

SPECTRUM[®]

Language Arts

GRADE
3



Focused Practice for Language Arts Mastery

- Parts of speech and sentences
- Grammar and usage
- Capitalization and punctuation
- Writer's guide
- Answer key

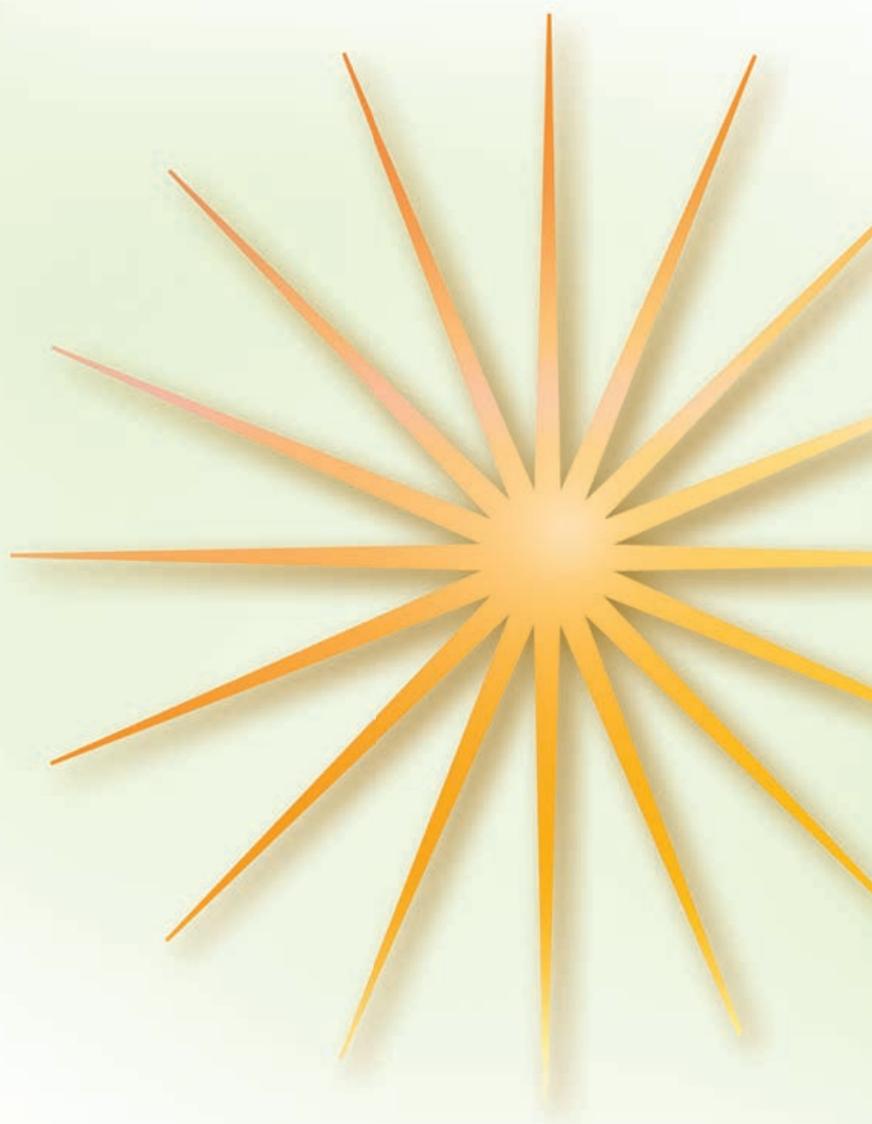


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Lesson 1.1 Common and Proper Nouns

A **common noun** can be a person, place, or thing.

teacher (person)

museum (place)

notebook (thing)

A **proper noun** is a noun that names a specific person, place, or thing.

Proper nouns are capitalized to show that they are important.

Here are some examples of common and proper nouns:

Common Nouns

school

zoo

brother

city

day

cat

Proper Nouns

Hickory Hills Elementary School

Memphis Zoo

Alexander

Tallahassee

Sunday

Sasha

Complete It

Complete the sentences below with a noun from the box. If there is a **P** after the space, use a proper noun. If there is a **C** after the space, use a common noun.

Walnut High School
dog

Saturday
Jordan Lake

town
brother

- Uncle Dale is taking me fishing at _____ (P).
- We will leave early on _____ (P) morning.
- My _____ (C), Kris, is coming with us.
- Uncle Dale lives an hour away in a _____ (C) called Rockvale.
- He is a math teacher at _____ (P).
- Uncle Dale's _____ (C), Patches, always comes fishing with us.

Lesson 1.1 Common and Proper Nouns

Identify It

Underline the nouns in the sentences below. The number in parentheses will tell you how many nouns there are. Above each noun, write **P** for *proper* or **C** for *common*.



1. Patches jumped into the rowboat. (2)
2. Kris and I put on our life jackets. (2)
3. Last August, we went to Griggs Lake. (2)
4. We stopped at Elmwood Historic Car Museum on the way home. (2)
5. We caught six fish on our trip. (2)
6. Uncle Dale cooked them on the grill. (2)
7. Mom made some coleslaw and potatoes. (3)

Try It

1. Write a sentence using at least two common nouns. Circle the nouns.

2. Write a sentence using two proper nouns and one common noun. Circle the common noun. Underline the proper nouns.

Lesson 1.2 Abstract Nouns

Abstract nouns are nouns that you can't experience with your five senses. They are feelings, concepts, and ideas. Some examples are *friendship*, *childhood*, *bravery*, *hope*, and *pride*.



Identify It

Underline the abstract noun or nouns in each sentence below.

1. Maya's honesty is one of the reasons we are best friends.
2. Martin Luther King, Jr., wanted to change hate and injustice in the world.
3. Darius's patriotism is the reason he joined the army.
4. I love the delight on my sister's face on her birthday.
5. Your kindness will not be forgotten.
6. Benji felt great pride when his team won the championship.
7. What are your parents' best stories about their childhood?
8. It is important to me that you always tell the truth.

Lesson 1.2 Abstract Nouns

Complete It

Fill in each blank below with an abstract noun from the box.

wisdom
courage

liberty
joy

freedom
kindness

knowledge

1. Our country was founded on the ideas of _____ and _____ for all.
2. It took great _____ to rebuild after the hurricane.
3. Uncle Zane's _____ of birds amazes me.
4. The room was filled with _____ when Will found his lost puppy.
5. Neighbors showed us much _____ when my baby sister was born.
6. Grandpa has the _____ that comes with a long life.



Try It

Write three sentences that use abstract nouns. You may use abstract nouns from the exercises or think of your own.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Lesson 1.3 Pronouns

A **pronoun** is a word that takes the place of a noun. Pronouns keep you from using the same noun or nouns over and over again.

Some pronouns take the place of a single person or thing: *I, me, you, he, she, him, her, and it*. Other pronouns take the place of plural nouns: *we, us, they, and them*.

In the examples below, pronouns take the place of the underlined nouns.

The grizzly bears waded into the stream.

They waded into the stream.

Molly finished her report at noon.

She finished her report at noon.

Put the bowl on the table.

Put *it* on the table.

Identify It

Read the paragraphs below. Circle each pronoun. You should find 15 pronouns.

Sonja Henie was an amazing figure skater. She was born in Oslo, Norway, in 1912. When Sonja was only five years old, she won her first skating contest. It was the start of a great career. She was a world champion for ten years. People around the world became interested in skating. They followed the career of the talented young girl.

Sonja also wanted to be a movie star. She moved to Hollywood and began acting. She also performed in a traveling ice show. It was very popular. Huge crowds came to watch Sonja perform. They could not get enough of her. Sonja enjoyed her fame and the money it brought her. But her first and greatest love was always skating.

Lesson 1.3 Pronouns

Rewrite It

Read the sentences below. Rewrite each sentence using a pronoun in place of the underlined noun or nouns.

Example: David kicked the ball toward the goal.
He kicked the ball toward the goal.



1. Bryan and Anna had their first skating lesson on Tuesday.

2. Bryan had never skated before.

3. The ice was slick and shiny.

4. The teacher helped Anna tighten the skates.

5. The teacher told Bryan and Anna that they did a great job.

Try It

1. Think about the first time you tried something new. Write a sentence about your experience. Circle the pronoun.

2. Write a sentence using the pronoun *he*, *she*, or *it*.

Lesson 1.4 Verbs

Verbs are often action words. They tell what happens in a sentence. Every sentence has a verb.

Ramon *put* on his running shoes. He *grabbed* his headphones. He *opened* the door and *took* a deep breath. Ramon *stretched* for a few minutes. Then, he *ran* down the street toward the park.

Complete It

A verb is missing from each sentence below. Complete the sentences with verbs from the box.

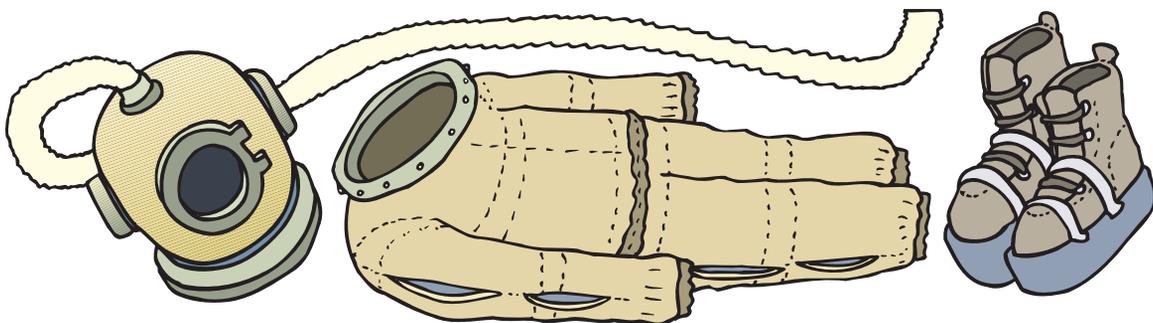
breathed
gave

moved
kept

attached
carried

invented
helped

- In 1819, August Siebe _____ the first diving suit.
- The large helmet _____ to a leather and canvas suit.
- Weights _____ divers stay underwater.
- The divers underwater _____ air through hoses.
- Later on, rubber suits _____ divers dry.
- The invention of scuba gear _____ divers more freedom.
- Divers _____ from place to place on their own.
- They _____ their air with them.



Lesson 1.4 Verbs**Identify It**

Circle the 10 action verbs in the paragraphs below.

Jacques Cousteau explored many of Earth's oceans. In 1950, he bought a ship called *Calypso*. On the *Calypso*, Jacques traveled to bodies of water around the world. He wrote many books and made many movies about his travels. He won prizes for some of his work. Jacques also invented things, like an underwater camera and the first scuba equipment.

Jacques Cousteau believed it was important to protect ocean life. He created a group called the *Cousteau Society*. More than 300,000 people belong to the Cousteau Society today.

Try It

1. Write a sentence about a place you would like to visit one day. Circle the verb.

2. Write a sentence about your favorite thing to do during the weekend. Circle the verb.

Lesson 1.5 Linking Verbs

A **linking verb** links the subject to the rest of the sentence. Linking verbs are not action words.

The verb *to be* is a linking verb. Some different forms of the verb *to be* are *is*, *am*, *are*, *was*, and *were*. Some other linking verbs are *become*, *feel*, and *seem*.

Identify It

Read the sentences below. Underline the linking verbs. Circle the action verbs. Some sentences may have more than one verb.

1. My grandmother is a marine biologist.
2. She studies undersea life.
3. She was always a good student.
4. She loved the ocean and animals as a child.
5. It was hard for her to become a scientist.
6. When she was young, some people felt women could not be good at science.
7. My grandma proved she was smart and hardworking.
8. One day, I might become a marine biologist myself.

