

Pre-Intermediate 2
Unit 1 Grammar
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Types of Nouns

Generally speaking, there are two types of nouns in English:

- Proper Nouns
- Common Nouns

Proper Noun = A proper noun names a specific person, place, or thing. It's capitalized, regardless of where it appears in a sentence. The names of persons, cities, countries, companies, languages, nationalities, months, and days are considered as proper nouns in English.

Examples:

Ali, David, William Shakespeare, Microsoft, Pepsi, Coca Cola, Tehran, London, Buenos Aires, Iran, France, Germany, Persian, English, German, Iranian, April, December, Monday, Friday, ...

Point:

We capitalize the first letter of a proper noun wherever we use it.

wrong: I saw **mary** in **paris**.

right: I saw **Mary** in **Paris**.

Common Noun = A common noun refers to general items rather than specific ones. Unlike proper nouns, common nouns are not capitalized unless they start a sentence.

Examples:

boy, girl, desk, pen, car, ruler, etc.

Point:

Normally we don't use "the" before a proper noun.

Example:

wrong: **The** Ali lives in **the** Tehran.

right: Ali lives in Tehran.

But exceptionally it is possible to use the definite article "the" before a proper noun.

The + Proper Noun

the + Names of Rivers:

the Mississippi, the Amazon, the Nile, the Karoun, the Sepidroud

the + Names of Seas:

the Caspian Sea, the Persian Gulf, the Red Sea, the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea

the + Names of Oceans:

the Atlantic, the Pacific, the Indian Ocean, the Arctic Ocean

the + Names of Canals:

the Suez Canal, the Panama Canal

the + Names of Deserts:

the Sahara, the Gobi Desert, the Lout Desert, the Kavir Desert, the Maranjab Desert

the + Names of Mountains:

the Himalayas, the Rockies, the Andes, the Alborz (Mountains), the Zagros (Mountains)

Point:

We cannot use "the" before names of mounts.

Mount Everest, Mount Damavand, Mount Fuji

the + Plural Countries:

the Bahamas, the Netherlands, the Philippines, the Caroline Islands, the United States

the + Unique Monuments:

the Acropolis, the Taj Mahal, the Persepolis, the Milad Tower, the Eiffel Tower

"Unique" means being the only one of its kind, unlike anything else.

It's something or someone that stands out because there's nothing quite like it.

the + Proper Noun + Adjective Phrase/Clause

The University **of Tehran** is located on Enghelab Avenue in the center of the city.

The president **of Italy** is going to make a speech in the parliament today.

The Tehran **of fifty years ago** was less populated and less polluted.

The Tom Brown **who is my friend** is not the Tom Brown **who won the gold medal in the Olympics**.

of Tehran ⇒ Adjective Phrase

of Italy ⇒ Adjective Phrase

of fifty years ago ⇒ Adjective Phrase

who is my friend ⇒ Adjective Clause

who won the gold medal in the Olympics ⇒ Adjective Clause

Other Exceptions:

The Hague (a city in the Netherlands)

The Middle East

The Far East

another + Singular Noun

Example:

Give me another pen.

Tom bought another car.

Point:

We can't use another before a plural noun or an uncountable noun.

Why?

Because another = an + other

another pen = a pen other than this pen

other than = except

the other pen = a pen which we know

Source:

[Pre-Intermediate 2 \(anglophone.ir\)](http://anglophone.ir)