

# THE COUNT NOUN

## Recognize a count noun when you find one.

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**Nouns** name people, places, and things. Many nouns have both singular and plural forms. If you can add a number to the front of a noun and/or put an **s** on the end of it, you have a *count* noun.

Consider these examples:

Beatrice offered Jeremy a chocolate-chip **cookie**.

Jeremy, an impolite pig, grabbed all **seventeen cookies** off the plate.

**Cookie** is a count noun. You can have *one* cookie, or you can be a pig like Jeremy and have *seventeen cookies*.

## Some count nouns have irregular plural forms.

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Most—but not *all*—plural nouns end in **s**. Those that end in a letter other than **s** are still count nouns if you can add a number in front.

Read this example:

**Ten paparazzi** chased Jeremy for an interview, but he alluded them to meet **three young women** who offered to sell him **two magical geese**.

## Some nouns are noncount.

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You cannot count all nouns. To make a **noncount** noun plural would be illogical.

Read the following sentence:

Later that night, Jeremy apologized for his **rudeness**, but his growling stomach stopped him from returning a single cookie.

**Rudeness** is an example of a noncount noun. Jeremy does not have five rudenesses. Such a statement would make absolutely no sense!

Review this chart contrasting count and noncount nouns:

<b>COUNT NOUNS</b>	<b>NONCOUNT NOUNS</b>
hurricane(s)	weather
chair(s)	furniture
smile(s)	happiness
bagel(s)	flour
book(s)	information
assignment(s)	homework

