



# **TRINITY COLLEGE FOR WOMEN NAMAKKAL**

**Department of English**

**ENGLISH FOR COMPETITIVE  
EXAMINATIONS**

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# TYPES OF NOUN

## ❖ Common noun

A common noun is a noun that refers to people or things in general, e.g. *boy, country, bridge, city, birth, day, happiness.*

## ❖ Proper noun

A proper noun is a name that identifies a particular person, place, or thing, e.g. *Steven, Africa, London, Monday.* In written English, proper nouns begin with capital letters.

## ❖ Concrete noun

A concrete noun is a noun which refers to people and to things that exist physically and can be seen, touched, smelled, heard, or tasted. Examples include *dog, building, coffee, tree, rain, beach, tune.*

### ❖ **Abstract noun**

An abstract noun is a noun which refers to ideas, qualities, and conditions - things that cannot be seen or touched and things which have no physical reality, e.g. *truth, danger, happiness, time, friendship, humour*.

### ❖ **Collective nouns**

Collective nouns refer to groups of people or things, e.g. *audience, family, government, team, jury*. In American English, most collective nouns are treated as singular, with a singular verb:

The whole family **was** at the table. In British English, the preceding sentence would be correct, but it would also be correct to treat the collective noun as a plural, with a plural verb: The whole family **were** at the table.

### ❖ **Count and mass nouns**

Nouns can be either countable or uncountable. **Countable nouns** (or **count nouns**) are those that refer to something that can be counted. **Uncountable nouns** (or **mass nouns**) do not typically refer to things that can be counted and so they do not regularly have a plural form.

# TYPES OF VERBS

We are going to explore 11 different types of verbs. Because every type deserves some attention, we won't be going into too much detail on each type. If you want to learn more than what is covered here, you're in luck. Listed below are each of the 11 types of verbs we are going to look at and a link to an article entirely focused on that specific type of verb.

- Action verbs
- Stative verb
- Transitive verbs
- Intransitive verbs
- Linking verbs
- Helping verbs (also called auxiliary verbs)
- Modal verbs
- Regular verbs
- Irregular verbs
- Phrasal verbs
- Infinitives

## 1. Action verbs

Action verbs, as their name says, are used to refer to actions. These can refer to physical actions that are performed with bodies or objects, such as *jump*, *hit*, or *sing*, or mental actions that we use our brains to perform, such as *think*, *consider*, or *memorize*. Most verbs you will find are action verbs. *Examples:*

- I **work** at a factory
- Cats **chase** mice.
- We **listened** to the woman's amazing story.

## 2. Stative verbs

Unlike action verbs, stative verbs refer to conditions or states of being. Generally speaking, we use stative verbs to describe things like qualities, states of existence, opinions, beliefs, and emotions. When used in a sentence, stative verbs do not refer to actions. It is important to know that some verbs can be used as either action or stative verbs depending on their meaning in the sentence. We are less likely to use stative verbs in the continuous verb tenses. *Examples:*

- The mansion **has** five bathrooms.
- Allie **loves** her younger sisters.

### 3. Transitive verbs

A transitive verb is a verb that is accompanied by a direct object in a sentence. The direct object is the noun, pronoun, or noun phrase that is having something done to it by the subject of the sentence. Both action and stative verbs can have direct objects, which means they can both be used as transitive verbs. *Examples:*

- Leonardo **ate** a delicious pepperoni pizza.
- The wealthy man **bought** three paintings.

### 4. Intransitive verbs

The opposite of a transitive verb is an intransitive verb. A verb is an intransitive verb if it is not used with a direct object. Remember, only nouns, pronouns, and noun phrases can be direct objects. Prepositional phrases, adjectives, and adverbs cannot be used as direct objects. Once again, both action and stative verbs can be used as intransitive verbs.

*Examples:*

- Airplanes **fly**.
- The children **slept** while the adults worked.

## 5. Linking verbs

Linking verbs are a special type of stative verb whose name gives a big clue as to what they do. Linking verbs are used to link a subject with a subject complement. A subject complement describes or identifies the subject of the sentence or clause. Linking verbs can function as intransitive verbs, which do not take direct objects. *Examples:*

- Mike **is** a great dancer.
- That gold watch **looks** expensive.

## 6. Helping verbs (auxiliary verbs)

Helping verbs, also called auxiliary verbs, are helpful verbs that work with other verbs to change the meaning of a sentence. A helping verb combines with a main verb in order to accomplish different goals. These include changing the tense of the verb or altering the mood of a sentence.

*Examples:*

- My cat **is** getting slow in her old age.
- Cheetahs **can** run incredibly fast.

## 7. Modal verbs:

Modal verbs are a subgroup of helping verbs that are used to give a sentence a specific mood. Each modal verb is used differently, and they can express concepts such as ability, necessity, possibility, or permission. *Examples:*

- Once you finish your homework, you **may** play outside.
- We **must** carefully add two eggs to the mixing bowl.

## 8. Regular verbs

A verb is considered a regular verb if its past tense form and past participle ends in *-ed*, *-d*, or the verb is a *-t* variant verb. For example, the verb *look* is a regular verb because both its past tense form and past participle is *looked*. Sometimes, regular verbs may slightly change spelling. For example, the past tense and past participle of *cry* is *cried*. *Examples:*

- He **walked** two miles to the post office.
- We **purchased** all of the supplies that we **needed** for the camping trip.

## 9. Irregular verbs

An irregular verb is a verb whose past tense and past participle form doesn't end in *-ed*, *-d*, and doesn't use the *-t* variant. Often, the spelling of these verbs changes dramatically or may not even change at all.



### *Examples:*

- Cindy **knew** all of the right answers.
- This junky computer has **given** me nothing but headaches since I **bought** it.

## 10. Phrasal verbs

Phrasal verbs are combinations of a verb with prepositions and/or adverbs that have a different meaning from the individual words used to form them. For example, the verb *shut* means “to close,” and the adverb *down* means “not up” or “in a descending direction.” However, the phrasal verb *shut down* means to stop the operation of something. *Examples:*

- The frustrated business owner **closed down** his store.
- Dave loves to **show off** his baseball trophies.

## 11. Infinitives

Our last type of verb isn't actually a verb at all—sorry about that! However, infinitives look a lot like verbs because they are derived from them. An infinitive of a verb is identical to the base form of the verb. Typically, we use infinitives with the word *to* in order to form infinitive phrases. Infinitive phrases can be used for a variety of reasons, such as to act like nouns, adjectives, or adverbs. *Examples:*

- **To play** guitar in a rock band is my goal.
- If you are looking for the best restaurants in town, Luis is the person **to ask**.

# THANK YOU

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