

## **W R I T I N G**

### **Prof. S. Ali**

NSRIC Inc.

London, ON, Canada

E-mail: [syedali@nsric.ca](mailto:syedali@nsric.ca)

**Grammar  
is the knowledge  
of  
right and wrong**



Textbook:

*The Canadian Writer's Workplace*

(Eighth Edition)

**Lipschutz, Scarry & Scarry**

Nelson Education, Toronto

Support Book: Oshima & Hogue. (2006). *Writing Academic English* (4<sup>th</sup> edition). Pearson Education: New York.

Online resources:

- 1) <https://www.press.umich.edu/script/press/331840>
- 2) <http://www.eslcafe.com/bookstore/writing.html>
- 3) <https://www.grammarly.com>



## Nouns? # 1

**Definition:** A **noun** is a word that refers to a person, place, or thing.

**Example:** The *student* is writing an *essay* on her *school*.

## Types of Nouns:

**1. Proper Nouns:**  
(names / titles)

Prof. **J**ohn  
Heathrow **A**irport  
St. **C**lair **C**ollege  
Oxford **U**niversity

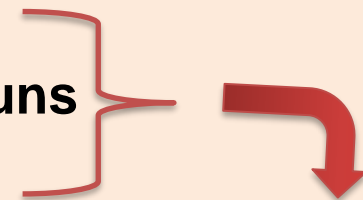
**2. Common Nouns:**  
(not names/titles)

**p**rofessor  
**a**irport  
**c**ollege  
**u**niversity

**3. Concrete vs. 4. Abstract Nouns**

**5. Countable Nouns vs. 6. Non-countable Nouns**

**7. Regular nouns vs. 8. irregular nouns**





## Nouns? # 2

**3. Concrete nouns:**  
you can touch and see

flower

brain

universe

Judge

policeman

Food

vs.

**4. Abstract Nouns:**

you cannot touch or see (i.e. concepts, ideas, qualities)

smell

thought

God

justice

angel

energy



## Nouns? # 3

**5. Countable Nouns** : you can put a number for them (1, 100, 1246)

vs.

**6. Non-countable Nouns** : you cannot put a number for them

I need some water.

She is asking for some money.

He ordered some tea.

I have some free time.

I need three bottles of water.

She is asking for 100 dollars.

He ordered four cups of tea.

I have two free hours.

Two waters

Three teas

100 monies

right or wrong????



**7. Regular nouns vs. 8. irregular nouns**





## Nouns? # 4

### *Regular nouns vs. Irregular nouns*

**7. Regular nouns** : add “-s”, “-es”, or “-ies” to form plural

Nouns ending in **-sh**, **-ch**, **-s**, **-z**, and **-x** add **-es** for plural form =

dish**+es**, watch**+es**, bus**+es**, dress**+es**, buzz**+es**, box**+es**, quizz**+es**

Nouns ending in consonant + **-y** = add **-ies** babies, ladies

**8. irregular nouns** : no standard way to form plural


child	children	bacterium	bacteria
man	men	medium	media
woman	women	phenomenon	phenomena
foot	feet	thesis	theses
tooth	teeth	crisis	crises
life	lives	wolf	wolves
sheep	sheep	information	(pieces of information)



## Pronouns? # 1

**Definition:** It is a word that takes the place of a noun.

**Example:** *She* is talking to *her* mother.

Types:	Subjective	Objective	Possessive
<b>Singular</b>			
1 <sup>st</sup> person	I	me	mine
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	you	you	yours
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	he, she, it	him, her, it	his, hers, its
<b>Plural</b>			
1 <sup>st</sup> person	we	us	ours
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	you	you	yours
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	they	them	theirs
<b>Indefinite</b>	<b>Relative</b>	<b>Demonstrative</b>	



## Pronouns? # 2

### Indefinite Pronouns:

everyone	someone	anyone	no one
everything	something	anything	nothing

Somebody left his pen on the desk.

Somebody left **their** pen on the desk.

Everyone has his or her own ideas.

Everyone has **their** own ideas.

No one takes responsibility if something goes wrong.

Nothing has come to our notice so far.





## Pronouns? # 3

### Relative

who, whom, whose  
which  
that  
what  
whoever, whichever

### Demonstrative

this  
that  
these  
those

The jacket **that** I bought last week had some holes.

**Whoever** has done this will have to pay the price.

The player **who** has just scored the goal is my brother.

**This** is my friend Tim.

**Those** books on the table are mine.



## Adjectives? # 1

**Definition:** It is a word that reflects the **quality** of (modifies) a noun or pronoun.

rich, poor, young, old, beautiful, ugly, white, brown, American, modern

I saw a **beautiful** bird.      I saw some beautifuls birds. **[?]**

**Examples:** John bought a **blue** jacket yesterday.

She looks **tired**.

Saudi Arabia is **hotter** than Turkey.

A man is **bigger** than a child.

A mother is more mature than a baby.

It is the **hottest** summer this year.

Your sincerity is the most important thing.

Corruption is the **biggest** problem in a society.

comparatives  
and  
superlatives





## Adjectives? # 2 [comparatives vs. superlatives]

**Comparative Adjectives:** compare 2 objects

1. **one-syllable adjective:** add “-er” : tall+er, old+er, long+er, sweet+er
2. **two or more syllables:** add “more” [no -er] in front of the adjective  
i.e., more famous, more difficult, more important
3. **adjectives ending in -y:** drop the -y and add -ier (+ -ier):  
i.e., lazy ↔ lazier, heavy ↔ heavier, easy ↔ easier, funny ↔ funnier

**Irregular Comparative Forms** (no set formula applied)

Good ↔ better

Bad ↔ worse

Far ↔ farther ↔ further



## Adjectives? # 3

### Superlative Adjectives:

1. **one-syllable adjective**: add “-est” to : tall+est, old+est, long+est
2. **two or more syllables**: add “most” [no -er] in front of the adjective  
i.e., most famous, most difficult, most important
3. **adjectives ending in -y**: change the -y to i and add -est (+ -iest):  
i.e., lazy ↔ laziest, heavy ↔ heaviest, easy ↔ easiest, funny ↔ funniest

### Irregular Comparative Forms (no set formula applied)

Good ↔ better ↔ best

Bad ↔ worse ↔ worst

Far ↔ farther / further ↔ farthest / furthest



## Adjectives? # 3

### Comparatives and Superlatives at a Glance:

#### Regular Forms

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
old	older (than)	the oldest (of all)
big	bigger (than)	the biggest (of all)
pretty	prettier (than)	the prettiest (of all)
important	more important (than)	the most important (of all)
difficult	more difficult (than)	the most difficult (of all)

#### Irregular Forms (no set formula applied)

good	better	best
bad	worse	worst
far	<u>farther / further</u>	<u>farthest / furthest</u>



## Verbs?

- **Definition:** It is a word that indicates **action**.
- **Example:** She **goes** to gym every Saturday.  
The police finally **caught** the thief.
- (Most verbs are action verbs.)

**Non-Progressive Verbs** (also called **non-action** or **stative** verbs)

**Definition:** describe states/conditions, not actions

i.e., prefer, know, please, exist, seem, agree, etc.

~~I am preferring tea to coffee.~~      I prefer tea to coffee.

~~I am agreeing with you.~~      I agree with you.

## Helping/Auxiliary Verbs:

A verb used before the main verb (am, is, will, can, may, has, had)

I **am** teaching right now.      They **have** eaten.



## Two Simple Past Verbs in a sentence

**Example:**

I **opened** my umbrella **when it began** to rain.

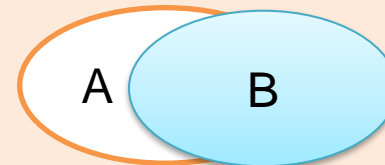
**When it began** to rain, I **opened** my umbrella.

first action

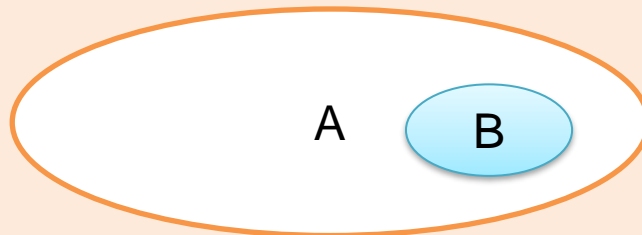
The action in the 'when-clause' happens first.

- **As** the sun **rose**, the dew drops **evaporated**. (2 short actions together)

- **While** I **was reading** a magazine, my wife **was watching** TV. (2 long actions together)



- I **saw** an accident **while** I was driving home. (1 short action within 1 long action)





## Forming Past and Past Participle

**Regular Verbs:** simple past and past participle end in **-ed**,

talk      talked  
start      started      talked  
                                 started

**Irregular Verbs:** simple past / past participle do **NOT** end in **-ed**

1. Simple form and the past form are the same.
2. The past form is very different.
3. Both regular and irregular forms are used

1. cost      cost      cost
2. go      went      gone
3. burned / burnt

*Reference: For detailed lists, see Azar (pages 20-21, 2-4 and 2-5)*





**THANK YOU**  
**SEE YOU IN THE**  
**NEXT CLASS!**