Nouns

- Nouns are: abstract (happiness, love, etc), collective (crowd, group, etc), common (radio, chair, etc), concrete (doctor, client, etc) and proper (James, Tangiers, India, etc).
 Gender: Nouns can be masculine (men and boys), feminine (women and girls) and neuter (inanimate things, animals and babies whose sex we do not know). When we refer to ships, vehicles (when regarded with affection or respect) and countries, we consider them feminine. Most nouns remain the same whether they are masculine or feminine (doctor, painter, etc). There are some nouns, though, which have different forms according to gender. These forms can be expressed in two ways:
 - a) by changing the ending (actor actress, conductor conductress, duke duchess, emperor empress, heir heiress, hero heroine, host hostess, policeman policewoman, prince princess, waiter waitress, widower widow). In modern usage, however, many gendered forms are avoided. We use neutral forms instead. eg. police officer, flight attendant, etc.
 - b) by changing the word (bachelor spinster, boy girl, bridegroom bride, father mother, gentleman lady, man woman, nephew niece, son daughter, uncle aunt, etc)
- Some domestic animals and wild animals have different forms according to gender: bull cow, cock hen, dog bitch, drake duck, gander goose, lion lioness, ram ewe, stag doe, stallion mare, tiger tigress, BUT gorilla gorilla, etc.

Noun Formation

To describe people we add -ar, -er, -ee, -or to the end of verbs, or -ian, -ist to the end of nouns or verbs making any necessary spelling changes. beg - beggar, train - trainer/trainee, invent - inventor, magic - magician, type - typist

Suffixes used to form nouns from verbs:

-age	break - breakage	-ence	neglect - neglig ence	-sis	hypnotise - hypnosis
-al	remove - removal	-ion	inspect - inspection	-tion	abolish - abolition
-ance	attend - attendance	-ment	commit - commitment	-у	injure - injury
-ation	deprive - deprivation	-sion	revise - revision		Mr. Committee

Suffixes used to form nouns from adjectives:

-ance	tolerant - tolerance	-ion	desperate - desperation	-ment	content - contentment
-cy	pregnant - pregnan cy	-iness	happy - happiness	-ty	anxious - anxiety
-ence	independent - independ ence	-ity	pure - purity	-у	honest - honesty



Fill in the correct noun.

To be a good too be a stood in a (0)
To be a good teacher, a teaching (0) qualification is
not all you need. Your (1) plays a big
part in the (2) of your work, so it's best
to make a thorough (3) of your own
character before taking the (4) to take
up this challenging (5) Apart from
(6), you also need the
(7) to accept others' ideas and a
(8) to learn from your own mistakes.
(9) to the needs of your students is also
important. (10) is not enough - who you
are is much more important.



9

Nouns / Articles

2

Complete each pair below by adding the male or female equivalent.

1	husband	wife	14		widow
2		lady	15	uncle	
3	emperor		16		niece
4	hero		17	policeman	
5	count		18		landlady
6		spinster	19	bridegroom	
7	father *		20		hostess
8		duchess	21		actress
9	heir		22	conductor	
10		manageress	23		stewardess
11	salesman		24	lion	
12		queen	25		waitress
13	prince		26	dog	

The Plural of Nouns

Nouns are made plural by adding:

- -s to the noun. (cat cats, etc)
- -es to nouns ending in -ch, -s, -sh, -ss, x. (torch torches, bus buses, bush bushes, glass glasses, fox foxes, etc)
- -ies to nouns ending in consonant + y. (baby babies, lady ladies, etc) BUT -s to nouns ending in vowel + y. (toy toys, boy boys, etc)
- -es to nouns ending in -o. (tomato tomatoes) BUT -s to nouns ending in: vowel + o (video videos), double o (zoo zoos), abbreviations (photograph/photo photos), musical instruments (piano pianos) and proper nouns (Navajo Navajos). Note that some nouns ending in -o take either -es or -s. These are: buffaloes/buffalos, mosquitoes/mosquitos, volcanoes/volcanos, zeroes/zeros, tornadoes/tornados, etc.
- -ves to some nouns ending in -f/-fe. (self selves) BUT chiefs, cliffs, roofs, safes, etc
- Some nouns of Greek or Latin origin form their plural by adding Greek or Latin suffixes. (basis bases, crisis crises, criterion criteria, medium media, terminus termini, etc)

Compound nouns form their plural by adding -s/-es:

- to the second noun if the compound consists of two nouns. (schoolboy schoolboys)
- to the noun if the compound consists of an adjective and a noun. (frying pan frying pans)
- to the first noun if the compound consists of two nouns connected with a preposition or to the noun if the compound has only one noun. (sister-in-law sisters-in-law)
- at the end of the compound if this is not made up of any nouns. (runaway runaways)

Irregular Plurals: man - men, woman - women, foot - feet, tooth - teeth, louse - lice, mouse - mice, child - children, goose - geese, person - people (BUT peoples = ethnic groups), sheep - sheep, deer - deer, fish - fish (ALSO fishes), trout - trout, ox - oxen, salmon - salmon, spacecraft - spacecraft, aircraft - aircraft, species - species, hovercraft - hovercraft



Write the plural of the following words.

2 3 4 5 6 7	box –	10 11 12 13 14 15	tooth – medium – shelf – photo –	18 19 20 21	brush –	26 27 28	lady – wife –
8	person –	16	corkscrew	23	piano –		

Contraction of the Contraction o

Countable - Uncountable Nouns

Nouns can be **countable** (those that can be counted) 1 book, 2 books, etc or uncountable (those that can't be counted) bread, wood, etc. Uncountable nouns take a singular verb and are not used with a/an. Some, any, much, no, etc can be used with them. Heavy rain caused the match to be postponed. I need to buy some food. BUT a help, a knowledge (of sth), a pity, a relief, a shame, a wonder. What a relief! What a pity! What a shame!

Uncountable nouns are:

- Mass nouns (fluids, solids, gases, particles): blood, bread, butter, air, oxygen, corn, flour, etc
- Subjects of study: Accounting, Chemistry, Economics, History, Literature, Maths, Physics, etc
- Languages: Chinese, French, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish, etc.
- Sports: baseball, billiards, cricket, cycling, darts, football, golf, rugby, etc.
- Diseases: chickenpox, flu, measles, mumps, pneumonia, tuberculosis, etc
- Natural phenomena: darkness, fog, gravity, hail, snow, sunlight, shade, etc
- Some nouns: accommodation, advice, anger, applause, assistance, behaviour, business, chaos, countryside, courage, dirt, education, evidence, homework, housework, information, intelligence, knowledge, luck, music, news, peace, progress, seaside, shopping, traffic, trouble, truth, wealth, work, etc
- Collective nouns: baggage, crockery, cutlery, furniture, jewellery, luggage, machinery, money, rubbish, stationery, etc
 - **Notes:** a) Words for drinks are mass nouns but can be used as countable nouns when we order or offer drinks. Would you like a coffee? Two sodas, please.
 - b) With expressions of duration, distance or money meaning 'a whole amount' we use a singular verb. Five thousand pounds was his prize for winning the competition.

Many uncountable nouns can be made countable.

a piece of advice/cake/furniture/information/paper; a glass/bottle of milk/water/juice; a jar of jam; a box/sheet of paper; a packet of tea; a slice/loaf of bread; a pot of yoghurt; a pot/cup of tea; a kilo/pound of meat; a tube of toothpaste; a bar of chocolate/soap; a bit/piece of chalk; an ice cube; a lump of sugar; a bag of flour; a pair of trousers; a game of soccer; a(n) item/piece of news; a drop/can/litre of oil; a can of Coke; a carton of milk; a block of wood; a flash/bolt of lightning; a clap/peal of thunder; etc



Plural Nouns

- objects consisting of two parts: garments (pyjamas, trousers, etc), instruments (binoculars, compasses, etc), tools (pliers, scissors, etc)
- arms, ashes, barracks, clothes, congratulations, earnings, (good) looks, outskirts, people, police, premises, riches, stairs, surroundings, wages, etc. Where are my clothes?
 Group nouns (army, audience, class, club, committee, company, council, crew, crowd, headquarters, family, jury, government, press, public, staff, team, etc) can take either a singular or a plural verb depending on whether we see the group as a whole or as individuals. The team was chosen as the most promising. (the team as a group) The team were given bonuses for their performance. (each member of the team separately)

Note: Certain nouns can be used in the singular and plural with a different meaning:

Singular	Plural		
She has beautiful thick brown hair.	My mother has lots of grey hairs.		
Could I have a glass of lemonade?	She bought a new pair of reading glasses.		
Only people with experience may apply for this job.	If you go travelling, you are sure to have many exciting experiences.		
The face of the clock is made of wood.	I love walking in the woods.		
The rain is falling really heavily now.	The people were praying for the rains to come.		
Call me when you've finished work.	The exhibition includes many works of Boudin.		
Draw a chart on graph paper.	Many papers have been written on the benefits of daily exercise.		
On a scale of 1-20 I'd give that joke a 5.	Use these scales to weigh that - they are more accurate.		
It is not a custom to kiss your friends in Japan.	We had nothing to declare at customs.		
Take a compass in case you get lost.	Use the compasses to make a perfect circle.		



Nouns / Articles



Underline the correct verb form.

- 1 Chemistry are/is my least favourite subject.
- 2 Your bathroom scales is/are not very accurate.
- 3 £2000 is/are far too expensive for that stereo.
- 4 Table tennis **is/are** sometimes referred to as pingpong.
- 5 The police is/are coming to the rescue.
- 6 Paper is/are made from wood.
- 7 Children likes/like playing games.
- 8 The scissors don't/doesn't work very well.
- 9 These trousers is/are terribly unflattering.
- 10 Education are/is considered to be very important by almost everyone.

- 11 Most people worry/worries about the effect of pollution on the environment.
- 12 Water is/are necessary for plants to grow.
- 13 In the summer my hair becomes/become dry.
- 14 The rubbish has/have been taken away.
- 15 The information is/are inaccurate.
- 16 Binoculars is/are needed to see that far.
- 17 His luggage was/were left on the platform.
- 18 The stairs is/are very dangerous.
- 19 Mumps is/are contagious.
- 20 The news was/were unexpected.
- 21 His experience of travel is/are limited.

5

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct form.

I de ale very aloon

1	The water in this lakelooks (IOOK) very clean.
2	Making mistakes (be) only natural.
3	Maths (not/interest) me very much.
4	All of our furniture (be) brand new.
5	Sugar (damage) your teetn.
6	Snow rarely
7	The applause (be) very loud.
Q	The news they brought us (be) good.
0	Your trousers
10	The team
10	Chickenpox
11	Billiards
12	The accommodation here
13	The accommodation here
14	The pliers
15	Knowledge of other languages
16	Ten minutes
17	Every time I travel, some of my luggage
18	Welsh (be) difficult to learn.
19	The staff (be) happy with the pay rise.
20	Sophisticated machinery (cost) a lot of money.

6

Finish the second sentence so that it has the same meaning as the first sentence.

	Fillish the scool deficition of that the second school services and the second school services are services as the second school services are services are services as the second school services are services as the second school services are services as the second school services are
	An official found her luggage near the check-in desk. Her luggagewas found by an official near the check-in desk
2	They are teaching Physics in room 2A. Physics
3	Traditional craftsmen have used the best wood to make these ornaments.
	The best wood
4	You need to have experience if you wish to apply for this job. Experience
_	Pangars protect the woods. The woods
_	It is the lie transport in the fight Hic trousers
7	We give even advice at the end of the course. Exam advice
0	He classified the information as 'Top Secret'. The information
•	A security guard protects our property ()ur property
10	That shop is colling wedding dresses at half price. Wedding dresses
44	We need now members for our tennis club. Our tennis club
40	Version always find choop silver jewellery in Portugal, Cheap silver jewellery
12	One doesn't need money to be happy. Money
13	One doesn't need money to be happy, worley

- 14 He used his experiences in Africa to write his book. His experiences in Africa
- 15 The crime is being investigated by the police. The police



A couple of, several, a few, many, a (large/great/good) number of, both are followed by a countable noun. (Too) much, a little, a great/good deal of, a large/small amount/quantity of are followed by an uncountable noun. A lot of, lots of, hardly any, some, no, plenty of are followed by a countable or uncountable noun.



Underline the correct items.

- 1 We've had a great deal of, many, a few, plenty of, a little rain this year.
- 2 She drinks too much, several, a lot of, too many, a little cups of tea every day.
- 3 The proposal got a lot of, a few, some, several, a good deal of support from the public.
- 4 We spend a number of, several, a lot of, plenty of, many time at our country house.
- 5 There is many, hardly any, no, little, several milk left could you buy some?
- 6 He wastes many, lots of, few, a great deal of, too much money.
- 7 They couldn't give us hardly any, a few, much, a lot of, a large number of evidence so we had to release the suspect.
- 8 She left many, plenty of, a large quantity of, a few, some jewellery to her grandchildren.
- 9 There were several, both, a little, a lot of, a small quantity of people at the meeting.
- 10 She bought a few, several, some, plenty of, lots of new cutlery.
- 11 I've enjoyed a number of, no, both, some, a good deal of his films.
- 12 He's made several, a good deal of, a little, a few, a lot of progress in his studies.
- 13 She always takes several, both, plenty of, a great quantity of, a number of luggage when she travels.
- 14 He gave us a couple of, some, no, many, plenty of useful advice.
- 15 There were much, a couple of, no, a good deal of, a few rooms available on the island.

A/An (indefinite article) - The (definite article)

- A/An is used with singular countable nouns to talk about indefinite things. There's a boy leaning on the fence. (indefinite) Some can be used in the affirmative with plural countable nouns or uncountable nouns and any in questions and negations. There are some glasses on the table. There's some butter in the fridge. Is there any flour left? There aren't any strawberries in the fridge.
- We use a/an before Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms when we refer to an unknown person. A Mr Brown called you this
 morning. (A person that we don't know.)
- A/An can also be used meaning per. She goes to the cinema twice a/per week.
- We do not use a/an: a) with uncountable nouns or plural countable nouns. We use some instead of a/an. We need some butter and some sugar. They bought some cakes. b) before an adjective if it is not followed by a noun. This room is big. BUT This is a big room.
- The is used with singular and plural nouns, countable and uncountable ones, to talk about something specific or when the noun is mentioned for a second time. The boy in jeans is my brother. (Which boy? The one in jeans; specific.) There's a bicycle outside. The bicycle is Tony's.
- A/An or the is used before singular countable nouns to refer to a group of people, animals or things. A/The cat is a domestic animal. (We mean all cats). A/An or the is never used before a noun in the plural when it represents a group. Cats are domestic animals. (NOT: The cats are domestic animals.)

Fill in: a, an, the, any or some where necessary.

- 1 "Have you got ...any... smoked salmon?" "I ordered last week, but supplier had run out so it'll be a while before I have ""Oh, okay. How much is smoked trout?"
- When I opened door this morning, man was standing there with flowers in his hand. When I asked him if I could be of help, he blushed, saying, "I've got wrong house," and ran away.
- 3 He's been in country for six months but he can't speak English yet. Give him help with learning language, please.

Nouns / Articles

A(n)/One - One/Ones

- We use a/an to refer to an unspecified thing with the meaning any one. We use one when we are counting, to put emphasis on number. She bought a dress. (We are not talking about a specific dress.) She bought one dress. (She didn't buy two dresses.)
- We use one with the words day, week, month, year, winter, morning, night, etc or with a specific day or month to say when something happened, usually in narration. One summer, the Smiths decided to go to Italy. One Friday, Ben was working late. We can use one day to refer to the future. One day, you will be proud of me.
- We use one or one of ... when we mean one person/thing out of many. It usually contrasts with another/other(s). One train was fast, but the others were slow. One of my friends is from Russia.
- We use a/an or one with no difference in meaning with money (a/one dollar), fractions (a/one quarter), weight/measures (an/one inch), whole numbers (a/one million), price/weight (£3 a litre), frequency/time (twice a month), distance/fuel (80 miles a gallon), distance/speed (80 km an hour) and illnesses (a cold, a fever, (a) toothache, (a) stomachache, (a) backache etc).
- We use one in the singular and ones in the plural to avoid repeating the noun when it is clear what we mean. My jacket is the one with the hood.
- We use a/an with one when there is an adjective before one. I want to buy a sofa. I want a red one. BUT I want to buy a sofa. I want one in red.
- We use one/ones with this/that. I don't like this pair of jeans, but I like that one.
- We use which one(s) in questions. I like the blue shirt best. Which one do you like?

Fill in with a, an, one or ones.

- 1 The recommended maximum speed on motorways is 130 km hour.
- 2 He bought her very expensive ring as a gift for her birthday.
- morning, Sue woke up to find out that her bicycle had been stolen from the back yard.
- 5 You need only cup of sugar for the cake or else it will be too sweet to eat.
- 6 Peter's dog is German Shepherd.
- 7 The first story was terribly boring but the second was actually quite interesting.
- 8 We visit granny at least once week, although we live quite far from each other.
- 9 Do you see those two musicians over there? They are the who won all the top awards in last year's competition.
- 10 Mrs McGregor called earlier on and left a message for you.
- 11 Bill needed rest so badly that he couldn't keep his eyes open.
- 12 I can't believe that she paid thousand pounds for a pair of shoes.
- 13 I am going to makehot drink. Would you like?
- 14 As they walked past the old building they heard the voice of old woman asking for help.
- 15 Rob can't afford a new car so he decided to buy a second-hand

Fill in a/an, the, one or ones.

- 1 I helped old lady cross road. 2day, you'll thank me for making you work hard! 3 I like cotton dress best. Which do you like? 4 Penny goes to supermarket every Friday. 5 Mum wouldn't let us get puppy. 6 person with moustache is Mr Floyd, my English teacher. 7 I have two English dictionaries at home: is pocket-sized, other is huge. 8 I liked both of paintings, but I could only afford to buy 9 Friday, Kelly was walking home when she saw something unusual in park.
- 10 best time to do exercise is in morning.
- 11 Mr Jenkins called while you were out.
- 12 All of the shoes look great, but the I like best are platforms.



'The' is used before

- nouns which are unique. the Moon, the Tower of London
- names of cinemas (The Odeon), hotels (The Ritz), theatres (The Theatre Royal), museums (The Museum of Modern Art), newspapers/magazines (The Times), BUT (Time), ships (The QE2), institutions (The Royal Academy of Art), galleries (The National Gallery).
- names of rivers (the Thames), seas (the North Sea), groups of islands/states (the Orkney Islands, the USA), mountain ranges (the Alps), deserts (the Gobi desert), oceans (the Pacific), canals (the Suez Canal) and names or nouns with 'of'. (the King of Spain, the Queen of England)

Note: the equator, the Arctic/Antarctic, the South of France, the South/West/North/East

- musical instruments, dances. the flute, the tango
- names of families (the Smiths), nationalities ending in -sh, -ch or -ese (the Welsh, the Dutch, the Chinese, etc). Other plural nationalities are used with or without 'the'. (the South Africans, the Australians etc)
- titles (the President, the Prince of Wales, the Queen).
 The is omitted before titles with proper names.
 Queen Elizabeth II
- adjectives used as plural nouns (the blind, the elderly, the rich, the poor, etc) and the superlative degree of adjectives/adverbs. He's the most intelligent one here.
- Note: most used as a determiner followed by a noun, does not take 'the'.
 Most students pass the exams. BUT The most interesting article was on Nostradamus.
- the words: beach, cinema, city, coast, country(side), earth, ground, jungle, radio, pub, sea(side), sky, station, shop, theatre, village, weather, world, etc but not before man (= people). I went to the shop to buy bread.

Note: 'the' is optional with seasons. (the) autumn

- morning, afternoon, evening, night. I'll come round in the morning. BUT at night, at noon, at midnight, by day/night, at 5 o'clock, etc
- historical references/events. the French Revolution, the Second World War BUT World War II
- only, last, first (used as adjectives).
 As always, you are the first person to arrive.

'The' is omitted before

- proper nouns. Amy, Liverpool
- names of sports, games, activities, days, months, holidays, colours, drinks, meals and languages (not followed by the word language). I love tennis. Can you speak French? BUT The Chinese language is fascinating to study.
- names of countries (France), BUT the Philippines, the Netherlands, (the) Sudan, the Hague, the Vatican, cities (Manchester), streets (Bond Street), BUT the High Street, the Strand, the Mall, the A11, the M4 motorway, squares (George Square), bridges (Tower Bridge) BUT the Bridge of Sighs, the Forth Bridge, the Severn Bridge, the Golden Gate Bridge), parks (Central Park), stations (King's Cross Station), individual mountains (Mount Everest), islands (Corsica), lakes (Lake Geneva), continents (Africa)
- possessive adjectives. That is my book.
- two-word names whose first word is the name of a person or place. Glasgow Airport, Edinburgh Castle BUT The White House (because the first word White is not the name of a person or a place)
- pubs, restaurants, shops, banks and hotels which have the name of their founder and end in -s or -'s. Jim's Café; Harrods; Baring's Bank BUT the Queen's Arms (hotel) (because Queen's Arms is not the name of the founder)
- bed, college, court, hospital, prison, school, university when we refer to the purpose for which they exist. He is at school by 8.30 every morning.
 BUT We have to be at the court at 2.00 for the trial.
 Work (= place of work) never takes the.
 I have to go to work now.
- the words home, father/mother when we talk about our own home/parents. Mum is at home now.
- means of transport: by bus/by car/by train/by plane etc BUT in the car, on the bus/train etc. She came by plane. BUT She was on the bus when the accident happened.
- We say: flu/the flu, measles/the measles, mumps/ the mumps BUT He's got pneumonia.



Nouns / Articles

11

Fill in the where necessary.

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	
12	Fill in a/an or the where necessary.
1	Onthe first of April, it is custom for British people to make jokes and play
2 3 4 5	tricks on each other. Of all countries on
7 8 9	Detective Sherlock Holmes and his assistant,
12 13 14	most charming and helpful waiters I've ever met. Belfast is capital of Northern Ireland and Dublin is capital of Republic of Ireland Balearic Islands lie to east of Spain. Julia is extremely patient girl. She will have no problem in her career as nanny.
15	Stephen has seminar on Saturday morning, so we won't be able to go to ski slopes until Sunday.
16	On Sunday we decided to go to beach by train, but by the time we got to station weather looked so threatening that we went to cinema instead.

Oral Development 11

Look at the following list, then say each item using the where necessary.

British Museum, St. Pancras Station, Kew Gardens, Mendip Hills, Red Lion Square, Dutch language, King George VI, East River, High Street, Andes, Lake Windermere, Flamenco music, UNESCO, Uffizi Gallery, Macy's, Harrods, Red Sea, Duchess of Devonshire, Regent Street, the Virgin Islands, Mount Etna, Charles de Gaulle Airport, Malta, Atlantic, Queen of Spain