

What Is a Proper Noun?



Getting Started

What is a **noun**?

A noun is a naming word. Nouns are used to identify people, places, objects, animals or ideas. There are several different types of nouns; we most commonly use 'common nouns'.

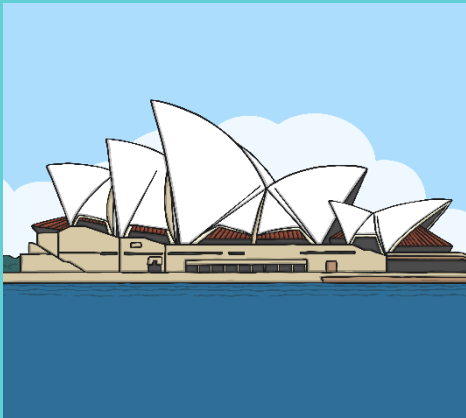
So, what is a **common noun**?

Common nouns are the general names for people, places, objects or animals. For example:

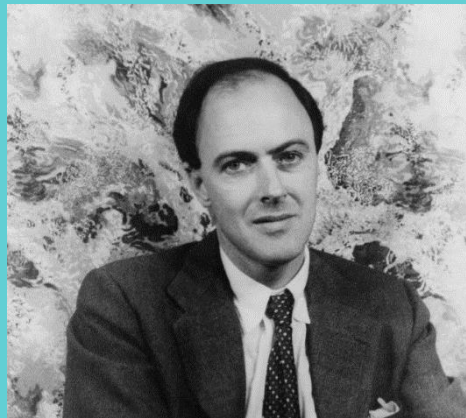


Getting Started

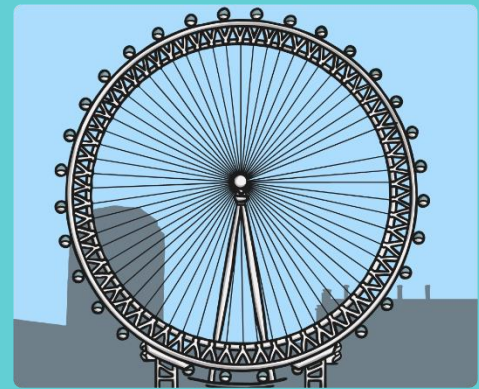
Proper nouns are different in that they name **specific places, objects or people**. A proper noun should always start with a **capital letter**.



Sydney



Roald Dahl



London Eye

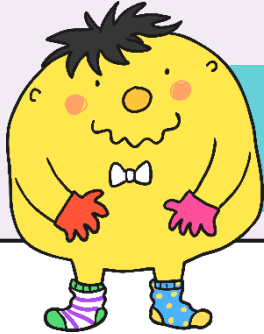
Months of the year, days of the week, some religious events and brand names are also considered to be **proper nouns**.

Next Steps

Could you help me to fill in this common noun and proper noun chart?
The first missing answer is completed for you:

Common Noun	Proper Noun
woman	J. K. Rowling
country	
	Africa
cartoon character	
famous landmark	
	August
day of the week	
city	
restaurant	

Proper Noun Hunt



Can you spot the missing capital letters for the proper nouns in Mr. Whoops' letter?

12 green lane,
whoopsville,
TX 76123

Dear mr. williams,

I am writing to you to complain about my recent visit to your supermarket, costsavers, on thursday, january 12, 2017. After a recent vacation in europe (where I visited portugal, spain and italy), I came to your store to purchase some ingredients to make a mediterranean meal like the one I had eaten near the colosseum.

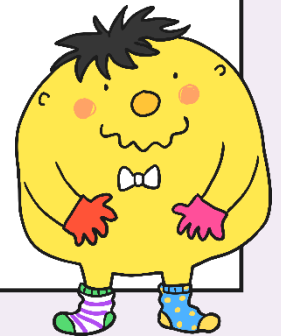
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Proper Noun Hunt Continued

While in your fruit and vegetable aisle, I accidentally tripped over a red onion and two of your shop assistants, whose name badges read daniel and julie, proceeded to laugh at me hysterically. They never offered me any help or assistance. I was appalled.

I raced outside, got into my car and went straight home empty-handed. I had to call my local branch of palace pizzas to order takeout. I will not be coming back in your shop until I get a full apology. If I don't receive a letter by wednesday march 1st, I am even considering writing to the whoopsville government or the president to express my disgust.

Yours sincerely,
mr. whoops



Practice Your Skills

Can you spot the three proper nouns hidden behind the numbered squares?
When you think you've got them, write them carefully on your whiteboards with a capital letter.

1

2

3

Could you use one of your proper nouns in a compound sentence?

Practice Your Skills

Can you spot the three proper nouns hidden behind the numbered squares?
When you think you've got them, write them carefully on your whiteboards with a capital letter.

Clue: They all begin with the same letter.

1

2

3

Could you use one of your proper nouns in a complex sentence?

Let's Play!

Do you think you could shout out a proper noun for each letter of the alphabet before you run out of time?

It might be a person's name, a country, a landmark, a city or town, a month or day, an event or a brand name.

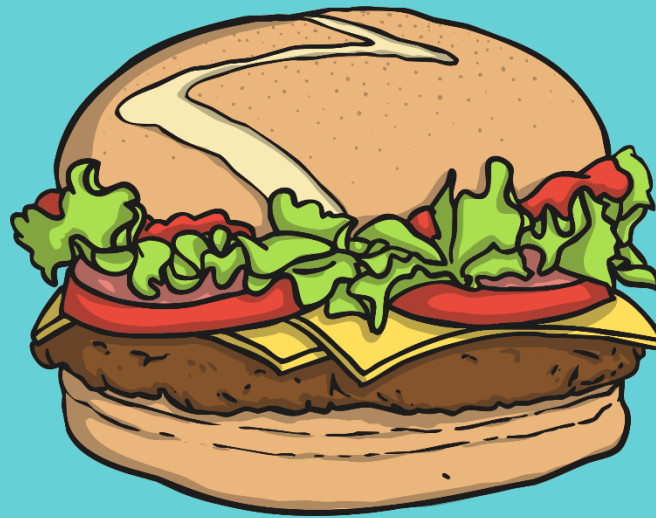
You must think quickly!



Quiz Question 1

Can you spot all the proper nouns that need capitalizing in this extract:

Marie and **Mark** are twins, who live at 132 **Rosemary Road** in **Madison**. Their birthday is in **September**. They love to visit **Bernie's Burger Bar** in their hometown of **Middleton**.



Quiz Question 2

If I say a common noun, can you name a more specific proper noun?
e.g. cat - Garfield

dinosaur - ?

pop star - ?

football team - ?

Quiz Question 3

Which words are the proper nouns in the following sentences?

- a) On **friday** I went to see my grandmother at her house.
- b) Last year, I celebrated **thanksgiving** at home.
- c) Over the weekend, we went to the movies in town to see the new movie by **pixar**.

