

The Concrete Noun

Recognize a *concrete noun* when you see one.

Nouns name people, places, and things. One class of nouns is *concrete*. You can experience this group of nouns with your five senses: you *see* them, *hear* them, *smell* them, *taste* them, and *feel* them.



See



Hear



Smell



Taste



Touch

Check out the following example:

Reliable, Diane's beagle, licked strawberry *ice cream* off her chin.

Ice cream, for example, is a concrete noun. You can see the pink. You can *taste* the berry flavor. You can *feel* your tongue growing numb from the cold. Any noun that you can experience with at least *one* of your five senses is a concrete noun.

Don't confuse a concrete noun with an abstract noun.

Not all nouns are concrete. A second class of nouns is abstract. You cannot experience abstract nouns with your senses. Read this example:

Diane pushed Reliable off her lap to register her *disapproval*.

Disapproval is an example of an abstract noun. What color is disapproval? You don't know because you cannot see it. What texture is disapproval? Who knows? You cannot *touch* it. What flavor is disapproval? No clue! You cannot *taste* it! Does it make a *sound*? Of course not! Does it *smell*? Not a bit!

Look over this chart contrasting concrete and abstract nouns:

Concrete Nouns	Abstract Nouns
student	intelligence
fire fighter	bravery
dog	loyalty
pencil	eloquence
computer	convenience

