

**NOUNS**

10a A *noun* is a word that names a person, place, thing, or idea.

Persons	brother, Tom Ross, jury, sisters
Places	county, Hawaii, house, river
Things	boat, Korean War, dog, pencil
Ideas	courage, freedom, joy, peace

**NOTE** Nouns that are made up of more than one word, like *Ali Sakamoto*, *Bunker Hill Monument*, and *living room*, are counted as one noun.

10b A *proper noun* names a particular person, place, thing, or idea. It always begins with a capital letter. A *common noun* names any one of a group of persons, places, things, or ideas. It is not capitalized.

Proper Nouns	Common Nouns
Aunt Mary	woman
India	country
<i>Newsweek</i>	magazine
Boston Bruins	team

**REFERENCE NOTE:** For more about capitalizing proper nouns, see pages 227–235.

**EXERCISE 1 Identifying Common and Proper Nouns**

Underline the nouns in the following sentences. On the line before each sentence, write *comm.* for a *common noun* or *prop.* for a *proper noun*. If there is more than one noun in a sentence, separate your answers with a semicolon.

- EX prop. comm. 1. Jeremy always takes the early bus.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Janell belongs to a group that studies the environment.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 2. In the myth, Theseus killed the Minotaur.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The ancient Egyptians built pyramids in the desert.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Tariq comes from Bangladesh.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The Cherokee were forced to leave their traditional homelands.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Joseph told me about the African American celebration Kwanzaa.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 7. I would not have wanted to run into that *Tyrannosaurus Rex!*  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 8. My family loves to celebrate Thanksgiving every year.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Today's paper printed a review of *Homerward Bound*.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Senator Inouye stated his views during the interview.

**EXERCISE 2 Substituting Proper Nouns for Common Nouns**


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

- EX. 1. My *grandmother* teaches people how to use computers.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ *Clara Riorien teaches people how to use computers.*
1. That famous basketball *player* scored many points in his career. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. That *rizer* is famous in United States history. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. My best *friend* knows how to make me feel good about myself. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. My favorite *author* writes entertaining stories about young people. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. We will study that foreign *country* in social studies next year. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

## THE VERB

**11a** A *verb* is a word that expresses an action or a state of being. Every sentence has a verb. The verb says something about the subject.

EXAMPLES The parakeet flew through the room. [action]  
Are the Castros from Puerto Rico? [state of being]

 **REFERENCE NOTE:** For more about subjects and verbs, see pages 83–93.

**11b** An *action verb* is a verb that expresses physical or mental action.

EXAMPLES I am washing the dishes.  
Harriet memorized most of her lines that weekend.

## EXERCISE 1 Identifying Action Verbs

The subject is italicized in each of the following sentences. Underline the action verb that tells what the subject does.

- EX. 1. *Jean Swann* crossed the Nile River.
- The *librarian* showed us the reference section.
  - In other words, *I* like Chinese food.
  - We* ran on the track during gym class.
  - In December, postal *workers* deliver many packages.
  - My stomach* ached.
  - On my birthday, *I* go to the bowling alley.
  - Myra* jumped over the old brown dog.
  - Queen *bees* hibernate in winter.
  - We* measured the plank four times.
  - Ms. Merlot* dropped her change purse.
  - Many* of the continents touch each other.
  - After January, *Jody* was not a member of the CD and tape club.
  - I* went to my room after supper.

## 112 The Verb

- The *audience* stood during the encore.
- I* painted the living room.
- Toby* presented a new book to the library.
- She* rode towards the woods.
- Clester* brushes his hair often.
- Lynn* kicked three goals on Saturday.
- Mother* bought a new computer for us.

## EXERCISE 2 Writing Sentences with Action Verbs

Choose five verbs from the group below. Use each verb to write a sentence. You may use different tenses of the verb. Underline the verbs in your sentences.

EX. write

1. *Grigor wrote* a letter to his grandfather in Vladivostok.

remember	laugh	enjoy
watch	remove	open
carry	construct	sing
sweep	kick	believe

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_