example: I wrote some B's and D's on the lines.

SINGULAR AND PLURAL NOUNS

A **singular noun** is *one* person, place, thing, or idea.

A **plural noun** is *more than one* person, place, thing or idea.

Some examples:

singular nouns: horse, bank, freedom, cherry, sheep, church, mouse

plural nouns: horses, banks, freedoms, cherries, sheep, churches, mice

EXERCISE 6

DIRECTIONS: Write the **plural** for each singular noun using the rules on the previous page. *Use a dictionary to look up and confirm the plural spellings.*

EXAMPLE: truck trucks

sky skies

SINGULAR

PLURAL

1. button

2. porch

3. bass

4. shelf

5. ox

6. baby

7. tomato

8. goose

9. roof

10. journey

11. nurse

12. Chinese

13. secretary

14. bench

15. box

SINGULAR

PLURAL

16. tooth

17. cliff

18. day

19. airport

20. wish

21. child

22. foot

23. radio

24. sheep

25. half

26. actress

27. camera

28. country

29. potato

30. turkey

EXERCISE 7

DIRECTIONS: Change each of these singular nouns to a plural noun. Then, check your dictionary, as we did in class, to confirm that you have applied the rules correctly.

Singular Noun	Plural Noun	Singular Noun	Plural Noun
1. calf		7. spy	
2. journey		8. navy	
3. belief		9. wife	
4. watch		10. bush	
5. film		11. crowd	
6. hero		12. alto	

EXERCISE 8

DIRECTIONS: Locate the **nouns** in the following sentences and write "**noun**" above each one. You don't need to indicate whether the noun is proper or common. There are at least two nouns in each sentence. A word like "he" or "you" which refers to a person or persons is called a pronoun. Do **not** label these as nouns.

1. He put his hand into the jar.
2. The airplane took off from the airport.
3. On Saturday, we went to the mountains.
4. Frank closed the store.
5. The answer to the problem was correct.
6. Grandfather mailed his own letter.
7. She read a book and a magazine.
8. The children ate popsicles.
9. Harry fixed the fence.
10. The San Lorenzo River runs through Santa Cruz.

EXERCISE 9

DIRECTIONS: Draw a line under **all** the **nouns** in this story.

EXAMPLE: People celebrate the beginning of a new year in many ways.

In February 1978, the Chinese in many countries of the world celebrated the Chinese New Year. On their calendar, this was the beginning of the year 4676. It also had another name, the Year of the Horse.

Celebrations often included parades. Wide-eyed children watched paper dragons in the streets. Exploding firecrackers added to the excitement of the holiday. However, in some cities and states of the United States firecrackers were against the law. The faces of the parents and children showed great joy on this happy holiday.