UNIVERSITY OF MOSUL
COLLEGE OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
HEADWAY
THIRD STAGE
2022-2023

Use the article *a* or *an* to indicate one in number (as opposed to more than one).
I own **a** *cat and two dogs.*
•Use the article *a* before a consonant sound, and use *an* before a vowel sound.
a *boy,* **an** *apple*
◊ Sometimes an adjective comes between the article and noun:
an *unhappy boy,* **a** *red apple*

Nouns as modifiers

Sometimes, nouns can be used to modify other nouns, functioning like adjectives. When they do this, they are often called **attributive nouns.** .

He is a **speed** *demon.*

Speed is normally a noun, but here it is acting as an adjective to modify *demon*.

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ASSISTANT LECTURER: NAWAR BASIL

- **Prepositions: Definition and Examples**
- Prepositions indicate relationships between other words in a sentence.
- Many prepositions tell you where something is or when something happened.
- Most prepositions have several definitions, so their meaning depends quite a bit on context.
- Ending a sentence with a preposition is not a grammatical error.

What is a preposition?

"Vampires! Zombies! Werewolves!"

"Where?!"

"Behind you!"

Thank goodness for prepositions. Imagine not knowing where the danger lay . . .

Prepositions tell us where or when something is in relation to something else. When monsters are approaching, it's good to have these special words to tell us where those monsters are. Are they behind us or in front of us? Will they be arriving in three seconds or at midnight?

Types of prepositions
Prepositions indicate direction, time, location, and spatial relationships, as well as other abstract types of relationships.

Direction: Look to the left and you'll see our destination.

Time: We've been working since this morning.

Location: We saw a movie at the theater.

Space: The dog hid under the table

However, if we are speaking of water in general spilled on the table, it would not be appropriate to count *one water* or *two waters* -- there would simply be *water* on the table. Water is a **noncount** noun. Therefore, according to the rules applying to **noncount** nouns, the word *water* would use *no article* or *the*, but not *a*. Following are the three specific rules which explain the use of definite and indefinite articles.

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Preposition examples

Unfortunately, there's no reliable formula for determining which preposition to use with a particular combination of words. The best way to learn which prepositions go with which words is to read as much high-quality writing as you can and pay attention to which combinations sound right. Here are a few examples of the most common prepositions used in sentences.

*I should rewrite the introduction **of** my essay.*

*Sam left his jacket **in** the car.*

*Did you send that letter **to** your mother?*

*We're cooking **for** ten guests tonight*

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Nouns as subject and object complements

Another role nouns sometimes perform in a sentence is that of a **subject complement**. A subject complement normally follows a linking verb such as *be*, *become*, or *seem* and gives more information about the subject of the sentence.

*Mary is a **teacher***.

In this sentence, the noun *teacher* is being used as a subject complement. A teacher is what Mary is.

A related function of nouns is to act as an **object complement**, which provides more information about the direct object of a sentence with a transitive verb.

*I now pronounce you **husbands***.

What are nouns?

Nouns refer to a person, place, thing, or idea. They serve as the subjects, direct objects, and indirect objects in a sentence, along with other roles.

What are some examples of nouns?

Nouns can be living things (Keanu Reeves or cat), places (beach or Detroit), things (ruler or PlayStation 5), or ideas (nihilism or the theory of evolution).

What are the different types of nouns?

Common nouns refer to general things (like parks), and proper nouns refer to a specific thing (like Yellowstone National Park). Nouns can also be plural or singular, depending on how many there are, countable or uncountable, and possessive or not possessive.

How do you identify a noun in a sentence?

Nouns often have articles (*the*, *a*, or *an*) before them in a sentence, but not always. Sometimes you'll see adjectives like *red* or some before nouns. Aside from the first word in a sentence, if a word is capitalized, then it's most likely a proper noun, such as a person's name.

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