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# **Collective and Abstract Nouns**

You should be familiar with different types of nouns, such as singular, plural, common, and proper nouns. In this unit, you will learn about collective and abstract nouns.

## **Collective Nouns**

Collective nouns often name groups of specific people, things, or animals.

e.g. a **class** of fifth-graders a **bouquet** of flowers a **flock** of birds



Some interesting collective nouns for animals are: a **murder** of crows, a **gaggle** of geese, and a **colony** of penguins.



A collective noun can be **singular** or **plural**, depending on the context.

- If all members of a group act in the same manner, the collective noun is singular and a singular verb should be used.
- If the members of the group act individually, the collective noun is plural and a plural verb should be used.





Nouns singular: apple plural: apples

common: tower proper: CN Tower



### **Abstract Nouns**

Abstract nouns represent intangible things like ideas, beliefs, concepts, qualities, and feelings.



#### **Collective Nouns**

- name groups of specific people, things, or animals
- can be singular or plural

#### **Singular Collective Noun:**

members of the group act together

#### **Plural** Collective Noun:

members of the group act separately

#### **Abstract Nouns**

- refer to intangible things
- some abstract nouns are also verbs

I dream of being a famous athlete.

Verb

Π

#### A. Fill in the blanks with the correct collective nouns.



B. Circle the collective noun in each sentence and identify whether it is singular or plural. Then fill in the correct verb.



#### C. Read the passage. Circle the abstract nouns. Then sort them in the correct boxes.

# The Carnival

The carnival was full of chaos. A large bearded man swallowed knives. A tiny woman draped in robes told the future to customers



and sold them charms that she claimed would bring them luck. An animal tamer brought wild animals into a boxing ring and told audience members to come and fight them if they had enough

courage. I had too much sympathy for the animals so I did not enter the ring. I moved on to the food vendors as hunger was beginning to gnaw at my stomach. I bought a hot dog from a teenager with a talent for grilling sausages. Once I satisfied my appetite, I decided that I had experienced enough excitement for the day and it was time to leave.



Grammai

D. Use the nouns in sentences of your own.

