



**CLASS IX & X**  
**ENGLISH GRAMMAR**  
**PART I**  
**LESSON 3 - KINDS OF NOUN**

**NOTES**

**Nouns are the names of persons, animals, places, things, actions, qualities, feelings and states. They can be broadly divided into two:**

- i. Concrete Noun:** A Concrete Noun is the name of a concrete object or an object of sense i.e. an object which can be seen, touched, heard, smelt and tasted.

**Example:** The **table** is made of **wood**.

According to whether the concrete nouns can be counted or not, we can again divide them into:

- a. Countable nouns:** Concrete Nouns that can be counted.

Example: I want a nice **pen**.

- b. Uncountable nouns:** Concrete Nouns that cannot be counted.

Example: **Gold** is a costly metal.

- ii. Abstract Noun:** An Abstract is the name of an abstract thing i.e. quality, feeling, action or state. It names a thing which we can only think of or feel but cannot be touched or seen. It has no physical existence.

**Example:** **Death** is something which cannot be avoided.

Further,

**Concrete Nouns may be sub-divided into four groups or classes.**

- 1. Common Noun:** A Common Noun is the name of a person or thing who or which belongs to a group or class.

**Example:** He is a good **boy**.



2. **Proper Noun:** A Proper Noun is the name of a particular person, place or thing to single it out of others of its group or class.

**Example:** Imphal is the capital of Manipur.

3. **Material Noun:** A Material Noun is the name of a substance or material out of which things are made.

**Example:** This bucket is made of brass.

4. **Collective Noun:** A Collective Noun is the name of a group or collection of persons, animals or things of the same kind, considered as a single whole.

**Example:** He is looking after a flock of sheep.

#### Formation of Abstract Nouns:

There are various ways of forming Abstract Nouns. They are generally formed from:

- a. Common Noun                      b. Adjectives                      c. Verbs

i. **Formation of Abstract Nouns from Common Nouns**

Common Noun	Abstract Noun
Child	Childhood
Hero	Heroism
Slave	Slavery

ii. **Formation of Abstract Nouns from Adjectives**

Adjective	Abstract Noun
Brave	Bravery
Kind	kindness
Proud	Pride

iii. **Formation of Abstract Nouns from Verbs**

Verb	Abstract Noun
Believe	Belief
Choose	Choice
Serve	Service
Desire	Desire



**Also, note the following regarding the use of Nouns:**

1. Some Proper Nouns can be used as Common Nouns.

**Example:** Khamba is the **Hercules** of Manipur. (A very strong man)

2. Some Material Nouns are used as Common Nouns.

**Example:** The boy plays with **marbles**.

3. A Collective Noun sometimes refers to the individual members of the collection and not to the group or collection as a whole. The Collective Noun then is called **Noun of Multitude** and the number of the Collective Noun changes.

**Example:** The **jury** were unable to agree on many points.

Here, 'jury' which is generally regarded as a Collective Noun has lost its quality of wholeness and used as a Noun of Multitude.

4. A Collective Noun becomes a Common Noun when it denotes more groups or collections.

**Example:** The **armies** of the surrounding countries attacked the country.

5. Material Nouns and Abstract Nouns become Common Nouns when they are particularized or when they denote things instead of the materials.

**Example:** The **water** of the Ganges is very sacred to the Hindus.

The bride is really a **beauty**.

6. An Abstract Noun becomes a Proper Noun when it is personified.

**Example:** **Death**, be not proud.

7. A Common Noun is sometimes used to express an abstract idea. It is then known as **Concrete for Abstract**.

**Example:** The **mother** in her made the woman able to forgive her son's cruelty.



8. Sometimes, a Common Noun becomes a proper Noun when it denotes a particular person or thing as distinguished from the class it belong to.

**Example:** The divine **Father** will bless you.

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