

Exercises in Grammar

Grade 6

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The Exercises in Grammar program has been devised to introduce a new “back-to-basics” curriculum. This resource emphasizes the teaching of the fundamentals of grammar, and the rules needed to implement it.

Recognizing that many teachers, particularly new teachers, may have gone through a school system which did not teach formal grammar, this resource attempts to simplify the grammatical process as much as possible.

This resource is the first of a series of three books called Exercises in Grammar. These books cover the grammar objectives for grades 6, 7 and 8.

Each of these books reviews the grammar taught in the earlier grades and integrates the new work into this review. The grade 6 curriculum emphasizes subordinate clauses, adjective and adverb phrases and comparison of adjectives. The lessons are set up through overheads, followed by exercises, followed by tests.

These resources should be used in conjunction with the current Language texts so that the grammar study may be integrated with the writing.

PART A: THE PARTS OF SPEECH

Overhead #1

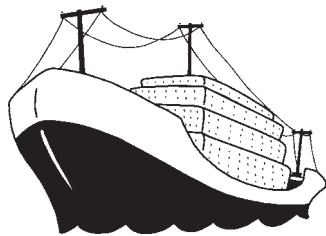
NOUNS

What is a noun?

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

What are some examples of nouns?

Person	Place	Thing	Idea/Quality
Amy police man girl father	Chicago city ocean France	house ship summer cat	love dream fear happiness



How to spot a noun:
except for the names of persons, places or animals
you can put the words “the”, “a” or “an” before a noun
and it will still make sense.

PART A: THE PARTS OF SPEECH

Overhead #2

NOUNS: KINDS OF NOUNS

All nouns are either COMMON or PROPER.

What is a PROPER noun?

**A PROPER NOUN NAMES A PARTICULAR
PERSON, PLACE or THING.**

**PROPER NOUNS ALWAYS BEGIN WITH
A CAPITAL LETTER.**

EXAMPLES:

**Homer
Washington
Arrowhead Stadium**

**A COMMON NOUN DOES NOT NAME A PARTICULAR
PERSON, PLACE, THING OR IDEA.**

**ALL NOUNS THAT ARE NOT PROPER NOUNS
ARE COMMON NOUNS.**

EXAMPLES:

**man
country
stadium**

PART A: THE PARTS OF SPEECH

EXERCISE 2: COMMON AND PROPER NOUNS

The following passage is taken from the novel, The Story of Doctor Dolittle by Hugh Lofting. Underline all the common nouns. Circle all the proper nouns. (Remember that proper nouns begin with capital letters, but not all words beginning with capital letters are proper nouns.)

At last, when daylight began to come through the thick leaves overhead, they heard Queen Ermintrude saying in a very tired voice that it was no use looking any more--that they might as well go back and get some sleep.

As soon as the soldiers had all gone home, Chee-Chee brought the Doctor and his animals out of the hiding place and they set off for the Land of the Monkeys.

It was a long, long way; and they often got very tired--especially Gub-Gub. But when he cried they gave him milk out of coconuts, which he was very fond of.

They always had plenty to eat and drink, because Chee-Chee and Polynesia knew all the different kinds of fruits and vegetables that grow in the jungle, and where to find them--like dates and figs and groundnuts and ginger and yams. They used to make their lemonade out of the juice of wild oranges, sweetened with honey which they got from the bees' nests in hollow trees.

PART A: THE PARTS OF SPEECH

Overhead #3

PLURALS OF NOUNS

1. Most nouns in English form the plural by adding *s*:

Examples: dog – *dogs*, mother – *mothers*, tree – *trees*

2. Nouns ending in *s*, *x*, *ch* or *sh* form the plural by adding *es*:

Examples: mess – *messes*, box – *boxes*, branch – *branches*,
dish – *dishes*

3. Nouns ending in *y* preceded by a consonant form the plural by changing the *y* to *i* and adding *es*:

Examples: army – *armies*, sky – *skies*, butterfly – *butterflies*

4. Nouns ending in *y* preceded by a vowel form the plural by adding *s*:

Examples: boy – *boys*, day – *days*

5. Some nouns change the vowel to form a plural or even add letters:

Examples: woman – *women*, child – *children*, goose – *geese*

6. There are exceptions to most of these rules.

PART A: THE PARTS OF SPEECH

EXERCISE 3: PLURALS OF NOUNS

Make sure you have copied the rules for Plurals of Nouns from Overhead #3 into your notebook, because you will need them to complete this exercise.

In the space provided, write the plural of each of the following nouns. Next to it, write the number of the rule from Overhead #3 which accounts for the plural formation. Think of each word as: Singular: one ___; Plural: two ___--as in "one boy, two boys".

- | | | | |
|---------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| 1. shark | _____ | 14. fox | _____ |
| 2. mountain | _____ | 15. elf | _____ |
| 3. man | _____ | 16. farm | _____ |
| 4. child | _____ | 17. diary | _____ |
| 5. radish | _____ | 18. combat | _____ |
| 6. moose | _____ | 19. summer | _____ |
| 7. president | _____ | 20. lady | _____ |
| 8. alligator | _____ | 21. uncle | _____ |
| 9. princess | _____ | 22. idea | _____ |
| 10. sport | _____ | 23. sheep | _____ |
| 11. toe | _____ | 24. fish | _____ |
| 12. Christmas | _____ | 25. library | _____ |
| 13. river | _____ | 26. Spaniard | _____ |