

EXERCISE I. PROPER AND COMMON NOUNS

A **noun** is a name word.

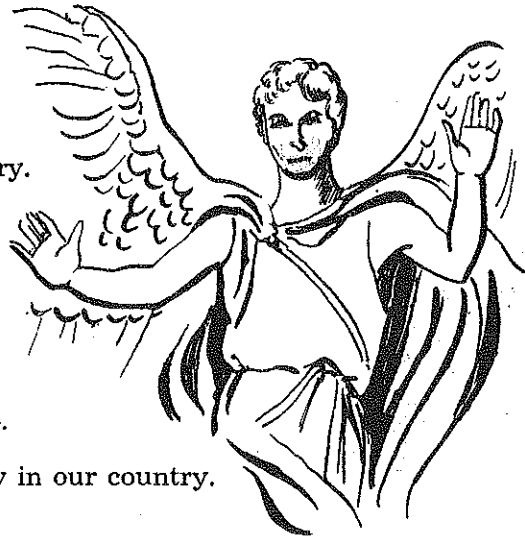
A **proper noun** names a particular person, place, or thing.

A **common noun** names any one of a class of persons, places, or things.

Draw one line under all proper nouns and two lines under all common nouns; for example:

Our Lady appeared to three little children at Fatima in Portugal.

1. Baptism is the most necessary sacrament.
2. The Roosevelt Dam spans the Salt River in Arizona.
3. The rocket was a new weapon of World War II.
4. The angel Gabriel spoke the first words of the Hail Mary.
5. Children should help their parents always.
6. The Bible contains seventy-two books.
7. Cuba is the largest island of the West Indies.
8. The chief hog market of the United States is Chicago.
9. Passengers, packages, and mail are carried by airplane.
10. Georgetown University is the oldest Catholic university in our country.
11. On what date is the president inaugurated?
12. The iris is the colored part of the eye.
13. Phyllis Wheatley was the first Negro poetess of America.
14. Eskimos depend upon the sea for their food.
15. Pope Benedict XV denounced the invasion of neutral Belgium by Germany.
16. Judith found her ring in the sand.
17. The official surrender of Japan occurred on the battleship *Missouri*.
18. Linen is made from flax fiber.
19. Saint John Bosco was a great Christian educator.
20. Senators are elected by popular vote for a period of six years.
21. There are rich deposits of coal, iron, and petroleum in America.
22. Columbus named the island San Salvador.
23. My grandparents live in Louisville, Kentucky.
24. The Indians made canoes of birch bark.
25. The Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro has one of the most beautiful airports in the world.



EXERCISE 2. COLLECTIVE AND ABSTRACT NOUNS

A **collective noun** denotes a group of persons, animals, or things considered as one.

An **abstract noun** expresses a quality, a condition, or an action apart from any object or thing.

Underline all the collective nouns in the following sentences; for example:

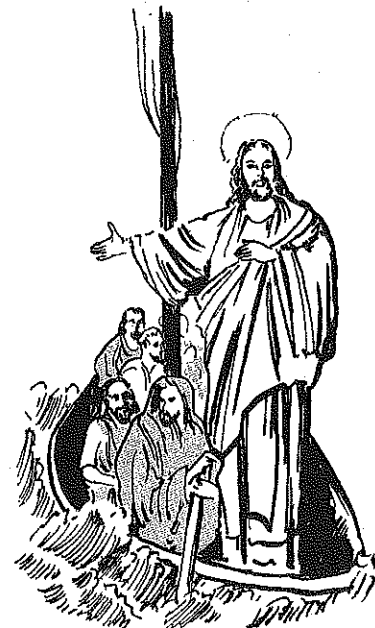
The congregation listened attentively to the speaker.

1. Christ taught the multitude from the ship.
2. Saint Paul was descended from the tribe of Benjamin.
3. The excited crowd assembled in front of the store.
4. We watched a squadron of airplanes pass high overhead.
5. The regiment fought bravely to save the island.
6. The committee will make its final report on Monday morning.
7. In the clear water a school of fish was visible.
8. The covered wagon was drawn by a team of oxen.
9. A band of musicians accompanied Drake's fleet.
10. In 1919 the bishops organized the National Catholic Welfare Council.

Underline the abstract nouns in the following sentences:

Happiness is sought by all men.

11. Repeated good acts result in virtue.
12. The pagans were astonished at the charity of the early Christians.
13. Good sportsmanship should be developed in children.
14. Good books are the guides to knowledge and appreciation.
15. His faith was admirable.
16. Knowledge is based upon wisdom.
17. Liberty can easily be lost.
18. All lawful authority comes from God.
19. Necessity is the mother of invention.
20. There is always time for courtesy.



EXERCISE 3. PERSON AND GENDER OF NOUNS

Person is that quality of a noun through which the speaker, the one spoken to, or the one spoken about is indicated.

The **first person** denotes the speaker. The **second person** denotes the one spoken to. The **third person** denotes the one spoken about.

Gender is that quality of a noun by which sex is distinguished.

The **masculine gender** denotes the male sex. The **feminine gender** denotes the female sex. The **neuter gender** denotes objects that have no sex. A noun that may be taken as either masculine or feminine is considered **masculine gender**.

Indicate the person of the italicized nouns in the following sentences:

Second O *God*, be merciful to me, a sinner.

- 1. Have you ever visited *Independence Hall* in Philadelphia?
- 2. *Father*, we extend to you a hearty welcome.
- 3. We, the *pupils* of the class, invite you.
- 4. The *eyes* are the windows of the soul.
- 5. *Mr. President*, I nominate Philip Connors.
- 6. General Foch was *commander in chief* of the Allied forces.
- 7. Speech is one of God's great gifts to us, His *children*.
- 8. *Copper* is a good conductor of electricity.
- 9. In thy hands, O *Mary*, are the treasures of the mercy of God.
- 10. Saint Augustine was the supreme *teacher* on the subject of grace.



Classify the following nouns with regard to gender:

- | | Pauline | | <u>Feminine</u> | |
|-----------------|---------|--------------|-----------------|--|
| 11. nurse | | 21. Negress | ..... |  |
| 12. master | | 22. spinster | ..... |  |
| 13. neighbor | | 23. hostess | ..... |  |
| 14. stamp | | 24. citizen | ..... |  |
| 15. editor | | 25. friar | ..... |  |
| 16. grandfather | | 26. scarf | ..... |  |
| 17. cow | | 27. sailor | ..... |  |
| 18. paper | | 28. pencil | ..... |  |
| 19. servant | | 29. groom | ..... |  |
| 20. patroness | | 30. doctor | ..... |  |

EXERCISE 61. DISTRIBUTIVES AND INDEFINITES

The distributives *each, every, either, neither*, and words they modify are always **singular** and require a **singular verb**.

The indefinites *anyone, no one, anybody, nobody, everyone, everybody, someone, somebody*, and so forth, are always **singular** and require a **singular verb**.

Fill in each blank with the correct form of the verb at the left:

come One of our leather products comes from the goat.

- | | |
|----------|---|
| seem | 1. Everyone comfortable. |
| want | 2. Each of the customers some sugar. |
| was | 3. Everybody at the circus happy. |
| is | 4. Neither of those two inventors living now. |
| have | 5. Every room been freshly painted. |
| sing | 6. Everybody in our class well. |
| have | 7. Each of the many guests written a note of thanks. |
| expect | 8. No one us to lose the game. |
| go | 9. Neither of the boys home that way. |
| contain | 10. Every one of these crates fresh eggs. |
| describe | 11. Either of those books the coffee plantations of Brazil. |
| know | 12. Nobody the answer to the question. |
| wait | 13. Someone for the old man each day. |
| favor | 14. Nobody the change in the class schedule. |
| wish | 15. Each of the boys to help with the work. |
| procure | 16. Everybody his own ticket. |
| approve | 17. Nobody of the election. |
| have | 18. Each of the men cast his vote. |
| appear | 19. No one interested in the project. |
| was | 20. Neither boy waiting at the depot. |
| admire | 21. Nobody a thoughtless child. |
| have | 22. everyone memorized the preamble? |
| make | 23. Each pupil the sign of the cross reverently. |
| satisfy | 24. Either of those suggestions me. |
| do | 25. Neither of those women her own washing. |

EXERCISE 62. SINGULAR AND PLURAL NOUNS

Some nouns are plural in form but singular in meaning and require a singular verb. These nouns include *measles, news, mumps, molasses, civics, mathematics, ethics, physics, economics, athletics* (training).

Other nouns are used only in the plural and require a plural verb. These nouns include *annals, archives, ashes, clothes, eaves, goods, pincers, pliers, proceeds, scissors, shears, spectacles, thanks, tongs, trousers, tweezers*.

Cross out the incorrect form:

Mathematics (~~appeal~~, appeals) to most boys.

Scissors (~~is~~, are) manufactured in that building.

1. Molasses (is, are) good on pancakes.
2. The latest news (is, are) broadcast over the radio at frequent intervals.
3. The pliers (has, have) been broken.
4. Athletics (develops, develop) good sportsmanship.
5. The shears (is, are) in the garage.
6. Civics (is, are) a very interesting subject.
7. (Has, have) the clothes been washed yet?
8. Mumps (is, are) an infectious disease.
9. His trousers (is, are) made of white flannel.
10. Measles sometimes (makes, make) one's eyes weak.
11. Those tweezers (belongs, belong) in the top drawer.
12. Thanks (is, are) due to the priests and sisters of our parish.
13. Those tongs (was, were) made by my grandfather.
14. The goods (was, were) delivered yesterday.
15. These scissors (cuts, cut) cloth well.
16. Economics (is, are) my brother's hardest study.
17. The proceeds from the party (was, were) used for new band uniforms.
18. The ashes (has, have) not yet been removed.
19. The eaves of our house (has, have) been repaired.
20. My sister's clothes (is, are) always becoming.

