

## Proper Nouns

**Proper nouns** are names for particular people, places or things. They always begin with a capital letter.



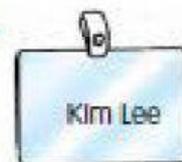
### Word File

Here are some more names of people:

Ali Baba  
Florence Nightingale  
Derek Jeter  
Pauline  
Johnny Depp  
Patrick  
Harry Potter  
Pinocchio  
Robin Hood



Your own name and the names of your friends are proper nouns too.



The names of countries and their people are also proper nouns.



American



Egyptian



Indian



Italian



Thai



Japanese



Korean



Malay



Filipino



Pakistani

**Country**

**People**

America

Americans

Egypt

Egyptians

India

Indians

Italy

Italians

Japan

the Japanese

**Country**

**People**

Korea

Koreans

Malaysia

Malaysians

Pakistan

Pakistanis

France

the French

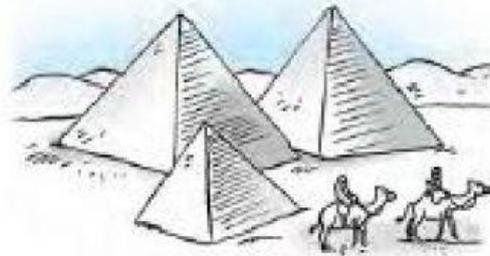
Thailand

Thais

The names of towns, cities, buildings and landmarks are proper nouns.



Hong Kong



Egypt



the Great Wall of China



the Statue of Liberty



Tokyo



Sydney

Bangkok  
London  
New York  
Paris  
Beijing

New Delhi  
Denver  
Central Park  
the Eiffel Tower  
Big Ben

the Grand Canyon  
the Leaning Tower of Pisa  
Brooklyn Bridge  
Pike's Peak

The days of the week and months of the year are proper nouns.

### Days

Sunday  
Monday  
Tuesday  
Wednesday  
Thursday  
Friday  
Saturday



### Months

January  
February  
March  
April  
May  
June  
July  
August  
September  
October  
November  
December



January is the first month of the year.

Sunday is the first day of the week.

A table that shows the months, week days



### Exercise 1

Underline the *proper nouns* in the following sentences.

- 1 July is often the hottest month in summer.
- 2 One day Ali Baba saw the forty thieves hiding in a cave.
- 3 Shawn and Ashley are going to the beach for a swim.
- 4 Mr. Lee is reading a book.
- 5 "I am your fairy godmother," said the old woman to Cinderella.
- 6 Uncle Mike is a lawyer.
- 7 Next Tuesday is a public holiday.
- 8 Many children enjoyed the movie Lion King.

### Exercise 2

Look at the words in the box. Which ones are *common nouns* and which ones are *proper nouns*? Put each word under its correct heading.

Lisa	bank	President Hotel	United Bank
January	beach	White Sand Beach	hotel
doctor	month	Dr. Wang	girl

Common Nouns

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Proper Nouns

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### Exercise 3

Write **C** for *common* or **P** for *proper* on the blank before each noun.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ the White House
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ the green dress
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ the tall building
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ the Empire State Building
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ the Yellow River
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ the muddy river
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ the governor
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_ Governor Parker
- 9 \_\_\_\_\_ the Oregon Trail
- 10 \_\_\_\_\_ the winding trail

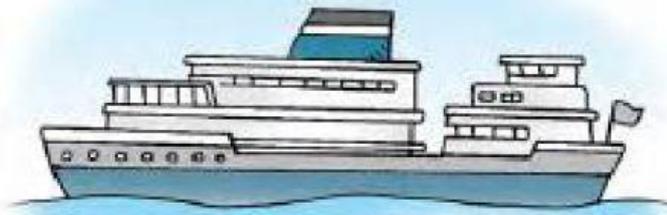
### Exercise 4

Underline the nouns that should be capitalized. Circle the nouns that should *not* be capitalized.

- 1 Robert louis Stevenson wrote treasure island.
- 2 The Capital of illinois is Springfield.
- 3 My Friends and I prefer Glittergums toothpaste.
- 4 Their Family visited Yellowstone national Park.
- 5 Juan and maria attend kennedy Middle school.
- 6 We had a Surprise Party for aunt Helen.
- 7 Spring and Fall are my favorite Seasons.
- 8 The Manager scolded his lazy Employees.

## Singular Nouns

Nouns can be **singular** or **plural**. When you are talking about one person, animal, place, or thing, use a singular noun.



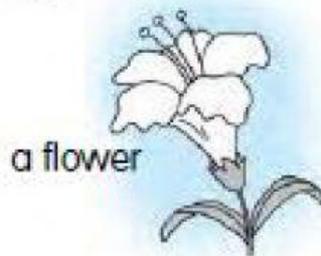
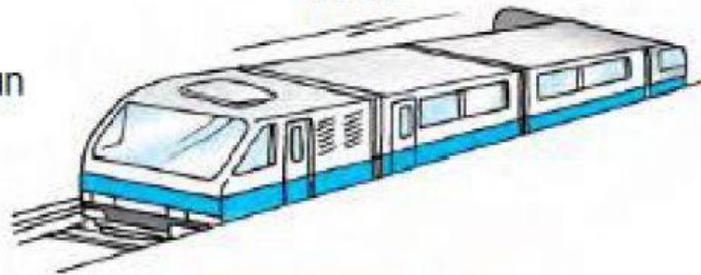
a ship

an owl



a woman

a train



a flower

### Word File

These are also singular nouns:

- |             |                |
|-------------|----------------|
| an airplane | a letter       |
| a bicycle   | a map          |
| a boy       | a photograph   |
| a bus       | a refrigerator |
| a comb      | a slide        |
| a girl      | a swing        |
| a key       | a van          |



- ▶ Use **a** or **an** before singular nouns.  
Use **an** before words beginning with **vowels** (a, e, i, o, u). For example, say:

<b>an</b> axe	<b>an</b> igloo
<b>an</b> egg	<b>an</b> orange
<b>an</b> envelope	<b>an</b> umbrella
<b>an</b> ice cream	<b>an</b> uncle

- ▶ But some words don't follow this rule. For example, use **a** (not **an**) before these words that begin with **u**:

<b>a</b> uniform	<b>a</b> university
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- ▶ Use **a** before words beginning with the other letters of the alphabet, called **consonants**.  
For example, say:

<b>a</b> basket	<b>a</b> rainbow
<b>a</b> bowl	<b>a</b> monster
<b>a</b> car	<b>a</b> pillow
<b>a</b> hill	<b>a</b> watch
<b>a</b> house	<b>a</b> zoo

- ▶ But some words don't follow this rule. For example, use **an** (not **a**) before these words that begin with **h**:

<b>an</b> heir
<b>an</b> honor
<b>an</b> hour

Use the nouns below to match the common nouns to their proper nouns. The first one is done for you. (Drag the words to the table below)

milk	January	washhouse	Borden's
restaurant	bank	month	McDonald's
meteorologist	Superwash	Scotia Bank	Basil Dean

Common Noun	Proper Noun		
e.g. <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td>milk</td></tr></table>	milk	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td>Borden's</td></tr></table>	Borden's
milk			
Borden's			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			