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

Nouns come in many different types.

A **common noun** is a general type of person, place, or thing.

Examples: dog, city, school, building, book

A **proper noun** identifies a particular person or thing.

Examples: Chihuahua, Milton, Union Elementary, White House,
The Hunger Games

Directions: Rewrite each of the following common nouns as a proper noun.

(Example: street --- Elm Street)

politician _____

mountain _____

state _____

team _____

athlete _____

band _____

actress _____

amusement park _____

movie _____

Nouns can also be

concrete - something that can be seen, heard, touched, tasted, or smelled

Examples: painting, music, floor, pancakes, flower

abstract - an idea or concept that not perceived by the senses

Examples: happiness, freedom, stress, diligence

Directions: Write some examples of your own concrete and abstract nouns.

Concrete	Abstract
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

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Nouns can also be**singular** (boy, girl, tree, bike, box)**plural** (boys, girls, trees, bikes, boxes)**collective** or **group** (team, choir, committee, class, jury, panel)

Most nouns form the plural by adding 's' or 'es' as in *girls* and *boxes*. However, some nouns form their plurals in odd ways, such as *child* and *children*. Complete the following by adding in either the singular or plural form of the noun.

Singular	Plural
mouse	
foot	
	wolves
	ladies
calf	
	halves
	geese
	pyjamas
	teeth
sheep	
man	
deer	
louse	
	oxen
vertebra	
alumnus	

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A **pronoun** is a word that takes the place of a noun. Imagine telling a story if there were no **pronouns**.

Joe listened for sounds in the hall. Joe snuck out of Joe's room, ran downstairs, and jumped on Joe's bike. Joe pedaled Joe's bike as fast as Joe could.

Directions: Now fill in the blanks below so that the same passage is less confusing.

Joe listened for sounds in the hall. _____ snuck out of _____ room, ran downstairs, and jumped on _____ bike. _____ pedaled _____ bike as fast as _____ could.

Pronouns come in several different types. The ones we use most often are **personal pronouns**. Like nouns, **personal pronouns** come in singular and plural forms. Unlike nouns, pronouns change to show first person, second person, and third person. If you have ever learned to conjugate verbs in a foreign language class, the chart of pronouns below may look familiar.

	Singular	Plural
first person (the one speaking)	I, me, my, mine	we, us, our, ours
second person (the one spoken to)	you, your, yours	you, your, yours
third person (the one spoken about)	him, her, his, hers, its	they, them, their, theirs

Other pronouns examples are:

demonstrative (point things out)	indefinite (vague; refer to unknown people or things)	reflexive (end is <i>-self</i>)
this, that, these, those	anybody, anyone, everybody, someone, nobody, both, few, many, none, all	myself, yourself, himself, herself, themselves (Do NOT use <i>hisself</i> or <i>theirselves</i>)

Directions: Highlight or circle all the pronouns in the following passage.

Joe ran into the school and found it empty. "Bill! Coach Davis!" he shouted. Nobody answered. He shouted again, "Is anybody here?" Still no one answered.

Joe went downstairs to the cafeteria, but he found the doors locked. He looked through the windows to see a dark, bulky shape on a nearby table. "That is my jacket," he muttered to himself. "I could just kick myself for leaving it here."

He went down the hall. The light in the custodian's office was on. The custodian stood over his desk sorting keys and marking a checklist with his pen.

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A **verb** expresses action or a state of being.

Verbs such as *jump*, *twitch*, *stomp*, *exasperate*, and *annoy* may be obvious, but words such as *sleep*, *dream*, *recline*, and *rest* are verbs, too.

Some **verbs** are about a state of being.

You *look* tired.

I *feel* happy.

Everything *appears* normal.

Forms of *be*, such as *am*, *is*, *are*, *was*, *were*, *be*, *being*, and *been*, are the most commonly used **verbs** about a state of being.

There *are* three cars in the driveway.

I *am* in the seventh grade.

She *is* my neighbor.

Directions: Read through the sentences below and underline the verbs. Some sentences may have more than one verb.

1. In the winter, our house makes strange noises.
2. Doors on old brass hinges creak as they open and close.
3. Pipes in the basement shudder when the hot water heater starts up.
4. Loose floorboards crack from the weight of footsteps.
5. The rustle of window curtains whispers softly when the winds blow outside.
6. The old china cabinet rattles noisily each time a truck passes by.
7. Beams and rafters in the attic strain and groan during the cold, windy nights.
8. Often, members of my family sit silently and listen for these noises of the house.
9. Each of us makes a list of the various sounds.
10. Sometimes we pretend that ghosts lurk upstairs and cause the eerie noises.

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Many words in the English language can serve as more than one part of speech. Some words may be used as nouns, adjectives, and verbs without any change in spelling.

(noun) **Running** is a popular form of exercise.

(adjective) There was a fallen tree blocking the **running** path.

(verb) The boys are **running** to catch the bus.

Directions: Write the correct part of speech above each of the underlined words.

N for noun

P for pronoun

V for verb

1. Niall lived in Blountshire, England in 1999.
2. She spent most of the day watching videos on the computer.
3. Joan, Betsy, and Kate are sisters.
4. He was not very successful as a writer, so he decided to go back to school.
5. The telephone was on silent mode and its vibration caused it to fall off the table.
6. She also worked as a seamstress, nanny, and nurse to help her family.
7. That tree has lost its leaves.
8. Danny published his first novel just last year.
9. He furiously pedaled along the straight and narrow road.
10. In this lesson, we will read a short passage.
11. How many oranges have been eaten?
12. The *Harry Potter* series is so popular that J.K. Rowling never needs to work again.
13. Imagine if that story gained some publicity!
14. Swimming is a sport that can be continued as you age.

Directions: Now, go back and highlight the main subject of each sentence.

ASSIGNMENT: Working with Verbs

1. Use each of the following words in two sentences, first as a noun and then as a verb:

rain

a. _____

b. _____

dream

a. _____

b. _____

cook

a. _____

b. _____

jump

a. _____

b. _____

coach

a. _____

b. _____

2. Some verbs sound like what they mean. A few examples are *slap*, *hoot*, *screech*, *slash*, and *buzz*. Can you think of a few more examples?
