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1 Singular and Plural Nouns

Try It

Circle three nouns in the sentence. Write them on the lines.

The girl and her family camped in the mountains.

First Check: Did you circle girl, family, and mountains ?

RULE: Nouns name people, animals, places, or things.

girl	mountains	bear
boy	flatlands	dinner

Circle three nouns in each sentence.

1. In the morning, the girl runs through the forest.
2. The sky is deep blue, the lake shines brightly, and the ever-greens are, of course, green.
3. Large gray stones and rotting logs dot the hillside.
4. A brook gurgles nearby; the water gleams in the sunlight.
5. After taking off her shoes and rolling up her pants, she wades in the icy stream.
6. The harsh call of a bluejay breaks the silence.
7. A bear with a large black head is wandering down the path.

RULE: A singular noun names one person, place, or thing. A plural noun names more than one.

mountain—mountains bear—bears

Add s to most nouns to make them plural. Add es to singular nouns that end in s, x, ch, or sh.

guess—guesses box—boxes

Fix It

Write the plural form of each underlined noun.

8. The bear left the path and was hidden by the tall grass.
9. "He must catch fish for his lunch," the young girl thought.
10. Suddenly she heard noise at the camp.
11. It sounded like breaking dish.
12. Someone was throwing box around, too.
13. She heard her mother shout, "He's eating the sandwich!"





8. _____ 10. _____ 12. _____
9. _____ 11. _____ 13. _____

Add the correct plural ending for each noun.

14. mountain _____ 17. fire _____ 20. ax _____
15. guess _____ 18. bird _____ 21. birch _____
16. tax _____ 19. ash _____ 22. cabin _____

RULE: Some words have irregular plural forms. The spelling of these words changes when they become plural.

foot—feet tooth—teeth mouse—mice
man—men child—children goose—geese

Some words do not change in the plural.

moose—moose deer—deer

Fix It



Circle the incorrect plural noun in each sentence and write it correctly on the line.

23. The girl ran to the camp as fast as her foots would carry her.
24. The campers were hiding behind a tree as quiet as mouses.
25. The only sound was the chattering of her brother's tooths.
26. The bear didn't notice the childs or the adults.
27. After a while the bear lumbered off, making as much noise as a herd of mooses.
28. "We look like a bunch of silly gooses," the girl said, "but what can you do when an 800-pound bear walks into your camp?"

23. _____ 25. _____ 27. _____
24. _____ 26. _____ 28. _____

Write It



Have you ever spent any time in the woods? If not, can you imagine what it would be like? Write a short paragraph about sleeping in the woods overnight.

2 Common and Proper Nouns

Try It



Circle one common noun and underline one proper noun in this sentence.

My favorite book came from Dublin, Ireland.

- First Check: Did you circle *book*? Did you underline *Dublin, Ireland*?



RULE: Words that name classes of people, places, and things are *common nouns*. Words that name particular people, places, or things are *proper nouns*. *Proper nouns* begin with capital letters.

Common Nouns

person
country
magazine

Proper Nouns

Henri Rochetain
France
Newsweek

Here are some strange travel facts from the *Guinness Book of World Records*. Underline the proper nouns in each sentence. Circle the common nouns in each sentence.

1. Henri Rochetain walked 3,411 m (3,790 yards) on a tightrope.
2. He did this in almost four hours at Clermont-Ferand, France.
3. Abilene, Texas, was the home of Plennie L. Wingo.
4. He walked backwards from Fort Worth, Texas, to Istanbul, Turkey. It took almost two years.
5. In 1967 Clinton Shaw started out from Victoria, British Columbia.
6. He roller-skated for 7,840 km (4,900 miles) on the Trans-Canadian Highway.
7. Shaw reached Newfoundland in six and a half months.

Fix It



Circle the one mistake in each sentence. Then write the noun correctly on the line.

8. In 1970 Sally Younger traveled 169 km/h (105.14 miles per hour) on Water skis.
9. Steve McPeak traveled 3,218 km (2,000 miles) from chicago.
10. He made the trip to las vegas on a unicycle that was 3.9 m (13 feet) tall.
11. One day in 1974 Lt. col. Richard Cranshaw went for a walk.

3 Abbreviations

Try It



Circle the abbreviations in this sentence.

Dr. Thorne parked her car on Atlantic Ave. at 4 P.M.

First Check: Did you circle *Dr.*, *Ave.*, and *P.M.*?

RULE: An abbreviation is a shortened form of a word. Most abbreviations end with periods.

Mister—Mr. Ante Meridiem—A.M. pounds—lbs.
 boulevard—blvd. October—Oct. New York—N.Y.

Write these abbreviations next to the words they stand for: km, tsp., hdqrs., doz., Rd., P.S., St., Inc., mm, Blvd., Co., Jr., hr., P.M., Sr., Dr.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Boulevard _____ | 9. Incorporated _____ |
| 2. Street _____ | 10. Post Meridiem _____ |
| 3. headquarters _____ | 11. Road _____ |
| 4. kilometer _____ | 12. dozen _____ |
| 5. hour _____ | 13. teaspoon _____ |
| 6. Junior _____ | 14. Company _____ |
| 7. Postscript _____ | 15. Senior _____ |
| 8. millimeter _____ | 16. Doctor _____ |

RULE: The names of groups and organizations are *proper nouns*. These names can be abbreviated by using the first letter of each word. Small words like *and*, *of*, and *the* are not usually included in an abbreviation.

Federal Bureau of Investigation—F.B.I. United Nations—U.N.

Write an abbreviation for each proper noun.

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 17. American Kennel Club | 17. _____ | 18. _____ |
| 18. American Broadcasting Company | | |
| 19. Environmental Protection Agency | | |
| 20. Food and Drug Administration | 19. _____ | 20. _____ |



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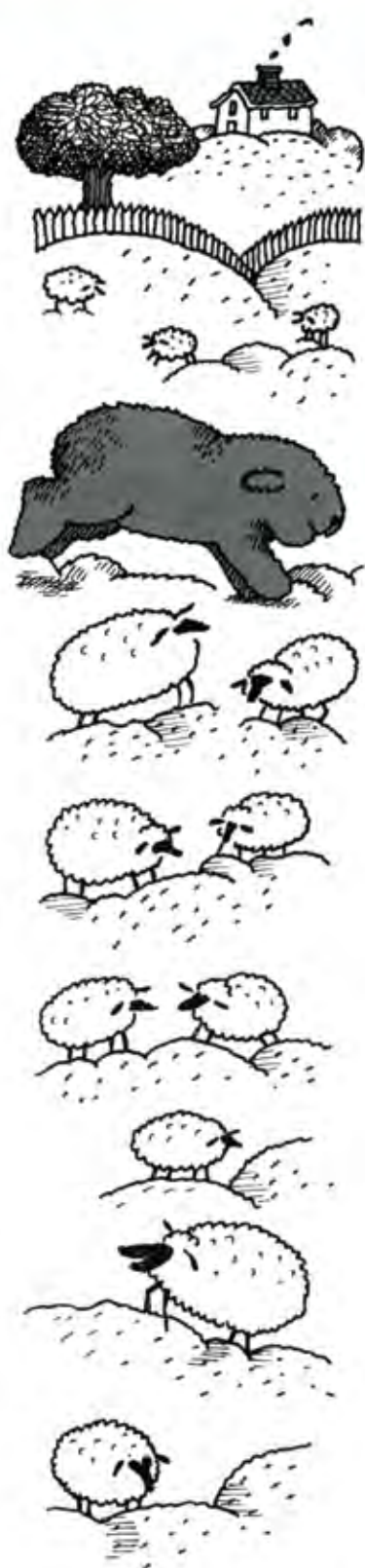
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Circle the abbreviation in each sentence. Write the word or words it stands for on the line.

21. Amy and her mother drove to Sycamore St. in Central City.
22. They parked behind the Telephone Co. building.
23. The animal shelter was at the corner of Myrtle Ave.
24. Amy laughed; a man named Dr. Katz ran the place.
25. Amy chose a sheep dog. It was registered with the A.K.C.
26. The dog weighed about 9 kg (20 lbs.).
27. She named the dog Sam Thorne Sr. because it was hard to say.
28. The doctor said Sam was 1 m tall.
29. Sam had been a sheep dog in upstate N.Y.

21. _____ 24. _____ 27. _____

22. _____ 25. _____ 28. _____

23. _____ 26. _____ 29. _____

On the lines, write one word in each sentence as an abbreviation.

30. Amy and her mother drove to their home in Monroe County.
31. Dr. Thorne works for the Environmental Protection Agency.
32. Sam loved wandering on the land that Doctor Thorne owns.
33. One day Sam did not come back for many hours.
34. Finally Amy heard his bark. She looked down Maple Road.
35. Sam was chasing at least one dozen sheep.
36. Amy thought the sheep belonged to Mister Allen.
37. He lived 10 kilometers (6.2 miles) away.
38. "I guess you really are a sheep dog," Amy said, as she called police headquarters.

30. _____ 33. _____ 36. _____

31. _____ 34. _____ 37. _____

32. _____ 35. _____ 38. _____

Write It

Think about some of the abbreviations you see every day. Write a short paragraph that uses at least five abbreviations.