

NOUNS (3)

Collective Nouns (04)

In context

2 min

What is a collective noun?



¹

a family



a team

¹ Picture for 'a family' from photostock / FreeDigitalPhotos.net
Picture for 'a team' from jscreationzs / FreeDigitalPhotos.net

Collective Nouns

3 min

They represent a group and are generally used in the singular form and followed by a verb in the singular. Sometimes, however, they can be in the singular followed by a verb in the plural, in order to insist on the individuals in the group rather than on the group as a whole; in this case, the pronoun would be 'they'.

Examples:

All of the *staff* were very polite. *They* were also helpful.

The *audience* don't seem to enjoy *themselves*.

My *family* are not coming this year.

Watch the Video!

10 min

With this video lesson, you will practice collective nouns.

Watch the video below and try to answer the questions in the video. The video will give you the answers.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IYqsWJDxOmY>

After watching the video (do not watch again), complete the phrases:

1. an _____ of listeners
2. a _____ of flowers
3. a _____ of cards
4. a _____ of birds
5. a _____ of mountains

Collective Nouns

5 min

What is the collective noun in each sentence:

1. A family of 4 just arrived at the restaurant. → _____
2. Look at the flock of birds flying above us! → _____
3. My husband offered me a very beautiful bouquet of roses. → _____
4. If you have a deck of cards, we can play poker. → _____
5. He has a bunch of ideas for the new marketing campaign. → _____

Complete the sentences with the correct collective nouns:

1. On the plane, the _____ was very nice. (staff / crew)
2. At the hotel, I asked the _____ to help me with my luggage. (staff / crew)
3. She works in a _____ of 12 people. (team / bunch)
4. We will see how the _____ likes the show. (people / audience)
5. The Alps are a European _____ of mountains. (range / forest)