

Proper Nouns

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



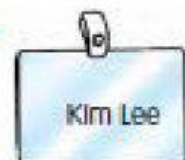
Word File

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

America
Egypt
India
Italy
Japan

People

Americans
Egyptians
Indians
Italians
the Japanese

Country

Korea
Malaysia
Pakistan
France
Thailand

People

Koreans
Malaysians
Pakistanis
the French
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

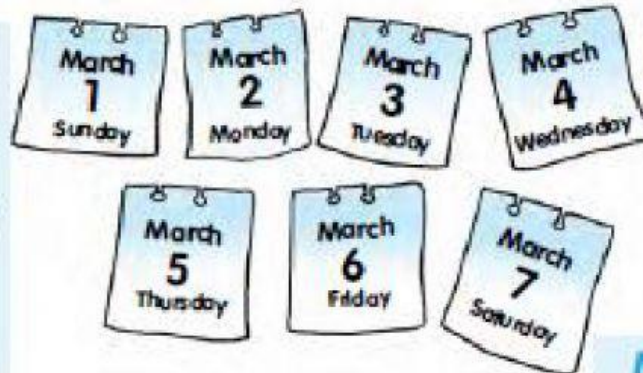
New Delhi
Denver
Central Park
the Eiffel Tower
Big Ben

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

Proper Nouns

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

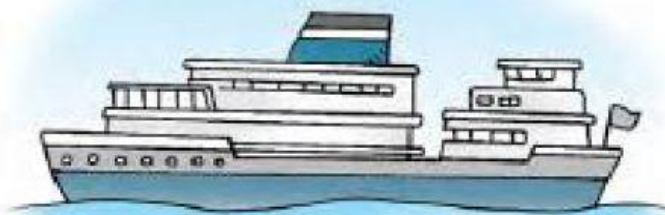
Exercise 4

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

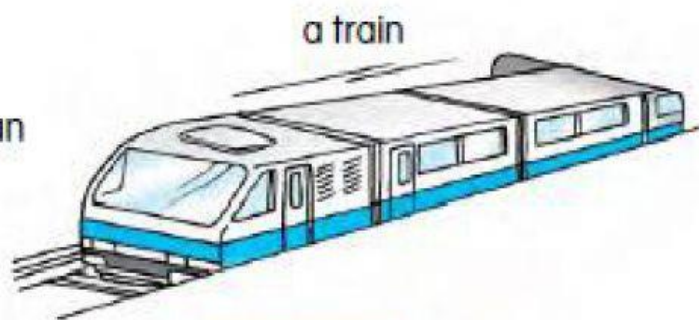
Nouns can be **singular** or **plural**. When you are talking about one person, animal, place, or thing, use a singular noun.



a ship



a woman



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:

an axe	an igloo
an egg	an orange
an envelope	an umbrella
an ice cream	an uncle

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

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

a basket	a rainbow
a bowl	a monster
a car	a pillow
a hill	a watch
a house	a zoo

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

an heir
an honor
an 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. milk	Borden's
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	