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

There are different types of nouns:

A common noun names any one of a group of persons, places, things, or ideas.

Persons: hero, teachers, audience
Places: museum, countries, rain forest
Things: stereo, songs, fences
Ideas: sympathy, fairness, generosity, impressionism.

A proper noun names a particular person, place, thing or idea.

Generally, common nouns are not capitalized: proper nouns are.

Robert Frost, San Diego, Pacific Ocean, Texas, Newsome Street

Common noun      Proper noun
Mountain          Mount McKinley
Novelist          Louisa May Alcott
Museum            Museum of Fine Arts
Ship              The Black Pearl
Movie             The Man From Snowy River

Compound Nouns consist of two or more words that together name a person, a place, a thing, or an idea.

The parts of a compound noun may be written as one word, as separate words, or as a hyphenated word.
**One Word**
Basketball
Newspaper

**Separate Words**
Civil rights
Arts and Crafts Club

**Hyphenated Word**
No-hitter
Sister-in-law

**A concrete noun**
Names a person, a place, or a thing that can be perceived by one or more of the senses
(sight, hearing, taste, touch, and smell).

**An abstract noun**
Names an idea, a feeling, a quality or a characteristic.

**Concrete Nouns**
Dog
Sunset
Thunder
Silk
Nile River

**Abstract Nouns**
Liberty
Beauty
Kindness
Success
Buddhism

**A collective noun**
Names a group of people, animals, or things.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Audience</th>
<th>Crowd</th>
<th>Orchestra</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Batch</td>
<td>Flock</td>
<td>Pride</td>
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<td>Bouquet</td>
<td>Gaggle</td>
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<td>Bunch</td>
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<td>Staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cluster</td>
<td>Litter</td>
<td>Swarm</td>
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**A possessive noun**
Is one that shows ownership.

Dad’s car is in the shop.
Mary’s cousin is visiting from California.
The article appeared in this morning’s paper.

To form the **possessive case** of a singular noun, add an *apostrophe* and an *s* or just an *apostrophe*, depending upon the way you pronounce the word.