

Common and Proper Nouns

11c. A **common noun** names any one of a group of persons, places, things, or ideas.

11d. A **proper noun** names a particular person, place, thing, or idea.

COMMON NOUNS doctor, planet, contest, religion

PROPER NOUNS Dr. Hopkins, Neptune, Special Olympics, Shinto

EXERCISE Identify the nouns in the following sentences. Underline the common nouns once and the proper nouns twice.

Example 1. Mark Twain is my favorite author.

1. The fish in the tank are a variety of colors.
2. Mr. Townsend has the *Detroit Free Press* delivered daily to his house.
3. Of all the people in my class, Amy is probably the funniest person.
4. The calendar over my desk has a picture of a lighthouse in Maine.
5. The first day that the doctor is available is Thursday.
6. The two ships just docked at the port.
7. My brother showed me an article about archaeology in *The New Yorker*.
8. Two of the most memorable characters in the novel *Moby-Dick* by Herman Melville are Ahab, a one-legged whaling captain, and the whale itself.
9. The facial expressions of the actor caused a great deal of laughter.
10. A picture of the actor Denzel Washington was pinned to the bulletin board by thumbtacks.
11. Can Uncle Tim take us to the beach?
12. Guadalupe Street runs along the west side of the University of Texas in Austin.
13. My father and my uncle grew up near the Muskegon River in Big Rapids, Michigan.
14. My grandfather taught for many years at Ferris State University.
15. There are several types of hammers, including the claw hammer, the ball-peen hammer, and the sledgehammer.
16. Please take this copy of the book back to the library.
17. In the backyard of our house, I can still find old arrowheads occasionally.
18. The photography in that film is superb.
19. Will Professor Ondaatje be lecturing later?
20. The Reverend Jane Wilcox will be coming to dinner soon.