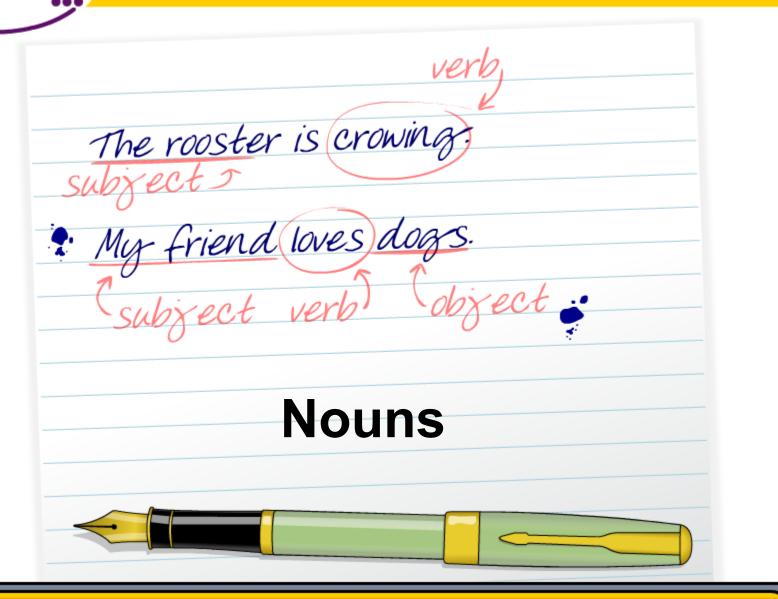


Boardworks English: Grammar and Skills





What is a noun?



Nouns are 'naming words'. They identify people, animals, places, things and ideas.

Concrete nouns refer to things we can see, touch, taste, hear or smell. For example, 'fish', 'chair', 'apple', 'book', 'field', 'house'.



Abstract nouns refer to thoughts, ideas, feelings and qualities — things we *cannot* see or touch. For example, 'happiness', 'sadness', 'pain', 'fear', 'anger', 'beauty', 'love' and 'hate'.





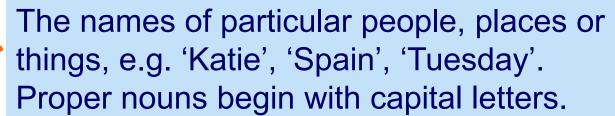


Different groups of nouns

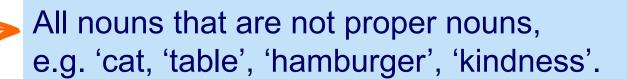


All nouns can be divided into the following three groups:

Proper nouns



Common nouns

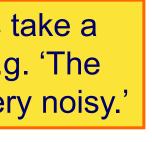


Collective nouns



Nouns that refer to a group of nouns, e.g. 'herd', 'team', 'family', 'class', 'orchestra'.

Collective nouns take a singular verb, e.g. 'The herd of sheep is very noisy.'







Proper, common or collective?







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Count nouns and non-count nouns



Common nouns can be count nouns or non-count nouns.

Count nouns are, literally, things that can be counted!

For example, you can have one pizza, two hamburgers and three milkshakes.

'Pizza', 'hamburger' and 'milkshake' are all examples of count nouns. They have a **singular form** and they have a **plural form**.





Can you name ten count nouns in your classroom?



Count and non-count (mass) nouns





Non-count – or 'mass' nouns – are nouns that *cannot* be counted.

For example, we do not say "could I have two milks please". We say, "could I have some milk".

Milk is a non-count (mass) noun. It has a singular form but it does not have a plural form.

Here are some more examples of non-count (mass) nouns.

rice air music salt mud boredom

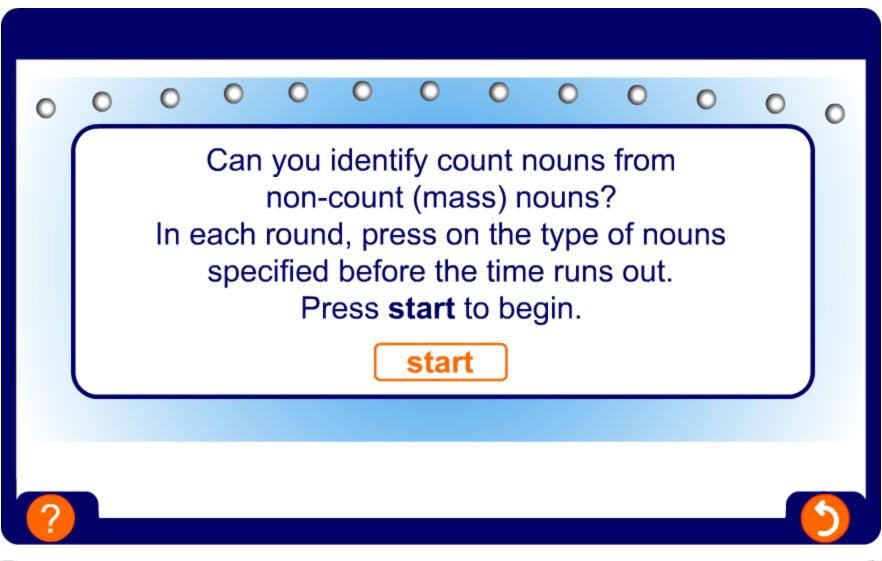
money sand homework meat soap



Can you think of any more non-count (mass) nouns?

Count or non-count noun?









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Team quiz



