

Back to Basics 1-2

The Noun

A noun is a name for a person place or thing. We know that, right? We know also that there are different types of nouns. Look at the chart below.

Type of Noun	Examples
Proper Noun - A specific person, place or thing	Mary, Laguna , Marawi City
Common Noun - A general person, place or thing	girl, state, park, notebook, class
Compound Noun - Two or more words that create one noun	toothpaste, six-pack, post office
Countable Noun - Can be counted	dolphin, mile, book
Mass Noun - Cannot be counted	junk, freedom, sand
Collective Noun - Group of things	family, herd, team
Concrete Noun - Can be seen, felt, heard, smelled or tasted	cat, Tom, salt
Abstract Noun - Cannot be seen, felt, heard, smelled or tasted	freedom, love, power

What we do want to point out are some typical mistakes that you need to note. Read the poem below to help you understand what the first mistake about nouns is.

Why is English so Hard?

We'll begin with a box and the plural is boxes, but the plural of ox becomes oxen, not oxes.

One fowl is a goose, but two are called geese, yet the plural of moose should never be meese.

You may find a lone mouse or a nest full of mice, yet the plural of house is houses not hice.

If the plural of man is always called men, why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen?

If I speak of my foot and show you my feet, and I give you a boot, would a pair be called beet?

If one is a tooth and a whole set are teeth, why shouldn't the plural of booth be called beeth?