

## NOUNS (3)

### Compound Nouns (05)

In context

3 min

What is a compound noun?



basketball



a steamboat

## Compound Nouns

12 min

A compound noun is a noun that is made up of 2 or more words. It can be in 1 word, 2 or more juxtaposed words, 2 or more words separated by a hyphen(-).

**Examples:**

*a policeman*

*a police station*

*the check-out*

*the mother-in-law*

The first element gives more information about the second element.

**Examples:**

*a racehorse* (a horse that participates in races)

*a horse race* (a race between horses)

For the plural, there are 3 possibilities:

Possibility 1:

if only one element is a noun, this noun will be in the plural.

**Example:**

passer-by → *passers-by*

Possibility 2:

if both elements or neither are nouns, the second one takes the plural form.

**Examples:**

tooth-brush → *tooth-brushes*

grown-up → *grown-ups*

Possibility 3:

if one of the elements is 'man' or 'woman', both are modified.

**Examples:**

gentleman-farmer → *gentlemen-farmers*

woman-doctor → *women-doctors*

## Writing Exercise

5 min

**What is the correct plural?**

1. woman-doctor → woman doctors or women-doctors?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. swimming pool → swimming pools or swimings pool?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. bedroom→bedrooms or bedrooms?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. start-up → start-ups or starts-up?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. work place → works-places or work places?

\_\_\_\_\_

## Writing Exercise

5 min

**Find a compound noun matching these definitions.**

1. a truck used by firemen: \_\_\_\_\_

2. a race where bikes compete: \_\_\_\_\_

3. a room where I can take a bath: \_\_\_\_\_

4. a fire started by campers: \_\_\_\_\_

5. a synonym for "adult": \_\_\_\_\_

## Watch the Video!

10 min

With this slide show, you will practice using compound words.

Watch the video:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EVIHVSJ4fII&feature=relmfu>

Watch it again and answer the questions:

1. Complete the first sentence in the video:

A compound word is when 2 or more smaller words \_\_\_\_\_ together to make a \_\_\_\_\_ word.

2. Give 1 example of a compound word related to a power outage: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Give 1 example of a compound word related to a dangerous job: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Give 1 example of a compound word related to a light show in big celebrations:

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Give 1 example of a compound word related to a sport: \_\_\_\_\_

## Quiz

5 min

### True or False ?

- |                                                                  |      |       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|
| 1. All compound words are separated by a hyphen.                 | true | false |
| 2. A compound noun is a noun that is made up of 2 or more words. | true | false |
| 3. A compound word cannot be made up of more than 2 words.       | true | false |
| 4. Compound words cannot be used in the plural.                  | true | false |

**Make 4 compound nouns from the nouns below. Write them in alphabetical order.**

slide, news, base, brain, paper, land, ball, storm

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Write the nouns below in the plural:**

1. fireman: \_\_\_\_\_
2. woman-doctor: \_\_\_\_\_
3. tooth-brush: \_\_\_\_\_
4. policeman: \_\_\_\_\_