

Exercise 5 (Grammar and Usage)

Common, Proper, and Collective Nouns

A noun that names a particular person, animal, place, or thing is called a proper noun. Notice that proper nouns always start with capital letters.

EXAMPLE: After crossing the Atlantic, Columbus landed at San Salvador.

A noun that does not name a particular person, animal, place, or thing is called a **common noun**. A common noun does not have a capital letter unless it is the first word in a sentence.

EXAMPLE: After crossing the ocean, the explorer landed on an island.

A noun that names a *group* of persons, animals, places, or things is called a **collective noun**.

EXAMPLE: The cowboys drove the herd of cattle across the river.

A. Write a proper noun for each of these common nouns.

Example: girl Jennifer

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| 1. month | <u>March</u> | 5. city | <u>Winnipeg</u> |
| 2. teacher | <u>Mr. Wiebe</u> | 6. continent | <u>North America</u> |
| 3. street | <u>Lindenwood</u> | 7. car | <u>Ferrari</u> |
| 4. country | <u>Canada</u> | 8. language | <u>English</u> |

B. Fill in the blank in each phrase with the correct collective noun from the list below. Use your dictionary if you are not sure of the answer.

grove	pack	flock	school	herd
team	class	litter	deck	pride

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|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. a <u>flock</u> of turkeys | 6. a <u>litter</u> of puppies |
| 2. a <u>team</u> of players | 7. a <u>pack</u> of wolves |
| 3. a <u>herd</u> of antelope | 8. a <u>class</u> of students |
| 4. a <u>grove</u> of trees | 9. a <u>school</u> of salmon |
| 5. a <u>pride</u> of lions | 10. a <u>deck</u> of cards |

C. What animals would you see if you watched the following groups?

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| 1. an aerie <u>eagles</u> | 2. a gaggle <u>geese</u> | 3. a covey <u>partridges or quail</u> |
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