




SECTION B - Word Classes

 Words each have special jobs to do. There are eight **word classes** (jobs). These are **nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions** and **determiners**. In this section, we'll learn about them one at a time.

1 NOUNS

 **Nouns** name things, places or people.

A Concrete Nouns

-  **Concrete nouns** name
- things – like *knife, house, cat, tree*
 - people – like *Peter, Jane, Helen, Mr Jones, Dr Reid*
 - places – like *home, town, Wellington, Auckland, Napier, Nelson, Gore.*

All of these things, people and places can be seen, touched, heard, smelt or tasted. In other words, we can know them through one or more of our senses.



1. Write out the names of

a. six objects that you can see, hear or feel right now.



All of these names are **common nouns**. They are also **concrete** nouns – because you know them through at least one of your senses.

b. three months of the year.

c. three of your friends.

d. three cities in overseas countries.



All of these names should have started with capital letters. These are all **proper** nouns. They are also **concrete** nouns.

B Abstract Nouns



Abstract nouns name qualities and ideas which we know with our mind, but not directly through our senses. For example – *truth, justice, beauty, grace, elegance, injustice, falsehood*. We do know individual examples of these qualities through our senses – but the **idea** of *truth, justice, beauty* ... is not something that we can see, hear, smell, touch or taste.

You can't see abstract nouns – you also can't count or weigh them.



1. Sort the words in the box into *abstract* nouns and *concrete* nouns.

James	intelligence	desk	education	teacher	principal	difficulty
Kathleen	plant	rose	existence	dictionary	vocabulary	word

Abstract Nouns

Concrete Nouns



2. Use a thesaurus to find a **synonym** and an **antonym** for each of these *abstract* nouns.

abstract noun	synonym	antonym
strength		
loyalty		
courage		
friendship		
beauty		
justice		