

P.2 English Grammar Notes Term I 2012

Nouns

What is a noun?

A noun is a name of a person , place or object.

Examples: table, Ann, Kampala, tree

Types of nouns

a) Proper nouns

These are particular names of people, places or things.

Names of people

- Patrick
- Okello
- James

Names of places

- Kololo
- Nairobi
- Mukono

Titles of people

- King
- President
- Reverend

All proper nouns begin with capital letters

b) Common nouns

These are names of ordinary things they are shared by all e.g. school, city, hospital,boy,girl

Common nouns begin with small letters unless they begin a sentence.

C. Compound nouns

These are names of things mad of two more words. Eg headmaster, headgirl, milkman and father-in- law

d. Possessive nouns

- they show ownership
- john's bag, elephant's tail, teacher's table

Singular and plurals

Plural means two or more things

a. Some plurals add 's'

- a. dog-dogs
- b. cup-cups
- c. tree-trees

b. Nouns which end with s,x,ch,o form their plurals by adding 'es' eg

box – boxes

church- churches

bus – buses

mango- mangoes

c. some nouns which end with 'y' have their plurals binding with ss but some drop to add 'ies'
(when y follows a consonant)

e.g

city – cities

baby- babies

lorry-lorries

puppy-puppies

d. Some nouns which end with 'f', 'fe' have their plurals ending with 'ves'

e.g.

Life – lives

Leaf – leaves

These are some exceptions like chief, chiefs

Handkerchief-handkerchiefs

d. Compound nouns that form there plurals by adding 's' to the first word

e.g father-in-law _____ fathers in – law

officer -in- charge_____officers –in- charge

e. nouns ending with 'o' and add 'es' to form their plurals

f. – o should follow a consonant

e.g mango – mangoes

piano-pianos

Some nouns have irregular plurals

foot – feet

man- men

louse – lice

tooth – teeth

g. Some nouns don't change their plural forms (Zero) they remain the same

Sheep – sheep

Fish- fish

Furniture – furniture

Deer-deer

Nouns, which have only the plurals forms

Ie. They are always in plural forms, trousers, scissors, shorts, pyjams, revision exercise about plurals and singulars.

c. Articles a, an, the

a. use of 'a'

'a' is used with nouns that begin with a consonant sound

e.g

tin

flower

sheep

b. an is used with nouns which begin with vowel sounds

an axe

an owl

an umbrella

'the' is used with particular or specific noun

it can be used for both singular and plural nouns beginning with a consonant or vowel sound

the sun, the king, the president

Pronouns

Pronouns are words that are used in place of a noun e.g. She, he, them and ours

- a. Personal pronouns are words that are used to refer to one or more people e.g. I , you,he,she,it,we,they,me,you,him etc

Plurals of personal pronouns.

The are got from singular pronouns

Singular	plural
I	we
He	they
She	they
You	you

Forms in which these pronouns are used

We	us	our	ours
You	you	your	yours
They	them	their	their

e.g. we are looking for our friends

They are sweeping their house

Possessive pronouns

Possessive pronouns show special relations or possession

My	mine
Your	yours
Our	ours
Their	theirs
Her	hers

Revision exercises on pronouns

Verbs

A . Verb is a doing word example run, swim, go,eat,jump,look,buy,dance etc

Present continuous tense

The action is seen to be taking place.

We add 'ing' to regular verbs

Verb	present continuous
go	going
eat	eating
buy	buying
laugh	laughing
pay	paying

Words that end with 'e' drop 'e' to add 'ing'

Example

write	writing
come	eating
drive	driving
rid	riding

Verbs that double the last letter

Before adding 'ing'

They end in cvc form. Example

Cut	cutting
Drop	droping
Clap	clapping

Present simple tense, everyday tense just 's'

This tense is used to report something done regularly repeatedly

Some word like everyday, every week, every Sunday always etc are used.

Some verbs just add 's'

Walk	walks
Eat	eats
Sleep	sleeps
Move	moves

e.g

every Sunday he rides his bicycle

Verbs that add 'es' in everyday tense.

These verbs end with, o,ch,s,z,x

Example

Go	goes
Push	pushes
Catch	catches
Wash	washes
Do	does

Verbs that change drop 'y' to add 'ies'

Example

Fly	flies
Cry	cries
Carry	carries
Dry	dries
Hurry	hurries

The sun dries our clothes every day

Tom hurries home every evening

The past simple tense yesterday tense

The past simple tense shows actions that happened same time back.

The verbs change the same way for all persons e.g.

I / we	opened
He/she/it/you	laughed
They	danced

Some verbs just add 'ed' to the past tense for example

open	-	opened
walk	-	walked
cross	-	crossed

He jumped over fence yesterday

Some verbs double the last letter before adding 'ed'

stop - stopped

chop - chopped

drop - dropped

The dirty boy begged for some food

I dropped the house last night

Some verbs change completely

Example

sit – sat

swim – swam

do – did

drink – drank

buy – bought

sleep- slept

steal – stole

cry – cried

The baby carried last night. She went to the market yesterday

Some verbs do not change to past tense form

Examples

cut - cut

hurt hurt

put put

beat beat

shut shut

Mother beat john yesterday

She shut the door last night