

NOUNS

The words in our language are classified into groups according to the jobs they perform in sentences. These groups are called *the eight parts of speech*: *nouns, pronouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions, and interjections*.

11a A *noun* is a word that names a person, place, thing, or idea.

Persons	Yo-Yo Ma, children, choir
Places	Utah, desert, restaurant, island
Things	Ilma, money, plants Nobel Prize
Ideas	truth, justice, love, freedom

11b A *proper noun* is a specific name for a particular person, place, thing, or idea. It always begins with a capital letter. A *common noun* is a general name for a group of persons, places, things, or ideas. It is not capitalized.

Proper Nouns	Common Nouns
Michelangelo	painter
South America	continent
<i>USA Today</i>	newspaper
Charles Dickens	author

Notice that some nouns are made up of more than one word. Such nouns are called *compound nouns*. As the following examples show, the parts of a compound noun may be joined or written separately.

EXAMPLES tablecloth Hollywood Abraham Lincoln
 brother-in-law high school Labor Day

11c A *concrete noun* names a person, place, or thing that can be perceived by one or more of the senses (sight, hearing, taste, touch, and smell). An *abstract noun* names an idea, a feeling, a quality, or a characteristic.

Concrete Nouns	sea, drumbeat, yogurt, deer, roses
Abstract Nouns	loyalty, curiosity, health, grace, sweetness

EXERCISE 1 Identifying and Classifying Nouns

Underline each of the nouns in the sentences below. Then on the line before each sentence, write *con.* if the noun is concrete or *abs.* if it is abstract. If there is more than one noun in a sentence, separate your answers with a semicolon.

- EX. con.; con. 1. The jellyfish is an unusual animal.
- _____ 1. I feel joy each time I walk on the beach.
- _____ 2. The Milky Way contains several hundred billion stars.
- _____ 3. Harriet thought an eternity had passed.
- _____ 4. Thomas Edison was among the pioneers in making movies.
- _____ 5. In ancient Greece, winning athletes were awarded a leafy crown.

EXERCISE 2 Revising Sentences by Using Proper Nouns

On the lines after each sentence below, revise the sentence by substituting a proper noun for each common noun. You may need to change some of the other words in the sentences. You may also make up proper names.

- EX. 1. My parrot sounds just like my uncle. _____
Paco sounds just like Uncle Mort.
1. The president traveled to his hometown. _____

2. That novel was written by my best friend. _____

3. A story about a large building was in the newspaper. _____

4. This popular actress stars in a newly released movie. _____

5. My cousin moved to a city in a faraway country. _____


PRONOUNS

11d A *pronoun* is a word used in place of a noun or more than one noun.

EXAMPLE Gather the chickens and put the chickens in the henhouse.
Gather the chickens and put **them** in the henhouse.

Following are examples of pronouns:

Singular	I, me, my, mine, you, your, yours, he, him, his, she, her, hers, it, its, myself, yourself, himself, herself, itself, this, that, everybody, someone
Plural	we, us, our, ours, you, your, yours, they, them, their, theirs, ourselves, yourselves, themselves, these, those

 **REFERENCE NOTE:** In addition to the pronouns listed above, there are many other kinds of pronouns. See the lists on pages 103, 173–175, and 213–216.

An *antecedent* is the word that a pronoun stands for (or refers to).

EXAMPLE Because the **senator** thought the crowd looked bored, **she** finished **her** speech early. [*Senator is the noun that she and her refer to.*]

Sometimes an antecedent is not stated.

EXAMPLES **I** hoped Kameron would enjoy our party.
Francis wondered **who** was at the door.

EXERCISE 3 Identifying Pronouns and Antecedents

Underline all pronouns in the following sentences. Circle the antecedent of each pronoun. Write *none* if a pronoun has no antecedent.

EX. 1. Leo said that he would run the business.

1. Startled by its own shadow, the pony slipped out of its halter.
2. Mr. Chisholm spent most of his vacation on the island of Hawaii.
3. Please buy the red flowers, for they are the most colorful.

4. Because he was so tired from chopping wood, the lumberjack took his lunch break early.
5. Rafael said, "I am ready to go home now."
6. "For some reason, I thought New Hampshire was in the other direction," said Jaime.
7. Grandfather won the race in his age group.
8. "Adam, you should clean your room thoroughly before you go out," said Mother.
9. Jason said, "Alejandro, do you want to ride with me?"
10. I asked Andrés if he had done his homework.

EXERCISE 4 Identifying Nouns and Pronouns

Rewrite each sentence, replacing the underlined words or phrases with pronouns. [Note: If necessary, rearrange some of the words.]

- EX. 1. Leonardo da Vinci was a great painter, but Leonardo da Vinci was also an inventor.

Leonardo da Vinci was a great painter, but he was also an inventor.

1. Leonardo da Vinci painted Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece the *Mona Lisa* in the early 1500s. _____

2. Some people disagree about the real name of the painting *Mona Lisa*—the real name of the painting could be *La Gioconda*. _____

3. Lisa del Giocondo was the model for the painting, and Lisa del Giocondo had no eyebrows. _____

4. Because *Mona Lisa's* smile is unusual, Mona Lisa's smile has caused many arguments. _____

5. Because many painters wanted to paint like da Vinci, many painters copied da Vinci's masterpiece. _____

ADJECTIVES

11e An *adjective* is a word that modifies a noun or a pronoun.

To *modify* a word means to describe the word or to make its meaning more definite. An adjective modifies a noun or a pronoun by telling *what kind*, *which one*, *how much*, or *how many*.

What Kind?	Which One or Ones?	How Many or How Much?
<i>long weekend</i>	<i>last year</i>	<i>thirty days</i>
<i>fast skates</i>	<i>his toys</i>	<i>no wheels</i>
<i>cheerful nurse</i>	<i>our friend</i>	<i>ninety people</i>



Some teachers prefer to call possessive forms of pronouns (such as *our*, *your*, *his*, and *their*) adjectives. Follow your teacher's instructions regarding possessive forms.

Sometimes an adjective comes after the word that it modifies.

EXAMPLE The play was **funny**. [The adjective *funny* modifies *play*.]

The most commonly used adjectives are *a*, *an*, and *the*. These adjectives are called **articles**. *A* and *an* are called **indefinite articles** because they refer to someone or something in general. *The* is called a **definite article** because it refers to someone or something in particular.

When a noun modifies another noun or a pronoun, it is considered an adjective.

Nouns	Nouns Used as Adjectives
compact	<i>compact car</i>
summer	<i>summer storm</i>
city	<i>city lights</i>
turkey	<i>turkey dinner</i>

EXERCISE 5 Identifying Adjectives

Underline the adjectives in the sentences below, and draw two lines under the noun or pronoun each adjective modifies. Do not include the articles *a*, *an*, and *the*.

- EX. 1. Many students rode on the purple bus.
1. Most tornadoes occur on hot, humid days.
 2. When we toured the city, we saw shiny, new skyscrapers next to old, historical buildings.
 3. Summer temperatures lasted for only two months.
 4. She saw many stars in the clear sky.
 5. The moon weighs eighty-one billion tons.

EXERCISE 6 Using Nouns as Adjectives

Pick four words from the group below. For each word, write two sentences on the lines provided. Use each word first as a noun, then as an adjective.

- EX. *annual* 1. The annuals in our garden are daisies.
The annual picnic always attracts a large crowd.

dress	wood	committee	boat	Lincoln	scratch
black	Texas	seafood	speech	cat	flower

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

DEMONSTRATIVE AND PROPER ADJECTIVES

11f *This, that, these, and those* can be used both as adjectives and as pronouns. When they modify a noun, they are called *demonstrative adjectives*. When they are used alone, they are called *demonstrative pronouns*.

Demonstrative Adjectives	How long did it take you to come to this conclusion about that subject? These pearls are superior to those pearls.
Demonstrative Pronouns	This came from Tanzania, and that came from Zambia. These belong with those .

11g A proper adjective is formed from a proper noun.

Proper Nouns	Proper Adjectives
Poland	<i>Polish</i> hat
Fourth of July	<i>Fourth of July</i> cookout
Congress	<i>Congressional</i> hearing
Asia	<i>Asian</i> countries

EXERCISE 7 Identifying Demonstrative Adjectives and Pronouns

In each of the following sentences, underline the demonstrative adjectives, and circle the demonstrative pronouns.

EX. This is a story about those bears.

- The weather has been very hot in this part of the state.
- That chair beside the table was made by my grandfather.
- Fruit is my favorite food during this time of year.

4. Those who wish to go to the beach should follow this path.
5. These basketball sneakers were made in Korea.

EXERCISE 8 Identifying Common and Proper Adjectives

In the following paragraph underline the common adjectives, and circle the proper adjectives. Do not include the articles *a*, *an*, and *the*.

EX. [1] Denim jeans originated in an Italian town.

[1] There, a cotton cloth similar to denim was used to make work clothes. [2] The town, Genoa, was known to French weavers as Genes. [3] An immigrant tailor, Levi Strauss, came to San Francisco during the 1850s. [4] He sold heavy canvas for making tents. He realized that the gold miners quickly wore out their trousers from the hard work. [5] Strauss made many overalls for the miners from his heavy-duty fabric. [6] After a few years, he replaced this canvas material with a softer fabric, denim. [7] Strauss borrowed an idea from a Russian Jewish tailor to strengthen the pockets by adding copper rivets at the pocket seams. [8] He used blue fabric so that stains would not show. [9] The San Francisco denim became quite famous. [10] In 1935, these practical trousers became very popular when a fashion magazine ran an advertisement for them.

CHAPTER REVIEW**A. Identifying Nouns, Pronouns, and Adjectives**

Identify each italicized word in the sentences below by writing *n.* for a noun, *pron.* for a pronoun, or *adj.* for an adjective on the lines before the sentences. Separate your answers with a semicolon.

- EX. n.; pron. 1. *Laverne* spent many hours practicing *her* speech.
 _____ 2. The construction *workers* stopped for a *lunch* break.
 _____ 3. If history repeats *itself*, *we* are in for one big surprise.
 _____ 4. When *you* are thirsty, *heat* becomes less bearable.
 _____ 5. After the celebration, *Jiro* walked to the *train* station.
 _____ 6. In swimming, the *front* crawl used to be called the *Australian* crawl.
 _____ 7. *Tasmania* is *part* of Australia.
 _____ 8. The Tasmanian devil has *black* fur with white *patches*.
 _____ 9. Did *Picasso* paint *this* picture or sculpt that monument?
 _____ 10. Did *you* buy a *British* novel?
 _____ 11. Even though *she* is reading that speech, the ideas in it are from *John*.

B. Identifying Pronouns and Antecedents

In the sentences below, underline each pronoun, and circle its antecedent. [Note: A sentence may have more than one pronoun.]

- EX. 1. The director said that she would promote the play by placing ads in the local paper.
- Mr. Mayor, are you going fishing?
 - Louis Armstrong, known to his fans as “Satchmo,” had a friendly smile.
 - We, the people, have decided to override the director’s decision.
 - Ask Wenona if she brought her sandwiches for the picnic.
 - “I am my own best friend,” said the small boy.

C. Identifying Adjectives

In the following paragraph, underline the adjectives and circle the words that they modify. Do not include *a*, *an*, and *the*.

EX. 1. The popular author James Herriot has written several books.

[1] One excellent book was made into a popular television series.

[2] The setting for Herriot's powerful stories is beautiful Yorkshire, England, where the grassy hills make a rich background for several memorable characters. [3] All the major characters are not humans, though. [4] Because Herriot is a real-life veterinarian, most of these outstanding stories feature animals. [5] In many ways, Herriot's books are unforgettable tours through the small, rural towns of the northern part of England.

D. Using Nouns, Pronouns, and Adjectives

You are a copywriter for a radio station. You have been asked to write a brief advertisement for a new amusement park. This park will open in your hometown this summer. Remember that good advertising is brief and clear. Use your five senses: sight, hearing, taste, smell, and touch. On your own paper, write a short radio spot of at least five sentences. Then underline the nouns, draw two lines under the pronouns, and circle each adjective. Do not circle *a*, *an*, and *the*.

EX. Leave the twentieth century behind! Journey back to prehistoric times! You can hear the powerful roar of the Allosaurus. You can see the Stegosaurus as they munch on leaves. Yes, all these sights can be seen at exciting, new Dinosaur Park on Highway 49. Get your tickets and join us today.