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Categories of nouns

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Number 1 – Concrete -- ALL the following nouns are CONCRETE

People (Proper, Common Nouns)

Proper – Carmen Sánchez Sadek

George W. Bush

George Washington

Common – an engineer, a fireman,

an artist, a Protestant,

an Argentinean

Places (Proper, Common Nouns)

Proper – Foshay Learning Center,

The Empire State Building

Common – the park, the theater, the

cafeteria, the entrance,

the porch

Things (Proper, Common Nouns)

Proper – The Mona Lisa,

Venus (statue)

The Thinker (statue)

The Statue of Liberty

Atlas

Common – the desk, the door, the

eraser, the mouse, the

objects or things

photographed in a

catalog.

Prototypical Nouns (time stability criterion – perceived, concrete, physical, compact entities;)

The stapler, the printer, the clock,

the screen, the computer, the

shoes

Count Nouns

Three pictures, seven pencils, one

**notebook, 200 students,
50 passes, 7 oranges, 3 flowers
(How many?)**

Mass or Non-count Nouns

**(A cup of) rice, (a glass of) milk, (a
bucket of) sand, (a pint of) orange
juice, (a pound of) meat, (a cup of)
flour, (seven pieces of) furniture.
(How much?)**

Inalienable Nouns

**My eyes are irritated.
My back hurts.
My hands are cold.
My hair is short.**

Alienable Nouns

**The glasses, the sweater, the coat,
the backpack, the pocketbook,**

Collective Nouns

**The stack of books is on the table.
The set of CD's is on sale.
The flock of birds is coming
towards the school.
The school of fish signals good
fishing.
The team, the multitude, the
group, the crowd**

Morphological Characteristics of Nouns: "AN" Nouns

**An umbrella
An elbow
An ELMO
An ant
An astronaut**

Morphological Characteristics of Nouns: Definite Article

**The umbrella
The elbow
The ELMO**

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Number 2 -- Abstract Nouns (ideas, concepts, qualities)

An innovation

The gravity of the earth

The beauty of the Mona Lisa

The simplicity of Norman Rockwell's paintings.

Events

The party

The quinceañera

The eruption

The war

The storm

Actions

The race

The painting of the room took seven days.

The operation

Abstractions -- Count Nouns

Five dreams

Five races will be available during the competition.

We will have seven masses at church.

Non-prototypical Nouns (not concrete, not the same over period of time)

The flexibility of my body has deteriorated.

The softness and smoothness of the skin are different for a baby than for a 101 year-old man.

A child's intelligence increases with age.

Abstractions -- Inalienable Nouns

My soul

My conscience

My reasoning

Morphological Characteristics of Nouns: "AN" Nouns

An urge

An ache

An illness

Morphological Characteristics of Nouns: Definite Article

The urge

The aches and pains

The illnesses

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Number 3 –

Nouns as subject

The students do not want to finish this assignment.

The tiger killed one person.

The vacuum cleaner is not working properly.

Nouns as object of verb

The teacher called the students.

The student threw the paper.

The architect builds buildings.

Nouns as indirect object of verb

Nouns as object of preposition

Nouns as subject complement with linking verb

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