NOUNS

A noun is a naming word. It is the name of a person, place, thing or state of being. There are four main kinds of nouns:

- **Common noun:** It does not name any particular person, place or thing. It speaks in general about all persons, places or things of the same kind.
  
  Examples: The boy kicked the ball.
  The plate is lying on the table.

- **Proper noun:** It names a particular person, place or thing.
  
  Examples: Jayasurya lives in Sri Lanka.
  J K Rowling lives in Britain.

- **Abstract noun:** It names a feeling or a state of being which has no form or shape and which cannot be seen or touched, but whose existence we recognise.
  
  Examples: A thing of beauty is a joy forever.
  Perseverence leads to success.

- **Collective noun:** It names a group or collection of persons or things taken together and treated as one.
  
  Examples: He gave me a bunch of flowers.
  The pride of lions was asleep.

Nouns can be further classified into:

- **Countable nouns:** Nouns which can be counted are called countable nouns. So these nouns can be either singular or plural. Some common nouns and collective nouns belong to this category.
  
  Examples: one boy, many boys, a herd of elephants, herds of elephants

- **Uncountable nouns:** Nouns which cannot be counted are called uncountable nouns. So they are neither singular nor plural. Some common nouns and abstract nouns belong to this category.
  
  Examples: some rice, much happiness

☞ Some nouns have no plural form. They are always used in the singular form.

Examples: information, traffic, furniture, news, physics

☞ Some nouns are always in the plural form.

Examples: scissors, trousers, spectacles
WORKSHEET 1

I. Pick out the nouns in the following sentences and say which kind of noun each one is.

a) The elephant has great strength.
b) Jawaharlal Nehru was the first prime minister of India.
c) The crowd was becoming restless.
d) I shall never forget your kindness.
e) The jury was convinced of his innocence.
f) Our class consists of fifty pupils.
g) The success of the show pleased our teacher.
h) We will win the game.
i) I shall take a bus to school.
j) Dispur is the capital of Assam.

II. Fill in the blanks with suitable nouns from the ones given in the box below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>England</th>
<th>William Shakespeare</th>
<th>glass</th>
<th>kittens</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>hive</td>
<td>crowd</td>
<td>Ravi</td>
<td>litter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>carrom</td>
<td>silence</td>
<td>swarm</td>
<td>robbers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gang</td>
<td>hockey</td>
<td>anger</td>
<td>sympathy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a) The ____________ listened in ____________.
b) A ____________ of bees flew out of the ____________.
c) ____________ was one of the greatest poets of ____________.
d) Give ____________ a ____________ of water.
e) A ____________ of ____________ was arrested yesterday.
f) A ____________ of ____________ are playing in the garden.
g) ____________ is the national game of India.
h) I like playing indoor games like ____________.
i) The teacher shouted in ____________ when she saw the poor attendance.
j) He has no ____________ for the beggars.
III. In the following sentences say whether the highlighted nouns are countable or uncountable.
   a) Joyti apologised for her rudeness.
   b) There are ten apples in the basket.
   c) I need some sugar in my coffee.
   d) Water is essential for life.
   e) We should be kind towards the poor.
   f) I have a dog which I want to sell.
   g) The sky is full of stars today.
   h) We will be taking four boxes of chocolates.
   i) Success is not the key to happiness.
   j) I like rice with my chicken curry.

IV. Choose the correct nouns from those given in the brackets and fill in the blanks.
   a) He shifted all his ____________ (furniture/furnitures) to his new house.
   b) He gave the shopkeeper a hundred ____________ (rupee/rupees) note.
   c) The old man cannot see without his ____________ (spectacle/spectacles).
   d) I cut the string with a pair of ____________ (scissor/scissors).
   e) The (cattle/cattles) ____________ are grazing in the field.
   f) I have got some ____________ (dollars/dollar).
   g) This (new/news) ____________ is very important.
   h) I haven’t had much ____________ (rices/rice).
   i) I like to hear different kinds of ____________ (musics/music).
   j) There are three ____________ (peoples/people) here.