

Grammar Expansion - Nouns, Adjectives, and Prepositions

Instructions: Work with your partner to complete the tasks below in order to review the grammar content of the week. Try NOT to use your notes or refer to the book!

Task 1: Parts of Speech

Look at the sentences below. Write several options of words or phrases that could make sense in those blanks.

- Because of its **rich** story and characters, the book sold millions of copies.
- The mail carriers put the stack of letters **in** a sack.
- We need to purchase a new **clock** before we can go on vacation.
- Dr. Maxwell **had** an appointment at 3 o'clock.

As you can see, there were many possibilities, but we couldn't insert any word or phrase in the spaces we wanted. Only certain types of words could fit in each one. We call the different categories of words **Parts of Speech**. The four parts of speech in the examples above were:

- **Preposition**
- **Adjectives**
- **Verbs**
- **Nouns**

Task 2: Nouns

Nouns are a basic part of speech. Nouns refer to people, **animals**, **places**, and **things**. Most common nouns are countable. That means we can say "I have one apple, two apples, many apples, or no apples." When I refer to a singular noun I usually use two short words before it: A and AN. So I can say, "This is A banana and that is AN apple."

- **I use A when it's a consonant sound**
- **I use AN when it's vowel sounds**

Be careful, though. There are some exceptions. Write the A or An before the following words.

- **A unit**
- **A university**
- **An hour**
- **An honor**

The reason these are exceptions is because **of it's pronunciation**

I can indicate that a countable noun is plural really easily. All I have to do is add **an -s** at the end of the word. But, there are a couple of spelling rules I need to take into consideration.

- When a noun finishes with an S, SH, CH, or X sound, I need to add **-es**
- When a noun finishes in a Y, there are two rules to consider. Look at the following examples and write the spelling rules.
 - Play/Plays, Toy/Toys, Boy/Boys: **Add an -s after the y**
 - City/Cities, Fly/Flies, Fry/Fries: **Remove the -y Add an -ies after**

Some nouns are irregular. That means that they do not follow these rules to create the plural. Write the plural form of these irregular nouns.

- **Man / Men**
- **Woman / Women**
- **Child / Children**
- **Person / People**
- **Foot / Feet**
- **Tooth / Teeth**
- **Fish / Fish**
- **Sheep / Sheep**
- **Shrimp / Shrimp**
- **Mouse / Mice**

Another type of nouns are proper nouns. These are the names of specific people, places, and companies. We always **capitalize** the first letter of proper nouns.

Examples: Here are some examples of proper nouns in Costa Rica.

- **San Jose**
- **Parque Central**
- **Sapriisa**
- **Dr. Salas**

Task 3: Adjectives

Adjectives are words that describe **nouns**. Adjectives typically come before **a noun** or after the verb **to be**.

- We bought a **new** car. That **beautiful** painting is perfect for my living room.
- She is **young**. They are **intelligent**.

One problem that Spanish native speakers have with adjectives is that they tend to put them **after** the noun. So instead of saying, "The RED car." They might say, "The **car red**." Another thing to be careful with is using adjectives to describe plural nouns. In English we never use the adjective in plural form. So we say, "The **red cars**.", not "The REDS CARS."

When we use adjectives to describe a singular noun, we often need to use the words A and AN before the adjective. Write the correct word before each of the examples below.

- **A beautiful tree**
- **An unusual name**
- **An old bicycle**
- **A unique opportunity**

Sometimes adjectives finish with ED or ING. They look like verbs but they are not. Look at the following examples.

- We were **bored** during the **boring** class.
- I'm so **excited** to go on vacation.
- Our trip to Thailand was really **exciting**.
- She was **tired** after the long flight.
- Traveling by plane is **tiring**.

The rule to explain the difference between ED and ING adjectives is: ____

Task 4: Prepositions of Place

Prepositions of place are short words and phrases that tell us where a noun is in relation to another noun.

There are many prepositions. Let's list some of them. Unscramble the ones below.

- **Ta = at**
- **Hibedn = Behind**
- **Weteben = Between**
- **Ni = in**
- **Desini = inside**
- **Arne = near**
- **No = on**
- **Vero = over**
- **Derun = under**

Some prepositions of place are phrases with multiple words. Unscramble these examples.

- **Ssacro from = across from**
- **In cabk of = In back of**
- **In norft of = in front of**
- **Texn to = Next to**