

Read the following paragraph.

As an active *member* of a renowned *organisation*, *Sam* goes around the *city* to help stray *animals* that are ill-treated or neglected. He recently adopted an abandoned *dog* and named him *Tiger*. His *circle* of *friends* also stepped forward to help in the *process* of *Tiger's* *recovery*. Now, *Tiger* is a healthy dog and loves to drink *milk*. *Sam* believes that just like us, *animals* also need *love* and *care*.



You have learnt about nouns and their types in the previous grades. In the paragraph above, all the words in red are **nouns**.

Nouns are naming words used to refer to people, places, animals, things, qualities, ideas, feelings or states of being.

Examples:

During his *childhood*, *Krish* won several *competitions*.

We get *fibre* such as *cotton*, *hemp*, *jute* and *flax* from *plants*.

She is a talented *painter* as well as a *singer*.

1. Underline the nouns in the following sentences.

(a) The sun provides light and heat to humans, plants and animals.

(b) Tanya plays badminton in that park with Sumit.

(c) The organisers gave a bouquet of flowers to the chief guest.

(d) Ismael wants to make a kitchen garden in the backyard.

(e) This utensil is made of aluminium and silver.



- (f) Mahatma Gandhi propagated the ideas of peace and non-violence through his philosophy.
- (g) The doctor said that sprouts help in improving digestion.
- (h) Determination, along with patience and confidence, leads one to success.

nouns can be divided into: proper nouns and common nouns, countable nouns and uncountable nouns, concrete nouns and abstract nouns, and collective nouns.

Let us study each type in detail. Look at the following sentences.

Varun Dhawan is an extremely popular actor.

The Taj Mahal is one of the most famous buildings in the world.

The Ganges is the longest river in India.

The words in red are specific names of a person, a monument, a river, and a country. These are examples of **proper nouns**.

A **proper noun** is a specific name of an entity such as a person, a place or an object. A proper noun always begins with a capital letter.

Examples:

I will see the Himalayas for the first time on Wednesday.

Ruskin Bond is my favourite author, and Kamala Das my favourite poet.

The children are busy decorating the hall for Christmas.

Now, look at these sentences again.

Varun Dhawan is an extremely popular actor.

The Taj Mahal is one of the most famous buildings in the world.

The Ganges is the longest river in India.

As explained above, Varun Dhawan, Taj Mahal, Ganges and India are all examples of proper nouns. However, the words in red in the above sentences, namely actor, buildings, world and river, do not specify any particular person, place or object. Each of them stands for a class instead of a specific entity. They are examples of **common nouns**.

A common

Please get me some sweets from the shop in Himalaya Bazaar.
Cherries and mangoes are really sweet.

Note: Sometimes, proper nouns can be used as common nouns. The proper nouns, however, still begin with a capital letter.

Examples:

Shakespeare wrote several plays and sonnets. (Proper noun)

Kalidasa is the *Shakespeare* of India. (Common noun)

2. Underline the nouns in the following sentences. Put them in the respective columns in the table. One has been done for you.

- (a) Rita could not lift the box as it was too heavy.
- (b) Fifteen boys are sitting quietly in the classroom.
- (c) Mihir got up from the bed and walked towards the kitchen.
- (d) They have decided to go to the mall and buy some clothes for the party.
- (e) Vatican City is the smallest country in the world.
- (f) The girl threw the ball to her cat, Purrry.
- (g) Leonardo da Vinci painted one of the most famous paintings of all time, the Mona Lisa.
- (h) The elections will be held in three states: Bihar, Maharashtra and Telangana.

Proper Noun	Common Noun
<u>Rita</u> , <u>Fifteen boys</u> , <u>Mihir</u> , <u>mall</u> <u>Vatican city</u> , <u>girl</u> , <u>Purrry</u> <u>Leonardo da Vinci</u> , <u>Mona Lisa</u> , <u>Bihar</u> , <u>Maharashtra</u> <u>Telangana</u>	<u>box</u> , <u>classroom</u> , <u>bed</u> , <u>kitchen</u> <u>clothes</u> , <u>country</u> , <u>world</u> , <u>cat</u> <u>Painting</u> , <u>elections</u>

Common nouns are further classified into two categories: countable nouns and uncountable nouns.

Let us look at the following sentences to understand the difference between countable and uncountable nouns.

The *patient* took his *pills* with lukewarm *water*.

I want to have an *apple* and some *milk*.

Her *kindness* makes her stand out among all the *leaders*.