

INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH [2022–2023]

TOPIC: ABSTRACT NOUNS HANDOUT

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Concrete Nouns

A word that identifies something that can be experienced through touch, smell, sight, hearing and taste is a Concrete noun. **E.g.**- photograph, pears, filmmaker, sandpaper, rose, Howrah Bridge, etc.

- Lucy tied her shoe laces.
- * Yasmine ate her sandwich.

In these examples, both the people (Lucy and Yasmine) and objects (sandwich, shoe laces) are concrete nouns. They can all be physically experienced.

Abstract Nouns

Nouns that refer to objects that cannot be physically experienced with the five senses are **Abstract Nouns**. They identify ideas, concepts, experiences and feelings. Abstract nouns are intangible. **E.g.-** love, fun, freedom, self-esteem, beauty, honour, childhood, leadership, etc.

- * Lucy looked back at her childhood with humour.
- * The **sight** of her friend filled Sara with **happiness**.

In the above examples, the words childhood, humour, sight and happiness are Abstract nouns. They cannot be physically experienced with the five senses.

Abstract nouns refer to quality, action or state of being.

- Quality kindness, brightness, honesty, wisdom
- Action laughter, theft, movement, hatred
- **State** childhood, youth, slavery, sleep, sickness

Abstract nouns are formed from Nouns, Verbs and Adjectives.

Noun	Abstract Noun
mother	motherhood
slave	slavery
leader	leadership
patriot	patriotism
king	kingship

Adjective	Abstract Noun
courageous	courage
beautiful	beauty
honest	honesty
poor	poverty
wide	width

Verb	Abstract Noun	
laugh	laughter	
invite	invitation	
move	movement	
relax	relaxation	
appear	appearance	