

## **REVISION OF GRAMMAR**

#### **Nouns**

#### A quick reminder:

When we talk or write about people or things, we need to name them. 'Naming' words are called **nouns**.

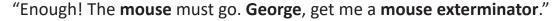
Here are some examples:

Once upon a **time** there was a **house** with a **mouse**.

The **mouse** ate the **cheese**. The **mouse** ate the **bread**.

The **mouse** ate **everything** it could find.

Finally, the **lady** of the **house**, **Mrs Brown** said,



(From The Exterminator, Comedy stories, Ziptales)

All the words highlighted are nouns.

#### **TYPES OF NOUNS**

There are different types of nouns.

#### 1 Common nouns

Common nouns are names given to things that don't require a capital letter, like **mouse**, **cheese**, **lady** and **house**. Most common nouns are 'concrete' - meaning someone or something you can see and touch.

Common nouns only use a capital letter if it is at the *beginning* of a sentence.

#### 2 Abstract nouns

Abstract nouns are names of things we cannot see or touch like **love**, **fear**, **morning** and **health**. They are often feelings and things to do with time. (The word 'time' is the most



#### 3 Collective nouns

Collective nouns are names for a group of things like a **flock** of birds, a **pack** of dogs and a **herd** of elephants. We do **not** use a capital, unless the noun is at the beginning of a sentence.

### 4 Proper nouns (names of people) eg Mrs Brown, George

These are the words for people, places and other 'official' names:

Names of people	Jack, Emily, Harry Potter, Superman
Titles	Mr, Mrs, Doctor (Dr), Professor, Prime Minister
Places	Australia, England, Sydney, melbourne, Queensland
Institutions	Red Cross, United Nations, Australian Government
Religious names	Bible, Koran, Christian, Hinduism, Islam
Events	Christmas, New Year's Eve, Olympic Games
Days and months	Monday, Saturday, January, December

## Proper nouns are always capitalised!

HINT: You can usually tell a noun if it has 'a', 'an' or 'the' in front of it.

a cat

**the** cat

an elephant

**the** elephant

**Except** for proper nouns.

They are always written on their own -

because every person or place is unique.





#### **EXERCISE 1**

Here are some sentences from the story *The Exterminator*. Write if the noun in bold type is *concrete* or *abstract*.

<ol> <li>Mrs Brown's husband looked in the phone book.</li> </ol>	
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- 2. "Can you get rid of our mouse?" he asked. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. "No worries, sir," said the voice on the other end of the phone. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Mi	4. Minutes later a van drove up						
5. Th	5. The cat left hairs on all their furniture						
6. Th	6. The cat howled every night until dawn						
7. Th	7. The dog barked every night until dawn.						
8. Th	e lion slept on their	bed every night					
9. Th	e elephant ruined t	heir garden					
10. lt	frightened the neig	ghbours.					
12. N	Ninutes later, the el	ephant had fled in terro	r				
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,			_			
EXERCISE 2							
Choose a collective noun to finish the sentences below.							
		illisii tile sentences below.					
	troup	bunch	swarm	choir			
		bunch army	swarm gang	crowd			
	troup	bunch					
	troup band team	bunch army	gang crew	crowd			
1. N	troup band team  Vlum told us to stay	bunch army galaxy	gang crew of bees.	crowd			
1. N	troup band team  Vlum told us to stay	bunch army galaxy away from the	gang crew of bees.	crowd			
1. N 2. A 3. T	troup band team  Vium told us to stay  An he	bunch army galaxy away from the of soldiers prepare	gang crew  of bees. ed for battle. rsed their performance.	crowd			
1. N 2. A 3. T 4. T	troup band team  Vlum told us to stay  The  There was a huge	bunch army galaxy away from the of soldiers prepare of musicians rehear	gang crew  of bees. ed for battle. rsed their performance.	crowd stack			
1. N 2. A 3. T 4. T 5. I	troup band team  Vium told us to stay  An he here was a huge helped Dad choose	bunch army galaxy away from the of soldiers prepare of musicians rehear	gang crew  of bees.  ed for battle.  rsed their performance.  people at the concert.  of grapes at the fo	crowd stack			
1. N 2. A 3. T 4. T 5. I	troup band team  Num told us to stay  The There was a huge helped Dad choose A large	bunch army galaxy  away from the of soldiers prepare of musicians rehear of j	gang crew  of bees.  ed for battle.  rsed their performance.  people at the concert.  of grapes at the fo	crowd stack			
1. N 2. A 3. T 4. T 5. I 6. A 7. N	troup band team  Num told us to stay  The There was a huge helped Dad choose A large My aunty joined the	bunch army galaxy  away from the of soldiers prepare of musicians rehear of j a nice of sailors boarded c of sailors boarded	gang crew  of bees.  ed for battle.  rsed their performance.  people at the concert.  of grapes at the fo	stack			

# Challenge

Research what animal groups these unusual collective nouns are describing.

A gaggle of	A crash of	
A pride of	A dazzle of	
A parliament of	A wisdom of	
A murder of	A school of	
A flutter of	A pounce of	
A clutch of	A cloud of	
A bloat of	A smack of	
A mob of	A bed of	