

NOUNS - CONCRETE AND ABSTRACT NOUNS

A **noun**, the first of the eight parts of speech, is the name of a person, place, thing, or idea.

person: Darlene, boy, mayor, worker, scientist, assistant

place: Los Angeles, dock, home, park

thing: automobile, tool, balloon, penguin, tree

idea: freedom, independence, friendship, thoughtfulness

A **singular noun** is the name of only one person, place, thing, or idea. Examples of singular nouns include *woman*, *auditorium*, *bicycle*, and *honesty*.

A **plural noun** is the name of more than one person, place, thing, or idea. Examples of plural nouns include *teammates*, *cities*, *houses*, and *freedoms*.

Activity

Underline the three nouns in each of the following sentences.

- 1) Rose carried her pet into the office.
- 2) The newspaper was left on the table in the classroom.
- 3) The group spent many hours discussing the new plan.
- 4) Joshua saw the bridge and the lighthouse.
- 5) Her computer was repaired by the technician on Tuesday.

Here are types of nouns that are good to know. They include the following.

- 1 **Common nouns** begin with a lowercase (or small) letter since they name *any* person, place, thing, or idea. They are nonspecific. Some singular common nouns include *actor* (person), *lounge* (place), *stick* (thing), and *kindness* (idea). Plural common nouns include *men* (persons), *headquarters* (places), *computers* (things), and *injustices* (ideas).

- 2 **Proper nouns** begin with an uppercase (or capital) letter because they name specific persons, places, things, and ideas. Proper nouns include *President Barak Obama* (person), *New York* (place), *United Union of Teachers* (thing), and *The Big Bang Theory* (idea).
- 3 **Concrete nouns** name a person, place, thing, or idea that can be perceived by one or more of your senses (seeing, hearing, touching, tasting, and smelling). *Popcorn, thunder, rainfall, skunk, tornado, and hair* are concrete nouns.
- 4 **Abstract nouns** name an idea, feeling, quality, or trait. Examples of abstract nouns include *pity, weakness, humility, and happiness*.
- 5 **Collective nouns** name a group of people or things. Some collective nouns are *squad, assembly, team, jury, flock, furniture, fish, and herd*.

Exercise Write *c* above each concrete noun and *a* above each abstract noun.

c

c

a

Bob admires people who practice modesty.

1. **Sheila** likes to plant and care for **flowers**.
2. Daniel's **integrity** cannot be questioned.
3. The Smith **family** have shown their **devotion** to this **company**.
4. **Kindness** and **sincerity** dominate my list of important **qualities**.

5. Claire's new **bicycle** impressed her **neighbors**.
6. Uncle Rico will give you the **recipe**.
7. The **coach** reminded his **players** of the necessity for good **sportsmanship**.
8. The **bakery** on the **corner** sells the best chocolate chip **cookies**.
9. **Thoughtfulness** is always appreciated.
10. **Wilneko** wants us to make **compassion** a priority.
11. **Mr. Fernandez** is teaching us about great world **leaders**.
12. **Jealousy** can be extremely destructive.
13. Nicole has **empathy** for Roger because she has gone through a similar **experience**.
14. Brad and Caroline hosted a **reception** for the new exchange **student**.
15. I always enjoy visiting **Mexico** and Canada, although they

have few similarities.

****WRITING****

Write a sentence with at least one concrete and an abstract noun.
