

Nouns I

Nouns are the names of things. The word **noun** comes from the Latin word, *Nomen*, meaning *name*.

Common Nouns

Common nouns are the names of things like desk, chair, tent, car, flower, knife. They are not *particular* things and are not written with a capital letter.

Make a list of twenty nouns - things that you can see in the classroom.

You can start off with *book*.

Proper Nouns

Proper nouns are the names of *particular* things - things that are proper to themselves. *John* is a proper noun. It is the name of a particular boy.

All proper nouns must be written with a capital letter.

All of these are proper nouns:

days of the week	e.g. Wednesday
months of the year	e.g. August
names of people	e.g. John Smith
names of towns	e.g. London
names of rivers	e.g. Thames
names of countries	e.g. England
names of seas	e.g. Atlantic Ocean
street names	e.g. New Street

Make a list of forty proper nouns - five names from each category above.

Remember to start each name with a capital letter.

Read through the passage below and underline all the common and proper nouns.

Once there was a boy named Jack. Jack and his mother lived in a little cottage. They were very poor people. At last they had nothing left to live on but one cow. One day Jack's mother told Jack to take the cow to the market to sell. At the market Jack met a man. The man wanted to buy the cow. The man offered Jack a handful of beans for the cow. The man told Jack that the beans were magic beans. Jack wanted the magic beans. He gave the cow to the man for the handful of beans.

