

Learn It!

Every word belongs to a word group—a part of speech. There are eight parts of speech: noun, pronoun, verb, preposition, conjunction, adjective, adverb, interjection.

The first part of speech that you will learn is the noun.

Noun

A **noun** names a person, place, thing, or idea.

To determine if a word is a noun, test it:

Can an article adjective (a, an, the) come before it?
Is it countable?

Find It! Read the sentence and look for the words that name people, places, things, and ideas.

Mark It! Write *n* above each noun as shown below.

n *n* *n*
The soldiers walked over hills and rivers.

Capitalization

Capitalize the first word of a sentence.

Fix It! Place three short lines below letters that should be capitalized.

the soldiers were hungry.

End Marks

Use a period at the end of a statement.

Use a question mark at the end of a question.

Fix It! Place a period or question mark at the end of each sentence.

They were tired.

Where could they find work?

Indentation

Notice that some sentences are indented. An indented sentence means that the sentence begins a new paragraph.

For more information about nouns, see page G-5.

Noun Tests:

the _____

two _____

For more information about indentation, see page G-31.

In fiction (stories), there are four reasons to start a new paragraph:

new speaker,
new topic,
new place,
new time.

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Noun

Definition:
A noun names a person, place, thing, or idea.

Tests:

the _____

two _____

Capitalization

Capitalize the first word of a sentence.

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End Marks

Use a period at the end of a statement.

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They were tired.

Where could they find work?

Indentation

Notice that some sentences are indented. An indented sentence means that the sentence begins a new paragraph.

Read It!

did you ever hear the story of the three
poor soldiers

Mark It!

2 nouns (n)

Fix It!

1 capital
1 end mark

Day 1

poor
lacking sufficient money

did you ever hear the story of the three
poor soldiers?

Capitalization **Did** first word of the sentence

End Marks Use a question mark at the end of a question.

Rewrite It!

Did you ever hear the story of the three poor soldiers?

Read It!

Mark It!

Fix It!

1 vocabulary

2 nouns (n)

1 capital

1 end mark

did you ever hear the story of the three

poor soldiers

Rewrite It!

Parts of Speech

Every word belongs to a word group—a **part of speech**. There are eight parts of speech. Many words can be used as different parts of speech. However, a word will only perform one part of speech at a time. (*Light* is a verb in *The fireworks light the sky*. *Light* is a noun in *We need more light*. *Light* is an adjective in *It is a light load*.)

One must look at how words are used in a sentence to determine their parts of speech. To see how these parts of speech are used as IEW dress-ups and sentence openers, see the Stylistic Techniques section beginning on page G-37.

Noun

A **noun** names a person, place, thing, or idea.

To determine if a word is a noun, ask if an article adjective (a, an, the) comes before it or if it is countable.

A **common noun** names a general person, place, or thing. It is not capitalized.

A **proper noun** names a specific person, place, or thing. It is capitalized.

The *king* is a common noun, but *King James* is a proper noun.

A *beagle* is a common noun, but the name of my pet beagle *Benji* is a proper noun.

A **compound noun** is two or more words combined to form a single noun. They can be written three different ways. To spell compound words correctly, consult a dictionary.

separate words *fairy tale; Robin Hood; ice cream*

hyphenated words *merry-go-round; son-in-law; seventy-two*

one word *grandmother; railroad; moonlight*

Noun Tests:
the _____
two _____

Additional Concepts

Indentation

In copy work, indent by doing two things: 1) start on the next line, and 2) start writing $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from the left margin.

To mark indentation, add the ¶ symbol or an arrow (➔) in front of each sentence that should start a new paragraph.

In fiction (stories), there are four reasons to start a new paragraph.

The paragraph mark (¶) is called a pilcrow.

New Speaker

Start a new paragraph when a new character speaks. Include the attribution with the quotation.

She cried loudly, “Thieves!”

If a narrative sentence sets up the quotation, it should go in the same paragraph as the quoted sentence.

The stranger came right to the point. “It is cowardly to stand there with a lethal arrow aimed at my heart.”

If a narrative follows a quotation in a separate sentence but points directly back to the quotation, it can also go in the same paragraph.

“It is cowardly to stand there with a lethal arrow aimed at my heart.” The stranger did not mince words.

New Topic

Start a new paragraph when the narrator or a character switches topic or focus.

New Place

Start a new paragraph when the story switches to a new location. If several switches are made in quick succession, such as a character’s journey to find something, it may be less choppy to keep in one paragraph.

New Time

Start a new paragraph when the time changes unless there are several time shifts in close succession that make sense together in a single paragraph.