



Structure I : Week 2

# NOUN

EKO RUJITO, M.HUM  
JURUSAN PENDIDIKAN BAHASA INGGRIS  
UNIVERSITAS NEGERIM YOGYAKARTA  
E-MAIL: [EKO\\_RUJITO@UNY.AC.ID](mailto:EKO_RUJITO@UNY.AC.ID)

# DEFINITION

- **Noun**

A word which is (or refers to) the name of something (thing or concept) or people.

- **It can be:**

- Name of person (**Marry, Joshua, Ahmed**)
- An object (**table, car, train**)
- Quality or condition (**goodness, purity, prosperity**)
- Weight or quantity (**pound, ounce, bushel**)
- Measure (**yard, meter, mile**)
- Action (**performance, movement**)
- State (**death**)
- Occurrence (**accident**)
- Sense of impression (**sound, noise, occurrence**)

# Characteristics of Nouns

- A noun is countable (singular/plural, regular/irregular) or uncountable
- Can be preceded by a determiner/a deictic word: a/an, the, this, my/your, some etc.
- Has different position in a sentence or noun phrase:

Subject : A *president* is the head of a country

Object : They need *help*

Subjective complement : She is an *actress*

Objective complement : The people appointed him *governor*

Possessive case : This is my *wife's* picture

# Characteristics of Nouns

Direct address : *Boys*, let's do this!

Explanatory modifier : Shadow, *the dog*, is giving a performance.

Head of a noun phrase : the attractive abstract *paintings*

- As a subject, a noun has concord with the verb :  
“*The arctic* only *has* few spots that can be inhabited by human”
- Some nouns have suffixes: -ment, -ion (and its variations), -ance/-ence, er/or, -ist, -ness, etc.
- A noun comes after a preposition : We arrived *at* a village

# Forms of Nouns

- Single nouns (**boat, case, restaurant etc**)
- Compound noun: formed by combining two or more separate words having individual meaning (**bookcase, bathroom, moonlight etc.**)
- Noun phrase: groups of related words, written separately or with hyphens, serving for the names of persons, places, things, or ideas (**White House, soldier of fortune, school building, attorney-general etc.**)
- Noun clause : nouns in the form of clauses: "We know **what he did** to you", "Can you tell me **who you are?**"

# Nouns Classified as to Meaning

- Common nouns: names of objects (**city, bee, tree etc.**)
- Proper nouns: individual names/places (**Birmingham, Jack London, Henry VII, etc.**)
- Concrete nouns : names of persons, place, or things ( **boy, house, car, air, etc.**)
- Abstract nouns : names of quality, conditions, or activities (**greatness, conversation, loyalty, disease, love, truth, etc.**)

# Nouns Classified as to Meaning

- Collective noun: names of groups of person, place, or thing (**audience, number, committee, congress, nation, etc.**)
- Individual noun: the name of units which represent or belong to class of objects (**dog, hospital, plate etc.**)
- Mass nouns/ material nouns: names of bulk or mass (**iron, flour, water, bread etc.**)

# Noun Based on Gender

- Masculine Gender denotes a male living being; as: man, father, uncle, boy, husband, hero, lion, cock, ox, etc.
- Feminine Gender denotes a female living being; as: woman, mother, aunt, girl, wife, heroine, lioness, hen, cow etc.
- Common Gender denotes either male or female living being; as: human, relatives, student, child, baby, cousin, person, thief, minister etc.
- Neuterine Gender denotes neither male or female lifeless thing; as: chair, house, education, room, pen, tree, etc.



# Noun Based on Gender

- Objects without life are often personified, that is, spoken of as if they were living beings. We then regard them as males or females.
  1. The Masculine Gender is often applied to objects remarkable for strength and violence; as, **The Sun, Summer, Winter, Time, Death,**
  2. The Feminine Gender is sometimes applied to objects remarkable for beauty, gentleness, and gracefulness; as, **The Moon, the Earth, Spring, Autumn, Nature, Liberty, Justice, Mercy, Peace, Hope, Charity.**

# Categories of Count Nouns

1. Name of persons, their relationship and occupation: **boy, friend, manager, brother, sister, artist etc.**
2. Names of animals, plant, and insects: **dog, flower, bee, frog, etc.**
3. Names of things with a definite, individual shape: **car, house, room, etc.**
4. Unit of measurement: **inch, pound, meter, mile, degree, etc.**
5. Units or classification in society: **family, country, language, etc.**
6. Containers of noncount solid, liquids, pastes, and gases: **bottle, jar, tube, etc.**
7. A limited number of abstract concepts: **idea, invention, plan, etc.**

# Categories of Nouncount Nouns

1. Food staples that can be purchased in various forms: **bread, butter, meat, etc.**
2. Construction materials that can change shape, depending on what is made: **wood, iron, glass, etc.**
3. Liquids that change shape, depending on the shape of the container: **oil, tea, milk, etc.**
4. Natural substance that can change shape, depending on natural laws: **steam, water, ice, smoke, ashes, oxygen etc.**
5. Substance with many small parts: **rice, sand, sugar, grain, etc.**

# Categories of Nouncount Nouns

6. Groups of things that have different sizes and shapes: clothing, furniture, luggage, equipment, etc.
7. Languages: Arabic, Japanese, Spanish, English, etc.
8. Abstract concepts, often with endings –ness, –ence, –ity: beauty, ignorance, peace, etc.
9. Most –ing forms: learning, shopping, working, etc.

# Pluralizing Nouns

- Adding –s to the singular nouns
- Adding –es to nouns ending with –s, -z , -x, -ch, -sh.
- Changing “f” to “v” to some nouns ending in –f or –ef (**knife – knives, wife – wives, wolf – wolves**)
- Adding –s to some nouns ending in –f or –ef (**belief – beliefs, gulf – gulfs, roof – roofs**)
- Changing –y to –ies to some nouns ending in –y (**body – bodies, lady- ladies, army – armies**)
- Adding only –s to nouns ending in –y but preceded by vowels (**boy – boys, key-keys, journey – journeys**).

# Pluralizing Nouns

- Adding –s or –es to nouns ending in –o (radio – radios, photo-photos, potato-potatoes, tomato-tomatoes)
- Changing the stem vowel to some nouns: (foot – feet, goose - geese, mouse –mice)
- Changing spelling to nouns with foreign origins (antenna – antennae/antennas, formula – formulae/formulas, cactus – cacti, stimulus – stimuli, bacterium –bacteria, medium – media, appendix – appendices/appendixes, index – indices/indexes, criterion – criteria, phenomenon – phenomena, basis – bases, crisis – crises, thesis – theses)

# Pluralizing Nouns

- Having same form both in singular and plural (**corps, sheep, deer, fish, series, species, Japanese**)
- Always singular in form and use/abstract noun (**algebra, assimilation, honesty, peace, status, grammar**)
- Always in singular form and use for some names of raw or manufactured materials (**cotton, flour, hay, milk**)
- Having plural form with singular meaning (**analytics, economics, esthetics, linguistics, news, politics**)
- Having plural both in form and use ( **clothes, morals, oats, scissors, shears, stocks, trousers** )

# Singular and Plural Expressions of Nouncounts

- Nouncounts can be pluralized by using certain plural expressions.
- The following singular expressions are **idiomatic**:
  - A piece/ two pieces of advice, bread, equipment, furniture, information, jewelry, luggage, mail, music, news, toast.
  - A loaf/two loaves of bread,
  - A slice/slices of bread, meat.
  - An ear of/ears corn
  - A bar/bars of soap, chocolate.
  - A bolt/ bolts of lightning
  - A clap/calps of thunder
  - A gust/gusts of wind.
  - Etc.



# “Few” and “Little”

- “Few” and “little” have the same meaning, but “few” is used before **plural counts** and “little” is used before **nouncounts**:

Examples:

*Few reference books may be useful*

*Before he came here, he had done little travelling.*

# “Much” and “Many”

- Both have the same meaning, but “much” is used before **noun counts** and “many” is used before **plural counts**.

- Examples:

*There are **many** TV programs for children on Saturday*

*We don't have **much** information for you*

- “The number” and “A number”  
“The total (number)” and “A total (number)”

- “The number” and “The total (number)” are used for **singular nouns**:

*The number of cases has increased sharply*

*The total number of children on the bus is not known*

- “A number” and “A total (number)” are used for **plural nouns**:

*A number of cases have been reported*

*A total (number) of 20 children were at the hospital.*

# Noun Suffixes

VERBS	SUFFIXES	NOUN
develop	- ment	development
elect	- ion	election
inform	- ation	information
jog	- ing	jogging
allow	- ance	allowance
arrive	- al	arrival
depart	- ure	departure

# Noun Suffixes

ADJECTIVE	SUFFIXES	NOUN
happy	- ness	happiness
similar	- ity	similarity
fluent	- cy	fluency
different	- ence	difference
abundant	- ance	abundance
free	- dom	freedom
short	- ege	shortage

# Noun Suffixes

VERB/NOUN	SUFFIXES	NOUN
sing	- er	singer
farm	- er	farmer
operate	- or	operator
economy	- ist	economist
Bali	- nese	Balinese
child	- hood	childhood
use	- age	usage


# Proper Nouns

- Words (or names) that refer to persons, places, books, movies and other literary work, days, months or organization: **Stacy, Denver, Tanzania, Titanic, War and Peace, Saturday, August, Microsoft.**
- Always use **CAPITAL LETTERS** for proper nouns
- Most proper nouns are used **without** “THE”

# Proper Nouns without “The”

1. Names of people (first names, surnames, full names):  
**William, Bill, William Clinton.**
2. Names of companies: **Sony, Warner Brothers, Brown & Son Ltd.**  
*Only when the full registered names of the companies start with “The” as **The Post Publishing Public Co., Ltd***
3. Names of shops, banks, hotels etc named after a founder or other person (with -'s or -s): **Harrods, Barclays Bank, McDonalds, St John's Church.**
4. Names towns, states/regions, countries, continents, islands, mountains.



- 
5. Titles + Names: **President Jefferson, Professor Newton, Doctor Stein, Captain Sparrow**
  6. For Lake/Mount + Name: **Lake Victoria, Mount Kilimanjaro.**
  7. Names roads, streets, squares, parks etc: **Oxford Street, Trafalgar Square, Central Park.**
  8. Buildings or facilities named after persons or places: **Kennedy Airport, Edinburgh Castle.**

# Proper Nouns with “The”

1. For country names that include "States", "Kingdom", "Republic" etc: **the United States of America, the United Kingdom, the French Republic**
2. For names of canals, rivers, seas and oceans: **the Panama Canal, the River Amazon, the Caspian Sea, the Pacific Ocean**
3. For plural names of people and places: **the Simpsons, the the Philippines, the Virgin Islands, the Himalayas.**



4. The following sorts of names usually use “The”:

- Hotels, restaurants: **the Ritz Hotel, the Peking Restaurant**
- Banks : **the National Westminster Bank**
- Cinemas, theatres: **the Royal Theatre, the ABC Cinema**
- Museums: **the British Museum, the National Gallery**
- Buildings: **the White House, the Crystal Palace**
- Newspapers: **the Daily Telegraph, the Sunday Post**
- Organisations: **the United Nations, the BBC, the European Union**