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You have ever heard of collective nouns? They are words that represent a group of people, animals, or things as a single entity. For example, a team is a collective noun that represents a group of individual members. Other examples include herd, flock, swarm, and pack. In this article, we will explore the concept of collective nouns in detail. We will provide you with a comprehensive list of common collective nouns and explain how to use them correctly in a sentence. Whether you are a native speaker or learning English as a second language, this article will help you improve your grammar and communication skills. Pin Collective Noun Definition Collective nouns refer to a group of people, animals, or things as a single entity. These nouns are used to describe a collection of individuals or objects that share a common trait or characteristic. For example, a "herd" of cows, a "flock" of birds, and a "team" of players are all collective nouns. Even though there may be multiple cows, birds, or players, they are referred to as a single entity. One common mistake when using collective nouns is subject-verb disagreement. It can be confusing to determine whether to treat a collective noun as singular or plural. However, it is important to remember that collective nouns are typically treated as singular entities. Here are some examples of collective nouns: A "family" of birds A "pack" of wolves A "fleet" of ships A "class" of students Collective nouns can be either common or proper nouns. Common collective nouns are used to describe groups of things, while proper collective nouns are specific to a particular group or organization. Here are some examples of proper collective nouns: The "United Nations" The "New York Yankees" The "Royal Family" In conclusion, collective nouns are an important part of the English language. They allow us to describe groups of people, animals, or things as a single entity. Remember to treat collective nouns as singular entities and use them correctly in your writing. Collective Nouns Examples Here we have listed some of the more commonly used collective nouns for humans, animals, and objects. List of Collective Nouns for People These important collective nouns are commonly used under the category of people. A class of students. A team of players. A troupe of artists/dancers. A pack of thieves. A staff of employees. A regiment of soldiers. A tribe of natives. An audience of listeners. A panel of experts. List of Collective Nouns for Animals The following collective nouns are used for animals. A catch of fish. An army of ants. A flight of birds. A haul of fish. A flock of sheep. A herd of deer/cattle/elephants/goats/buffaloes. A hive of bees. A litter of cubs. A host of sparrows. A team of horses. A troupe of lions. A zoo of wild animals. A pack of wolves. A litter of puppies/kittens. A swarm of bees/ants/rats/flies. A team of horses/ducks/oxen. A murder of crows. A kennel of dogs. A pack of hounds. List of Collective Nouns for Things The following collective nouns are used for things. A group of islands. A galaxy of stars. A wad of notes. A forest of trees. A stack of wood. A fleet of ships. A string of pearls. An album of stamps/autographs/photographs. A hedge of bushes. A library of books. A basket of fruit. A bowl of rice. A pack of cards. A pair of shoes. A bouquet of flowers. A bunch of keys. A chest of drawers. A pack of lies. A range of mountains. A cloud of dust. These nouns are endless and these are just a list of those used more often. As you continue to work on improving your English, you will stumble across many more. Be sure to add them to your list and use them as frequently as you can. When using collective nouns in sentences, it's important to remember that they refer to a group of people, animals, or things as a single entity. Here are some examples of collective nouns in sentences: The team is playing well today, (referring to a group of players) The herd of deer is grazing in the field, (referring to a group of deer) The jury has reached its verdict, (referring to a group of jurors) The committee is meeting tomorrow to discuss the budget, (referring to a group of committee members) It's important to note that collective nouns can be treated as singular or plural, depending on the context of the sentence. For example: The team is playing well today, (singular) The team are all wearing their new uniforms. (plural) In the first sentence, "team" is treated as a singular entity, while in the second sentence, "team" is treated as a group of individuals. When using collective nouns in sentences, it's also important to use the correct verb agreement. For example: The family is going on vacation, (singular) The family are all packing their bags. (plural) In the first sentence, "family" is treated as a singular entity, while in the second sentence, "family" is treated as a group of individuals. Overall, using collective nouns in sentences can be tricky, but with practice and attention to context and verb agreement, you can use them effectively in your writing. When it comes to nouns, there are different types that you need to know. Collective nouns are one of them. They refer to a group of people, animals, things, or ideas as a single entity. For example, "team" is a collective noun because it refers to a group of individuals as one unit. On the other hand, countable nouns refer to things that can be counted, such as "books" or "chairs." These nouns have both singular and plural forms, and we can use numbers to quantify them. Uncountable nouns, on the other hand, refer to things that cannot be counted, such as "water" or "sand." We cannot use numbers to quantify them, and they only have a singular form. One key difference between collective nouns and countable/uncountable nouns is how they are used with verbs. Collective nouns can be treated as either singular or plural, depending on the context and the writer's preference. For example, "The team is playing well" uses the singular verb "is" because the team is being treated as a single entity. However, "The team are arguing among themselves" uses the plural verb "are" because the team is being treated as a group of individuals. Countable and uncountable nouns, on the other hand, always take singular or plural verbs, respectively. For example, "The book is on the shelf" uses the singular verb "is" because "book" is singular. "The chairs are in the living room" uses the plural verb "are" because "chairs" is plural. In summary, collective nouns refer to a group of individuals as a single entity, countable nouns can be counted and have both singular and plural forms, and uncountable nouns cannot be counted and only have a singular form. Collective nouns can be treated as either singular or plural, while countable and uncountable nouns always take singular or plural verbs, respectively. Congratulations! You have now learned about collective nouns and how to use them correctly in your writing. Remember that collective nouns refer to a group of people, animals, things, or ideas as a single entity, and they are normally not treated as plural. When using collective nouns, be mindful of subject-verb agreement. If the collective noun is singular, use a singular verb, and if it is plural, use a plural verb. Here are some additional tips to keep in mind when using collective nouns: When in doubt, use a singular verb with a collective noun. If the collective noun refers to a specific group of people or things, it can be treated as a singular or plural noun depending on the context. Some collective nouns have both singular and plural forms, such as "family" and "families." Avoid using collective nouns in a way that could be confusing or ambiguous. For example, instead of saying "The team are playing well," say "The members of the team are playing well." By using "team" in the context and the specific type of gathering, Here are the 10 Collective Nouns For People: Assembly Band Gathering Flock Community Crew Party Mob Tribe Staff Collective Nouns For People: Pioneers Ensemble Mass Unit Swarm Natives Masses Rabbles Brotherhood Order Union Lineage Coalition Cluster Battalion Multitude Occupants Cohort Gathering Network Cadre Collective Residents Community Association Posse Assembly Guild Synod Fllock Society Horde Circle Civilians Crew Body Conclave Party Organization Band Throng Citizens Squad League Parliament Choir Tribe Cliques Group House Public Family Comrades Peopless Class Audience Entourage Locals Phalanx Brigade Subjects Pack Collection Nation Populace Settlers Batch Grouping Colonists Summit Host Platoon Custer Coterie Committee Meeting Dwellers Symposium Faction Club Nations Teamwork Battalion Colloquium Panel Syndicate Kinfolk Denizens Gang Clan Must Learn: Collective Nouns For Students Collective Nouns For People With Meaning and Examples Meaning: A gathering of people for a specific purpose or meeting. Examples: The assembly of shareholders gathered to vote on important company decisions. The assembly of protesters marched peacefully through the streets demanding justice. The assembly of delegates discussed various issues at the international conference. Meaning: A group of people working together to achieve a shared goal. Examples: The marketing team collaborated to launch a successful advertising campaign. The basketball team practiced diligently to win the championship. The medical team worked tirelessly to treat patients during the pandemic. Meaning: A group of people or birds that move together. Examples: The tourists followed the tour guide as they moved in a flock towards the historical site. During the birdwatching expedition, they observed a flock of migrating geese in the sky. The kids ran in a flock towards the ice cream truck on a hot summer day. Meaning: A group of people working together on a ship, aircraft, or project. Examples: The film crew worked tirelessly to shoot the movie on location. The airline's flight crew prepared the plane for departure. The construction crew completed the building on schedule. Meaning: A group of people involved in criminal activities or mischief. Examples: The police arrested a gang of thieves responsible for several burglaries. The school took action against a gang of students involved in bullying. The neighborhood watch was formed to protect against a local gang of vandals. Meaning: A group of experts or individuals brought together to discuss or make decisions. Examples: The panel of judges evaluated the performances in the talent show. The expert panel discussed climate change and its implications. The advisory panel provided recommendations for the government's policy. Meaning: A large gathering of people in one place. Examples: The crowd cheered enthusiastically at the sports stadium during the match. A large crowd of supporters gathered for the political rally. The concert attracted a massive crowd of music enthusiasts. Meaning: A small, exclusive group of people with similar interests or social status. Examples: The popular girls at school formed a tight clique and often ignored others. The high-society clique spent hours discussing the latest gadgets. Meaning: A group of individuals appointed or elected to manage or oversee a task or organization. Examples: The committee organized the charity event to raise funds for a local cause. The school's disciplinary committee addressed student behavior issues. The steering committee coordinated the planning of the annual conference. Meaning: An association of individuals, companies, or organizations collaborating on a project. Examples: The consortium of companies worked together to develop a new technology. The research consortium pooled resources on a groundbreaking study. Meaning: A group of people sharing common ancestry, culture, and traditions. Examples: The indigenous tribe celebrated their traditional harvest festival. The nomadic tribe moved their livestock to find greener pastures. The ancient tribe conducted rituals to honor their ancestors. Meaning: A community of people living together in a structured and organized manner. Examples: The literary society hosted regular book discussions and author talks. The charity society provided support and aid to those in need. The scientific society published journals and organized conferences. Meaning: A small group of people working together, often in a military or sports context. Examples: The special forces squad executed a successful rescue mission. The cheerleading squad practiced their routines for the upcoming competition. The IT support squad swiftly resolved technical issues for employees. Meaning: A group of people joined together by common interests or goals. Examples: The student association organized events and activities on campus. The trade association promoted the interests of local businesses. The environmental association campaigned for eco-friendly practices. Meaning: An organization of people in the same profession or trade. Examples: The writers' guild provided support and resources for aspiring authors. The blacksmiths' guild preserved traditional craftsmanship techniques. The actors' guild advocated for fair wages and working conditions. Meaning: A group of individuals summoned to assist or support a law enforcement officer. Examples: The sheriff's posse helped track down the escaped convicts. The detective assembled a posse to apprehend the wanted criminals. The security team acted as a posse to protect the VIP at the event. Meaning: A group of people sharing common interests, hobbies, or activities. Examples: The photography club organized exhibitions showcasing members' work. The chess club held regular tournaments for its members. The hiking club explored various trails on weekends. Meaning: An alliance of individuals, parties, or countries working together for a common cause. Examples: The political coalition came together to form a stable government. The environmental coalition advocated for sustainable policies. The international coalition collaborated to combat global issues. Meaning: A large, unruly crowd, often with the potential for disorder or violence. Examples: The riot police were deployed to control the unruly mob during the protest. The angry mob gathered outside the courthouse demanding justice. The excited mob surged towards the stage to see their favorite musician. Meaning: An organization or group of individuals united for a common purpose, often in sports. Examples: The soccer league consisted of various teams competing for the championship. The humanitarian league provided aid in disaster-stricken regions. The gaming league hosted tournaments for professional gamers. Related: Collective Nouns For Animals illustration of multi-generation family with collective noun definition and examples simplehappyart / iStock / Getty Images Plus / via Getty created by YourDictionary used under Getty Images license What do team, gaggle, and murder have in common? They're not the topics of your new favorite podcast. Team, gaggle, and murder are collective nouns — and they get special treatment in a sentence. Collective nouns are nouns for groups of people or things. They're different from plural nouns, which show more than one noun. Collective nouns are actually singular nouns that describe a collection of nouns. Team is a group of players, gaggle is a group of geese, and murder (believe it or not) is a group of crows. Collective noun - The team gets ready for the game. Plural noun - The players get ready for the game. Collective noun - A gaggle honks at us as we swim by. Plural noun - Geese honk at us as we swim by. 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The term "a swarm of lions" conjures an image of lots of lions in a frenzy, which would be an effective and interesting way to describe that situation. Therefore, deliberately using the wrong collective noun could add a useful connotation. For example: a pack of ships (This gives the idea of ships hunting like wolves or thieves. It brings pirates to mind.) a forest of soldiers (This gives the idea of thousands of stationary soldiers standing shoulder to shoulder.) A flock of men is more easily driven than a single one. (Economist Richard Whately) Treat a collective noun as singular unless the context highlights the individuals in the group. The choir is out of tune. The choir were fainting due to the heat. If you're uncomfortable treating a collective noun as singular or plural, put a term like "members of" in front so it reads smoothly as a plural. The members of the choir were fainting due to the heat. Once you've decided whether your collective noun is singular or plural, be consistent throughout your sentence. The group is changing their shirts. Using the "wrong" collective noun could be a useful creative-writing technique. Was something wrong with this page? Use #qm to find us quicker. Create a QR code for this, or any page. XYouTubefacebookmailing listgrammer forum You know which animals move in packs, schools, and herds, but what about a wake, a business, or a flamboyance? A CACKLE OF HYENAS group of hyenas on a rock. | JRLPhotographer/iStockWhile clan is the much more accepted term, there's something very appropriate about this. And though their laughs and giggles sound entertaining, they're really how spotted hyenas express anger, frustration, and warnings to stay away. A SHREWDNESS OF APESgroup of chimpanzees in a tree. | quenterguni/iStockThis term has around since the late 1400s—at the time, shrewdness referred to the mischievous nature of apes, though knowing now how intelligent they are, the term still works. 3. A RAFT OF OTTERSfloats in the water in a large group. | DouglalPhotography/iStockAccording to the Oxford English Dictionary, many aquatic animals, such as ducks or puffins, also form rafts. 4. A MURDER OF CROWSsilhouettes of crows at night. | Renphoto/iStockIn the 15th century, crows were considered to be omens of death and messengers from the devil or evil powers. 5. A SCURRY OF SQUIRRELSsquirrels lined up on a log. | Jef Wodnick/iStockSquirrels are fairly unusual since squirrels are not pack animals by nature, so the more commonly used refers to a nest consisting of a mother squirrel and her young. More Articles About Animals: 6. 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