

## Parts of Speech

### Noun

A *noun* is often defined as *a word which names a person, place or thing*. Here are some examples of *nouns*: boy, river, friend, Mexico, triangle, day, school, truth, university, idea, John F. Kennedy, movie, aunt, vacation, eye, dream, flag, teacher, class, grammar. John F. Kennedy is a noun because it is the name of a person; Mexico is a noun because it is the name of a place; and boy is a noun because it is the name of a thing.

Some grammar books divide *nouns* into 2 groups - *proper nouns* and *common nouns*. *Proper nouns* are nouns which begin with a capital letter because it is the name of a specific or particular person place or thing. Some examples of *proper nouns* are: Mexico, John F. Kennedy, Atlantic Ocean, February, Monday, New York City, Susan, Maple Street, Burger King. If you see a word beginning with a capital letter in in the middle of a sentence, it is probably a *proper noun*. Most nouns are *common nouns* and do not begin with a capital letter.

Many *nouns* have a special *plural* form if there is more than one. For example, we say one book but two books. *Plurals* are usually formed by adding an -s (books) or -es (boxes) but some *plurals* are formed in different ways (child - children, person - people, mouse - mice, sheep - sheep).

Review this lesson as many times as you want, and when you are ready, take the pop quiz on this chapter.