

LESSON 2

The Noun. Classification of nouns

who? (animate nouns)

what? (inanimate nouns)

Simple nouns consist of a root only:

home, dog, ball, boy, girl, bus

Derivative nouns consist of a root + suffix or prefix:

friendship, richness, teacher, immortality, dependence, independence

Compound nouns have two roots:

seaman, editor-in-chief, waterfall, policeman, boyfriend, dining-table

Proper nouns:

Peter, Monday, Jupiter, The Sun, The Atlantic Ocean

Countable nouns (Class and Collective nouns):

cat, pen, tree, desk, party, army, family

Uncountable nouns (Material and Abstract nouns):

iron, cheese, butter, sugar, oil, communism, hair, courage, love, money, police

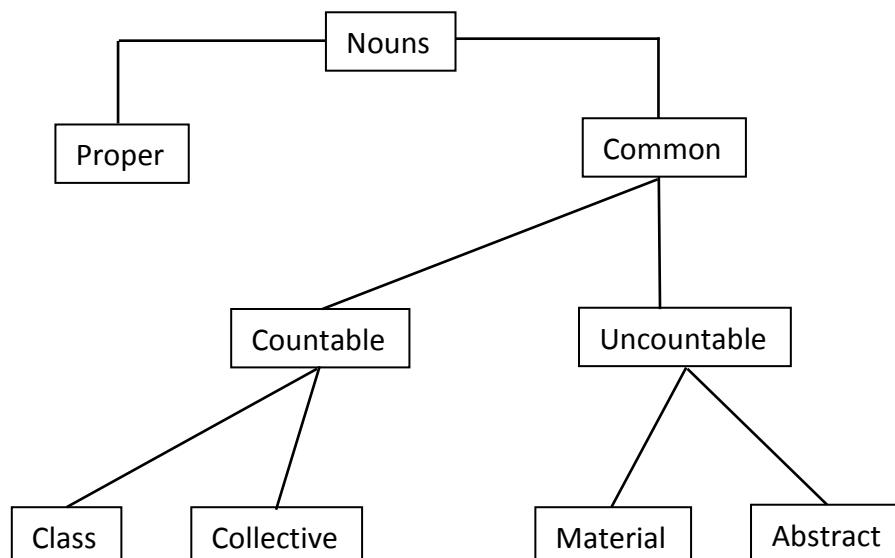


Table 1. Suffixes of derivative nouns		
Suffixes	Examples	
-er	teacher	
-or	actor	
-ar	beggar	
-ent	student	
-ant	servant	
-ing	travelling	
-age	baggage	
-ess	princess	
-ness	happiness	
-ity	activity	
-ety	society	
-ment	punishment	
-ance	entrance	
-ancy	vacancy	
-ence	dependence	
-ency	efficiency	
-sion	confusion	
-tion	presentation	
-dom	kingdom	
-ure	failure	
-ture	mixture	
-sure	pressure	
-hood	childhood	

-ship	friendship	
-th	truth	
-ee	employee	
-al	arrival	
-ru	bakery	
-ism	heroism	
-ian	musician	
-ist	artist	
-ess	tigress	
-ness	happiness	
-ette	brunette	
-ite	Yemenite	
-ese	Chinese	
-ate	certificate	

Table 2. Prefixes of derivative nouns		
Prefixes	Examples	
re-	reconstruction	
fore-	forehead	
co-	cooperation	
counter-	counteraction	
con-	conjunction	
ex-	ex-champion	
super-	superheat	
under-	underground	
dis-	discomfort	

in-	inaccuracy	
im-	impatience	
un-	unemployment	
uni-	uniform	
il-	illegality	
anti-	antivirus	
contra-	contraband	
mis-	misstep	
auto-	autonomy	
bi-	bicycle	
post-	postscript	
trans-	transformation	
down-	downpour	
male-	malediction	