

2 Nouns and other Ns

Practice Run 1 *As we have seen there are several ways in which we can analyse nouns. Try and put the ones in the following list below into the categories of the table below, which represent a way of categorising N's according to meaning (always "messy", so there won't be clear-cut solutions in all cases...)*

air	crossroads	herd	love	salmon
aircraft	cruelty	homework	luggage	series
Australia	darts	I	mathematics	sleep
bath	death/Death	ice	measles	stardom
beef	draughts	information	media	sugar
Bern	fight	insignia	midnight	sun
bread	flour	Jim	moose	swimming
cattle	flower	jogging	mumps	thunder
company	future	joy	noon	trout
countryside	goose	kindness	pity	week
courage	government	Leeds United	pork	wind
cow	gymnastics	linguistics	press	world

abstract concepts	death/Death, future,
actions	fight, jogging, sleep, swimming
animals	cattle, cow, goose, moose, salmon
"collections"	company, government, Manchester United, series, herd
emotions	love, pity, joy
food	beef, pork, salmon, trout, bread
illnesses	measles, mumps
institutions	countryside, media, press, sun
people	I, Jim, Manchester United
phenomena	thunder, stardom, wind
places	Australia, Bern, crossroads
qualities	courage, cruelty, kindness
sports / games	darts, draughts, gymnastics
subjects of studies	mathematics, linguistics
substance	flour, air, ice, sugar
things	bath, flower, information, insignia, aircraft, homework, luggage
times / periods	week, noon, midnight

Practice Run 2 Which ones of the following nouns are countable, which ones uncountable?

Countable Noun		Uncountable / Mass Noun
	anger	x
	beauty	x
	beef	x
	bitterness	x
x	bull	
x	coin	
x	cutlet	
x	difficulty	
	education	x
x	fund	
x	gazelle	x (as meat)
	interest	x
	irony	x

Countable Noun		Uncountable / Mass Noun
x	lamb	x
	linguistics	x
x	literature	
x (= essay)	paper	x
x	sound	x
	stew	x
x (discussion)	talk	x
	technology	x
x (repeated)	time	x
x	tomato	
x (trips)	travel	x (activity)
	veal	x
	zeal	x

Practice Run 2 Which ones of the following nouns can form plurals and what does it look like?

N _{sing}	N _{pl}	N _{sing}	N _{pl}	N _{sing}	N _{pl}
air	--	future	future(s)	moose	--
aircraft	aircraft	goose	geese	mumps	--
bath	baths	government	governments	noon	noon
Bern	--	gymnastics	--	pity	--
bread	--	homework	--	pork	--
cattle	--	ice	--	press	--
company	companies (firms)	information	--	salmon	--
countryside	--	insignia	is plural	series	series
courage	--	jogging	--	sleep	--
cow	cows	joy	joys	stardom	--
crossroads	crossroads	kindness	kindnesses (instances of ~)	sugar	--
cruelty	--	linguistics	--	sun	suns
darts	--	love	loves (instances of being in love)	swimming	--
death/Death	deaths (people killed)	luggage	--	thunder	--
draughts	--	mathematics	--	trout	(trouts)
fight	fights	measles	--	week	weeks
flour	--	media	media	wind	winds
flower	flowers	midnight	midnights	world	worlds