

Nouns

Nouns name people, places, animals, feelings and the everyday things around us.

NOUNS

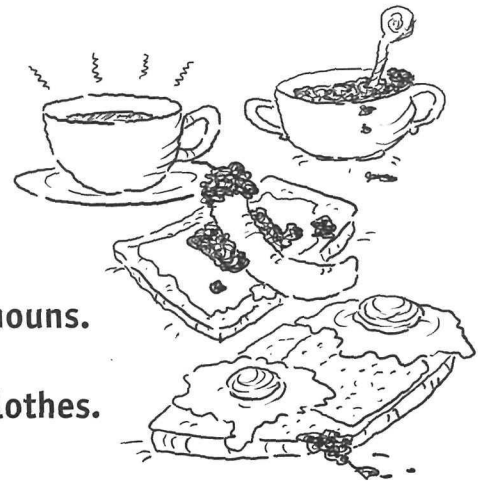
1 Highlight the nouns in this nursery rhyme.

There was a crooked man who had a crooked smile.
 He found a crooked sixpence upon a crooked stile.
 He bought a crooked cat that had a crooked mouse
 And they all lived together in a little crooked house.

CHECK...
 Does this word name something?

2 Now try spotting the nine nouns in this extract from the poem, Killarney.

Killarney's hills are purple still
 In shadowed mists they lie
 Till dawn creeps in with fingers chill
 And the magpie's wakening cry
 Stirs the echoes in the sleeping valley.



3 Write a two-line poem of your own, using only nouns. The last two nouns should rhyme. Choose any topic such as sport, shops, toys or clothes. Here is one called *Breakfast*.

Breakfast
 Bread, butter, eggs, ham
 Sausages, tea, toast, jam.

4 Alliteration is a language device where a number of words in a row begin with the same letter, such as *pork pies* or *sizzling sausages*. Alliteration makes language rich and colourful, and appeals to the ear of the listener. Complete these word pairs by adding a noun beginning with the same letter.

- | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| broken _____ | slippery _____ | rough _____ | happy _____ |
| terrible _____ | fantastic _____ | dirty _____ | bony _____ |
| sleepy _____ | plump _____ | mighty _____ | heavy _____ |
| creamy _____ | baggy _____ | bizarre _____ | errant _____ |

Name _____ Date _____

Common Nouns

Nouns that name everyday things are called common nouns, for example: *farmer, goat, hunger, mountain, movie, statue, dentist, friend, fear, cow.*

1 Add a common noun. The word in brackets will help you.

- a Dairy farmers send creamy _____ to the butter factory. (thing)
- b Driftwood, seaweed and shells lie scattered on the _____. (place)
- c The cage door was left open and the _____ escaped. (animal)
- d The _____ discovered clay pots buried in the sand. (person)
- e _____ showed on their little faces. (feeling)

2 How many common nouns can you spot in each sentence?

- a With beating hearts and trembling knees, they crept towards the dark cave. _____
- b I need butter, sugar, eggs, milk, vanilla and flour to make this cake. _____
- c I visited my aunt and uncle who live on a farm in the country. _____
- d The camel-traders rode across the desert under a blazing sun. _____
- e We watched the launching of a rocket into space on television. _____
- f None of us could believe that he was ninety years old. _____

3 Write three sentences. Include these pairs of common nouns:

chef, minestrone geologist, rock teenagers, laughter

4 Let's pretend. You are walking along a sandy beach. Name some interesting things you can see.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____



Name _____ Date _____

Singular and Plural Nouns 1

Most nouns can be both singular and plural. Singular nouns name **one** thing, for example: *cow, peach, mother-in-law*. Plural nouns name **more than one** thing, for example: *cows, peaches, mothers-in-law*.

Most plural nouns are formed by adding 's' or 'es' to the singular noun, for example: bag, *bags* fox, *foxes*
train, *trains*



1 Add a plural ending to the nouns.

- a The room was decorated with bowl__ of flower__ - rose__ and tulip__.
- b Pack all your old book__, toy__ and game__ into these cardboard box__.
- c Dad lost the car key__, but Mum found them behind some cushion__.
- d I bought two plum__, three orange__, four banana__ and two peach__.
- e Tourist__ arrive daily in plane__, train__, car__ and bus__.

**Spelling alert!*

Note the rules for forming the plural of nouns ending in 'y'.

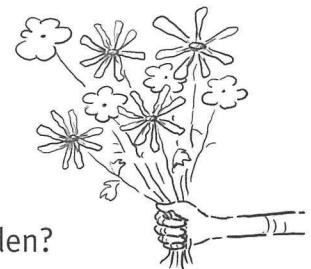


Change the 'y' to 'i' and add 'es' when the letter before the 'y' is a consonant, for example:
baby *babies*;
lady *ladies*.

Just add 's' if the letter **before** the 'y' is a vowel, for example:
key *keys*.

2 Write the plural of the noun in brackets.

- a Many _____ (*family*) from other _____ (*country*) come to Australia.
- b The _____ (*gully*) are dry, but the _____ (*valley*) are green.
- c Some of the _____ (*lady*) were nursing their sleeping _____ (*baby*).
- d Sara picked a bunch of red _____ (*poppy*) and white _____ (*daisy*).
- e Are there really _____ (*fairy*) at the bottom of the garden?



Name _____ Date _____

Singular and Plural Nouns 2

**Spelling alert!*

Note the rules for forming the plural of nouns ending in 'f' or 'fe':
 Change the 'f' to 'v' and add 'es', for example: leaf, *leaves*; life, *lives*.
 Some don't follow the rule, for example: chief, *chiefs*; roof, *roofs*.

1 Change the nouns in brackets to their plural form in the sentence.

- a (wolf) The shepherds could hear the howling of _____ in the distance.
- b (knife) Set the _____, forks and spoons on the table.
- c (tealeaf) Put _____ in the pot and add boiling water.
- d (calf) The farmer put ear tags on the newly-born _____.
- e (loaf) The baker sold many _____ of fresh brown bread.



Some nouns have irregular plural forms. They are not formed by adding 's' or 'es', for example: tooth *teeth*; man *men*; oasis *oases*.

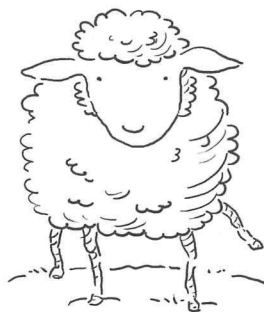
2 Use different colours to show the singular nouns with their irregular plurals.

woman	goose	foot	child	man	mouse
children	feet	men	mice	geese	women

3 Some nouns are both singular and plural, for example: *fish, sheep, deer*.

Can you list some more?

Some nouns are only plural, for example: *trousers, scissors, cutlery*.



Name _____ Date _____

Proper Nouns

Nouns give people, places, objects and special events their proper names, for example:
Mr Smitt flew to the Olympic Games in Greece.
 Proper nouns always begin with a capital letter.

1 Circle all the proper nouns.

- a The students of Pottsville School will visit the Australia Zoo in September.
- b Jack bought a copy of "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets" at the book shop.
- c Last Christmas, George Jenkins flew to New Zealand on a QANTAS plane.
- d Many tourists travel on the Ghan from Adelaide to Darwin.
- e Frances is studying biology at Macquarie University.

2 Locate the proper nouns. Mark all capital letters in red.

- a Many cricketers come to play in australia during december and january.
- b jenna's favourite book character is willy wonka.
- c shymal left his home in india to live in australia. He lives in melbourne.
- d As you sail into new york, you will see the statue of liberty.
- e The soccer team, the red dragons, flew to germany to play in the world cup.



3 Skim through a magazine and list at least ten proper nouns.

4 Search out the proper nouns.

November
 Myer
 Jackson
 Broome
 Friday
 Italy
 Easter
 Victoria

L	T	E	A	S	T	E	R
M	Y	E	R	E	N	K	E
A	L	E	M	O	O	R	B
B	A	S	Z	U	S	W	M
U	T	N	A	E	K	U	E
A	I	R	O	T	C	I	V
O	F	R	I	D	A	Y	O
J	Y	R	L	M	J	P	N

Name _____ Date _____

Compound Nouns

A compound noun is made up of two words joined together, for example: *cornflakes*, *football*, *footprints*, *streetlight*.

1 Choose a word in the top row and one in the bottom to make a compound noun. Colour the compound nouns, using a different colour for each one.

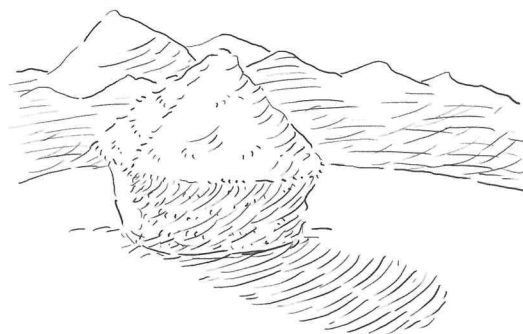
post	hair	pigeon	drain	sun	drum	tooth
flowers	hole	pick	card	stick	pipe	brush

2 Write sentences using these compound nouns:

masterpiece cornstalks spotlight passers-by riverbank

3 Join the two words that make a compound noun.

- a hay shelf _____
- b fence storm _____
- c hair post _____
- d thunder stack *haystack*
- e book beans _____
- f jelly piece _____



4 Word challenge. How many compound words can you make by putting two of these words together? Any word can be used more than once. Write a minimum of 20 words. Decide who has the record for the most words.

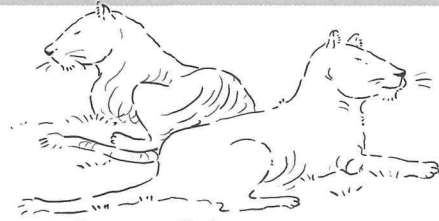
- | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|---------|-------|
| fire | river | line | farm | way | bush | water |
| place | head | bed | house | light | clothes | land |
| room | side | hill | life | under | time | top |

Name _____ Date _____

Collective Nouns

Collective nouns name groups of people or things, for example: *a herd of goats, a fleet of ships, a school of fish.*

1 Living things usually live and move together in groups. Match these animals with their groups.



lions monkeys cubs whales elephants wolves fish geese

- a** a herd of _____
- b** a school of _____
- c** a troop of _____
- d** a pod of _____
- e** a pack of _____
- f** a flock of _____
- g** a litter of _____
- h** a pride of _____

2 Circle the collective nouns in this text.

Up in the rafters of our hayshed lives a family of pigeons, while below, amongst the straw, Bessie watches over her litter of tiny white kittens. In one paddock we have a flock of sheep. Dad keeps a watchful eye on them, because of the pack of wild dogs that sometimes roam the hills. We have a large herd of cows, which are brought in for milking twice a day. Occasionally we see a flock of wild ducks fly overhead on their way to the waterhole.

3 Complete and search out the collective nouns.

- a litter of p_____
- a herd of e_____
- a brood of ch_____
- a shoal of f_____
- a mob of k_____
- a flock of sh_____
- a swarm of b_____
- a pride of l_____
- a troop of m_____
- a crowd of p_____

T	B	R	A	L	P	G	Y	H	E
E	L	E	P	H	A	N	T	S	C
F	J	I	K	M	O	T	J	I	H
S	N	L	P	L	Z	P	M	F	I
H	Y	I	E	B	X	S	O	T	C
E	S	O	O	R	A	G	N	A	K
E	R	N	P	L	W	I	K	U	E
P	G	S	L	Q	V	P	E	H	N
K	I	B	E	E	S	T	Y	D	S
R	P	U	P	P	I	E	S	T	D

NOUNS

Name _____ Date _____

Possessive Nouns - Singular

Possessive nouns name the single owners of things, for example: *Brenna's bucket*, *Jim's Akubra*, *the boy's dirty hands*. You will need an **apostrophe**. Use 's for single owners.

TIP: Ask who is the owner? – THAT is where you put the apostrophe.

1 Highlight the possessive nouns.

- a Where is Harry's football?
- b I put on Tania's hat by mistake.
- c That is David's model plane.
- d What is Rhys' last name?
- e My brother's new car is a Ferrari.

NOTE:
If the owner ends in s, just add an apostrophe.

2 Use apostrophes to show ownership.

- a Mum found my brother socks in Dad sock drawer.
- b This is my aunt and uncle old stone farmhouse.
- c Which is Tessa house?
- d Lachlan made a pirate sword, and I made a knight shield.
- e Is this schoolbag Ben or Eric?
- f Jacqui and Omar lunchboxes are exactly the same.

If there are two different owners, add 's after the second owner.



3 Write 3 sentences. Choose from the following subjects:

parrot's feathers *river's edge* *player's injuries*
magician's wand *farmer's cows* *Rupert's violin*

Name _____ Date _____

Possessive Nouns - Plural

Possessive nouns name the plural owners of things, for example: **zebras' stripes**, **four dogs' bones**, **the boys' muddy clothes**. You will need an **apostrophe**. Place the apostrophe **after** the plural owners.

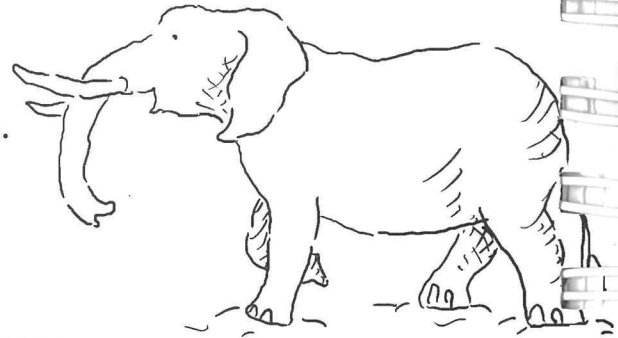
TIP: Ask who is the owner? – **THAT** is where you put the apostrophe.

1 Are the owners singular or plural?

- a Dad buys dogs' bones once a week. _____
- b Jockeys' shirts are made of colourful silks. _____
- c David's remote-controlled car is very fast. _____
- d Birds' feathers lay scattered below the tree. _____
- e I climbed onto the horse's back and off she trotted. _____

2 Add apostrophes correctly to show ownership.

- a We heard the beat of eagles wings.
- b Most of the citys buildings were damaged in the storm.
- c The cars tyre is flat.
- d All the swimmers times have improved with training.
- e Elephants tusks are made of ivory.



If the plural noun is irregular, just add 's, for example: *children's toys, men's golf clubs, women's shoes.*

3 Who owns the objects that are underlined?

- a It is the builder's toolbox. builder
- b Owls' eyes peered in the dark. _____
- c He's in the teachers' staffroom. _____
- d She designs women's clothes. _____
- e I soaked up the sun's warmth. _____
- f These are Tom's shorts. _____
- g There's a ribbon on the lady's hat. _____
- h Look at the babies' photos. _____
- i You'll find men's shoes on that shelf. _____
- j The cars' windows are dirty. _____



12 Name _____ Date _____

Verbal Nouns

Some forms of the verb* can be used as nouns. They are called verbal nouns. They end in *-ing*, for example: **Walking** is good exercise. I enjoy **swimming** in summer.

*These are present participles doing the work of a noun.

1 Underline the verbal nouns.

- a A constant buzzing could be heard coming from the laboratory.
- b Horseracing is a favourite Australian sport.
- c Jake enjoys bike riding, but Paul prefers skateboarding.
- d I don't approve of the hunting and shooting of wild animals.
- e Stargazing is a fascinating hobby.



2 Top and tail these sentences. Underline the verbal nouns.

- a The sheep were frightened is dangerous.
- b Abseiling requires woke me from my sleep.
- c We heard the croaking of frogs by the howling of wolves.
- d Playing on the street a lot of skill and training.
- e The baby's crying in the waterhole.

3 Highlight the verbal nouns in these sentences.

- a Bushwalking is my favourite pastime. During the last holidays, I walked through the lovely valleys of the eastern ranges. All was hushed and quiet. The only sounds I heard were the soft rustlings of leaves, the humming of insects, the chiming of bellbirds and the occasional croaking of green tree frogs.
- b Waiting for the storm to hit was scary. The wind started with a soft murmuring, which soon grew to a terrible roar. The constant screaming of the wind soon filled our ears and rattled the windows. Then there was the unmistakable cracking of branches being broken by the storm's fury. In horror we watched as the fierce wind tore the roofing off the shed. The whistling and whining of the wind seemed to go on for a very long time. Gradually it died down to a low moan, followed by a deathly silence. The storm had finally passed.

Name _____ Date _____

Abstract Nouns 1

Nouns that name our thoughts and feelings are called abstract nouns, for example: *hope, anger, love, disappointment, greed, beauty, tolerance.*

NOUNS

- 1 You cannot see or touch abstract ideas – they exist in your thoughts and in your feelings. Circle only the nouns that name abstract ideas.**

sorrow porcupine glamour clarinet chieftain
 hope anger lantern container tolerance
 happiness laundry despair chalk grief



- 2 Find and circle the abstract nouns in these sentences.**

- a We watched in despair as the dam levels dropped lower and lower.
- b It was such a disappointment when our team lost the match.
- c The story tells of great moments of sadness and of happiness.
- d The searchers gave up all hope of finding the missing boy before nightfall.
- e With longing in his heart, the puppy watched the people passing the pet shop.

- 3 Write three sentences beginning with these abstract feelings.**

- a In a fit of anger _____
- b In a voice filled with fear, _____
- c With great excitement, _____

- 4 Write three sentences about these abstract thoughts:**

honesty confidence solitude

Abstract Nouns 2

Abstract ideas are often explained through metaphors, for example: **Sadness** is the lonely cry of a seagull. **Happiness** is running barefoot in the rain.

Some other examples: **Embarrassment** is a red face and shaky knees.
Fear is the thunder of a beating heart.
Comfort is hot chocolate at bedtime.
Love is the joy of a bird in flight.



Write a poem, design a sign, or compose a greeting card to define an abstract idea or feeling. Choose one of these, or choose one of your own.

trust friendship happiness disappointment sadness love excitement

Name _____ Date _____

Nouns Groups

A group of words built around a noun is called a **noun group**. They more clearly identify the 'things' we want to speak and write about, for example: *a clock, a grandfather clock, the clock in my bedroom, an old, wind-up clock.*

1 Complete the noun groups with nouns of your own choice.

- the long and dusty _____
- a brown, leather _____
- our favourite _____
- a quiet and peaceful _____
- an isolated, country _____
- a wet and windy _____
- a new, multicoloured _____
- an old and wise _____



2 Select three of the noun groups above. Build sentences around them.

3 Use the ideas listed below to form a noun group.

For example: cave, *damp, dark, underground* = the dark and damp underground cave
book, *old, faded, leather* = an old book with faded leather binding

- a** day, windy, wet, cold _____
- b** dress, red, new, pretty _____
- c** bike, old, rusty, blue _____
- d** explorers, brave, adventurous _____
- e** rocks, granite, rough, grey _____

4 Box the noun groups in these sentences.

- a** The Year 7 class watched an interesting television program about global warming.
- b** A white, shining angel was placed on top of the green Christmas tree.
- c** A mean, old fox was prowling around the farmer's henhouse.
- d** A family of magpies lives in a shady tree in our garden.

Name _____ Date _____



A word about **ARTICLES**

Three articles are used to signal nouns or noun groups:

a

an

the

- ❖ **A** and **an** are only used with **singular** nouns. They are **indefinite** because they point to something that is not known by the reader or the listener.
- ❖ **A** is used before a word beginning with a **consonant**, for example: *a rose, a computer, a clever girl.*
- ❖ **An** is used before a word beginning with a **vowel**, for example: *an orange, an odd person, an igloo.*
- ❖ **An** is also used before a word beginning with an **'h'** (not sounded), for example: *an hour, an historic event.*
- ❖ **The** is a **definite** article because it points to something that has been made known to the reader or listener, for example: *the cap I wear, the ball in the box.*
- ❖ **The** is always used before **plural** nouns, for example: *the eggs in the nest, the children at school.*
- ❖ **The** is also used when it points to a common noun known by everyone, for example: *the sun, the morning.*

NOTE: A character in a story is usually introduced as **'a'** (for example: *There was once a giant, a red fox, a beautiful princess, a brave knight...*).

Once the character has been introduced, they can be referred to as **'the'** (for example: *The giant spoke..., The red fox prowled..., The princess lived...*).



Articles

'The' is definite about what it names. Readers and listeners can identify what it is, for example: *the latest movie; the prime minister; the sun, moon and stars.*
 'A' and 'an' point to something readers and listeners only know in general terms, for example: *a fast car; a new discovery; a rare painting; a ticket to the game.*

1 Choose 'a' or 'an' or 'the' to complete the sentences.

- a Gently place _____ egg into _____ pot of boiling water.
 b _____ player bought _____ football at _____ sports shop.
 c He is _____ odd person, but _____ honest one.
 d Put _____ lid back on _____ saucepan.
 e Mum made _____ apple pie and _____ batch of scones.
 f He is _____ oldest person in _____ team.
 g I had _____ cup of tea out on _____ deck.

2 Fill in the missing articles.

The School Disco

_____ Year 7 students planned _____ disco for _____ last day of term. _____ five best artists in _____ class each prepared _____ poster to advertise _____ disco. _____ group of students helped _____ teacher to decorate _____ hall with balloons and streamers. _____ ladies from _____ canteen set up _____ stall to sell _____ refreshments – ice blocks, drinks and snacks. _____ group of four students set up _____ sound system. Another small group organised _____ lighting.

On _____ night of _____ disco, _____ students all arrived in their favourite after-school clothes. _____ decorated hall, under _____ coloured lights, looked like _____ fairyland. It was _____ amazing sight!
 _____ students all had _____ wonderful time. They enjoyed _____ dancing, and _____ company of their friends. For them, this had been _____ memorable evening.



Come and join our Year 7 classes as we celebrate the end of term with a

**DISCO
Dance Night**

Thursday 7:30pm
School Hall

Prizes to be won:
Lucky Spot
Best solo item
Best RAP dance

Admission: \$2

Nouns with Suffixes 1

Suffixes are word endings that change the grammar of a word, for example:

- suffixes **er**, **or** and **ist** form nouns: *dance – dancer*; *sail – sailor*; *violin – violinist*
- suffixes **ion** and **ance** form nouns: *elect – election*; *revise – revision*; *attend – attendance*.

Noun-forming suffixes include:

-acy, -ant, -ence, -ism, -ice, -hood, -ship, -ary, -ory, -ery, -ium, -or, -ar, -ment, -ness

1 The suffixes *-er*, *-or*, *-ar*, *-ist*, *-ant* and *-ent* all mean 'one who...'. For example: One who sings is a singer. One who plays the cello is a cellist. Match the definition to the correct word.

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| a One who performs in a movie. | traveller |
| b One who studies knowledge. | resident |
| c One who helps another person. | actor |
| d One who lives in a house. | soloist |
| e One who goes from one place to another. | assistant |
| f One who performs on their own. | scholar |



2 Many nouns are formed by adding the suffix *-ion* to the verb. *-ion* means 'the act of...', for example: operate *operation*; extend *extension*. Write the noun form of these words.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| a complete _____ | e prevent _____ |
| b nominate _____ | f televise _____ |
| c divide _____ | g attend _____ |
| d invite _____ | h provide _____ |

3 Scan through a book, magazine or newspaper. Record as many words ending in *-ion* as you can find. If needed, attach an extra page.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Name _____ Date _____

Nouns with Suffixes 2

Suffixes change the grammar of a word, for example: friend *friendship*, electric *electricity*, guard *guardian*.

NOUNS

1 Write sentences to include these nouns: *friendship distance neighbourhood*

2 Rewrite these words as nouns, using the suffixes *-ance* and *-ence*.

- | | | | |
|------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| a perform | _____ | e pretend | _____ |
| b enter | _____ | f correspond | _____ |
| c abundant | _____ | g persist | _____ |
| d disturb | _____ | h refer | _____ |

3 Search out these nouns. All end in a suffix.

- servant
- announcer
- justice
- cemetery
- privacy
- sculptor
- recreation
- vision
- opinion

R	E	C	R	E	A	T	I	O	N
D	V	I	S	I	O	N	Y	L	S
Y	E	G	E	F	K	I	R	H	C
O	A	N	R	R	E	U	E	G	U
P	R	I	V	A	C	Y	T	U	L
I	T	Z	A	C	I	R	E	O	P
N	J	G	N	T	T	N	M	R	T
I	F	A	T	I	S	W	E	J	O
O	A	N	N	O	U	N	C	E	R
N	L	O	W	N	J	H	S	A	D

4 Use these nouns in sentences:
guitarist factory stadium



Name _____ Date _____