

# Performdigi

## Noun rules and uses in English grammar

In this article, we learn how many types of noun, and important rules related to noun. this article is for class, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, or for SSC, for students, for kids, for competitive exams. Lets's start.

**Definition:** A **noun** is a name of any *person, animal, place, tangible thing, intangible feeling*, etc. In other words, any name given to anybody or anything is a **noun**.

### Types of Noun

Nouns can be classified into the following types.

**Proper Noun:** A proper name that is specifically used for a *person, place*, etc. It is unique in its own meaning and cannot be used commonly for others.

**Examples:** India, Ganga, Sachin, Gandhi, Himalayas etc.

**Common Noun:** A common noun can be commonly used for similar kind of people or things or beings.

**Examples:** girls, boys, tables, chairs, people, students etc.

**Collective Noun:** A collective noun is a name that is given to a group of other nouns. Any noun that refers to a whole or a herd is called a **collective noun**.

**Examples:** group, herd, council, family, bunch, swarm, committee etc.

**Abstract noun:** Abstract nouns are names given to *feelings, emotions, or stages of life*. In short, an abstract noun may refer to anything which is intangible, and cannot be seen but felt only.

**Examples:** love, trust, knowledge, development, beauty, childhood, old age, youth etc.

**Material Nouns:** A material noun is a name given to any *entity or product* that can be quantitatively measured.

**Examples:** milk, water, gold, silver, oxygen, nitrogen, stones, bricks, gems etc.

There are many errors associated with nouns and the most common errors that we come across while solving grammar questions in any aptitude tests are based on the following rules.

### Noun Rules with examples

Here we have 5 rules, with the help of these rules we can understand which type of noun should be used and where we have to use singular or plural form of noun.

# Performdigi

## Rule 1

### Category 1

- Some nouns always remain singular. The verb and pronoun associated with these nouns are also always singular.
- We don't use these nouns in the plural form, that is we don't add 's' with these words and we don't use **plural verbs** or **plural pronouns** with them.

**Examples:** hair, information, machinery, aircraft, furniture, sheep, fish, bread, advice, money.

### Category 2

- Some **nouns** are always in the plural form.
- We attach an 's' at the end of these words even if the quantity of them is single.
- The usage will always be plural.
- **Verb** and **Pronoun** attached with these nouns will also be in the plural form.
- Normally, these are words with meaning that come in a pair.

### Examples:

1. These **scissors** are broken
2. My **trousers** are torn.
3. My **spectacles** are dirty.
4. **Gloves** are useful.
5. **Socks** are here.

### Category 3

- Some **nouns** are used in the singular sense but the **verb** and **pronoun** attached to them are plural.
- Normally, these are words that are already the plural of some words.

### Examples:

## Noun rules

**Peoples** are standing on the road.

✗ Don't use

**People** are standing on the road.

✓ Use

1. **People** are standing on the road.
2. **Policemen** are running after me.

# Performdigi

3. **Children** are playing in the park.
4. **Cattle** are grazing in the fields.

## Category 4

- Some words end plurally, i.e. with an 's' in the end, but the usage in terms of **verb and pronoun** is always singular.
- Normally, we have diseases and subjects in this category.

### Examples:

1. **Measles** is a deadly disease.
2. **Rickets** is spreading, and tuberculosis needs to be cured.
3. **Politics** of this state is dirty.
4. **Economics** is a tough subject.
5. **Mathematics** is important.

### Rule 2

If the main topic, jist or crux of the sentence is singular, the verb and pronoun will also be singular.

### Examples:

1. Bread, butter and milk **are** good for breakfast. (**Incorrect**)
2. Bread, butter and milk **is** good for breakfast. (**Correct**)
3. Social, financial, political and infrastructural development **are** important for India. (**Incorrect**)
4. Social, financial, political and infrastructural development **is** important for India. (**Correct**)
5. Knowledge of maths, science, social studies and economics **are** essential for 10th class students. (**Incorrect**)
6. Knowledge of maths, science, social studies and economics **is** essential for 10th class students. (**Correct**)

### Rule 3

Normally we treat all **collective nouns** singularly.

### Examples:

1. The **group** of students has come first.
2. My **team** has won the match.
3. A **bunch** of keys was found in the trash.
4. There are a **couple** of exceptions to this rule.

**Exception 1:** Whenever we divide or split the **collective noun**, it becomes plural.

### Examples:

1. My team **are** split further into 5 small teams.

# Performdigi

2. My class **are** divided into many sections.

## Exception 2:

When the subject of the **collective noun** comes before the **collective noun**, its usage will be plural.

## Examples:

1. A band of robbers **has** attacked the city.
2. Robbers of a band **have** attacked the city.

## Rule 4

All **material nouns** are treated singularly.

## Examples:

1. **Gold** is expensive.
2. **Water** is healthy.
3. **Oxygen** is important.

**Exception:** When the **material noun** is countable, its usage becomes plural too.

1. Diamonds **are** a woman's best friend. (Correct)
2. Please pick up all bricks and stones from the floor. (Correct, as bricks and stones are countable)
3. My **house** is made of bricks and stones. (Incorrect, because bricks and stones of a house cannot be counted)
4. My **house** is made of brick and stone. (Correct)

## Rule 5

Similar sounding words

- Practice and Practise
- Advice and Advise

There are a few pairs of words like above in **English vocabulary** that have the difference of 'c' and 's'. We must remember that there is a **grammatical** difference between these words.

- Advise is a noun. **Example:** Thank you for your valuable **advice**.
- Advise is a verb. **Example:** Thank you for **advising** me.
- Practise is a noun. **Example:** How is your football **practice** going?
- Practise is a verb. **Example:** Are you practising football everyday?

Other such word pair is prophecy and prophesy.