

NOUN

Noun is a naming word.

Noun is a word that refers to a person (such as *Ann* or *doctor*), a place (such as *Paris* or *city*) or a thing, a quality or an activity (such as *plant*, *joy* or *tennis*) (Oxford Advance Learner's Dictionary)

Types of Noun

1. **Common Noun** – Boy, Girl, River, City, Book
2. **Proper Noun** – Amit, Sneha, Ganga, Mumbai
3. **Collective Noun** – Class, Team, Batch, Army

Examples of Collective Nouns:

- Pack of wolves
 - Caravan of camels
 - Flight of birds
 - Muster of peacocks
 - Parliament of owls
 - Pride of lions
 - Herd of cows
 - Cluster of cats
 - Cluster of stars
 - Bench of judges
 - Fleet of ships/aircrafts
 - Heap of garbage
4. **Material Noun** – Cotton, Gold, Plastic, Wood, Paper, Cement, Wool, Rice, Salt, Bread, Flour, Petrol, Ink

5. **Abstract Noun** – Excitement, Confusion, Anger, Happiness, Beauty, Intelligence, Bravery, Kindness, Honesty, Time, Morality, Illness, Freedom, Unemployment, Poverty, Failure

Countable and Uncountable Nouns

This machine makes too much **noise**. (Uncountable)

I heard some **noises**. (Countable)

Plural nouns are always countable.

He doesn't have much **experience**. (Uncountable)

I want to share a few **experiences** of my life. (Countable)

Singular and Plural Forms of Nouns

A. Regular Plural Formation

Rule 1: Add –s

book → books

pen → pens

Rule 2: Add –es (for words ending in s, ss, sh, ch, x, z)

1. Words Ending in –s

Singular	Plural
bus	buses
gas	gases
lens	lenses

2. Words Ending in –ss

Singular	Plural
class	classes
glass	glasses
dress	dresses

3. Words Ending in –sh

Singular	Plural
brush	brushes
dish	dishes
wish	wishes

4. Words Ending in –ch

Singular	Plural
church	churches
watch	watches
match	matches

5. Words Ending in –x

Singular	Plural
box	boxes
fox	foxes
tax	taxes

6. Words Ending in -z

Singular	Plural
quiz	quizzes
buzz	buzzes
topaz	topazes

We add -es because these endings produce a hissing or sibilant sound. Adding only -s would make pronunciation difficult.

Rule 3: Words ending in -y

1. If vowel + y → add s
boy → boys
2. If consonant + y → change y to ies
city → cities

Rule 4: Words ending in -f or -fe


Change to -ves

leaf → leaves

knife → knives

English Grammar

By Asst. Professor Kashi Bishnoi





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Noun Gender

Gender in grammar refers to the classification of nouns based on sex or the absence of sex distinction.

In English, noun gender is divided into four types:

1. Masculine Gender
2. Feminine Gender
3. Common Gender
4. Neuter Gender

1. Masculine Gender

A noun that denotes a male person or animal.

Examples:

- man
- king
- father
- uncle
- lion
- actor

Example sentence:

The king ruled the kingdom wisely.

2. Feminine Gender

A noun that denotes a female person or animal.

Examples:

- woman
- queen
- mother
- aunt
- lioness
- actress

Example sentence:

The queen addressed the people.

3. Common Gender

A noun that can refer to either male or female.

Examples:

- teacher
- student
- child
- doctor
- friend
- cousin

Example sentence:

The teacher explained the lesson.

(Teacher can be male or female.)

4. Neuter Gender

A noun that denotes non-living things, objects, places, or abstract ideas.

Examples:

- book
- table
- city
- pen
- honesty
- computer

Example sentence: The book is on the table.

Important Masculine – Feminine Pairs

Masculine	Feminine
king	queen
man	woman
father	mother
uncle	aunt
brother	sister
husband	wife
lion	lioness
tiger	tigress
actor	actress
hero	heroine
prince	princess
waiter	waitress

Ways to Form Feminine Gender

1. By adding –ess

lion → lioness

actor → actress

host → hostess

2. By using a different word

man → woman

king → queen

boy → girl

3. By placing a word before or after

he-goat / she-goat

male teacher / female teacher

Modern Usage Note (Very Important)

In modern English:


- Words like actor, poet, author are used for both genders.
- The use of “authoress” and “poetess” is becoming rare.
- Gender-neutral language is preferred in formal writing.

Example:

- ✓ Chairperson (instead of chairman)
- ✓ Police officer (instead of policeman)

Quick Summary

Type	Meaning
Masculine	Male
Feminine	Female
Common	Either male or female
Neuter	Non-living things



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