

# Improve your English for students

Alps Academy

<https://www.alps.academy/improve-english-chinese/>

# compound nouns

Alps Academy

## compound nouns

- nouns can be more than one word
- for example:
  - break + fast = breakfast
  - sunflower
  - football
  - swimming pool
  - ice cream
  - classroom
  - peanut butter
  - hot dog
  - living room

## types of compound nouns

Compound elements	
noun + noun	bedroom water tank motorcycle printer cartridge
noun + verb	rainfall haircut train-spotting
noun + adverb	hanger-on passer-by
verb + noun	washing machine driving licence swimming pool
verb + adverb	lookout take-off drawback
adverb + noun	onlooker bystander
adjective + verb	dry-cleaning public speaking
adjective + noun	greenhouse software redhead
adverb + verb	output overthrow upturn input

## compound nouns

try these simple examples:

1. birth \_ \_ \_
2. \_ \_ \_ plane
3. base \_ \_ \_ \_
4. s \_ \_ food
5. \_ \_ \_ \_ coat
6. cup \_ \_ \_ \_

## compound nouns

try these simple examples:

1. birth day
2. air plane
3. base ball
4. sea food
5. over coat
6. cup cake

# exercise #1

## compound nouns

match these simple examples to form compound nouns:

- |            |            |
|------------|------------|
| 1. box     | a) agent   |
| 2. bus     | b) driver  |
| 3. film    | c) fiction |
| 4. income  | d) jam     |
| 5. mother  | e) office  |
| 6. science | f) star    |
| 7. traffic | g) tax     |
| 8. travel  | h) tongue  |

see  
next  
page

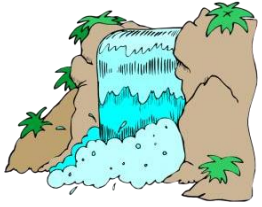


## compound nouns

1. **Box \_\_\_\_\_**: The place where tickets for movies are sold.
2. **Bus \_\_\_\_\_**: A person who drives a bus.
3. **Film \_\_\_\_\_**: An actor or actress who is famous for their roles in movies.
4. **Income \_\_\_\_\_**: A percentage of a person's wages or salary that is paid to the government.
5. **Mother \_\_\_\_\_**: The first language a person learns, spoken by parents and used at home.
6. **Science \_\_\_\_\_**: A type of book or film based on or related to science, that is not based on facts.
7. **Traffic \_\_\_\_\_**: A situation where a large number of vehicles are unable to move freely on a road, normally causing delays.
8. **Travel \_\_\_\_\_**: A person or business that helps plan and arrange travel, including booking flights and hotels.

- a) agent
- b) driver
- c) fiction
- d) jam
- e) office
- f) star
- g) tax
- h) tongue

# exercise #2



Do you want to see the Detain  
.....fall?



People use a  
....brush to clean their teeth.



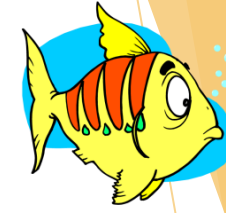
David works as a  
.....guard at the beach.



A **steam**ship has got a  
paddle wheel on its side.



There aren't any houses near the  
.....house.



Mum, shall we buy a ...fish from the  
petshop?



My parents like having dinner  
under the ...light.



The man is running  
... stairs because he is late.

	<del>over</del>	<del>steam</del>	
light	police	sewing	moon
gold	tooth	sky	down
	water	under	life



The ...man is riding his horse  
in the city centre.

Read the sentences and fill in the blanks with the correct words from the box.



Which one do you prefer?  
ground or taxi?



These three horses have got  
only one **over**coat.



Look! The  
....scrapers in the middle is  
on fire.



I want to buy a  
....machine for my  
mum.

# exercise #3

order these sentence whilst completing the compound nouns

1. Kevin / Houston / guard / played / . / movie / a / Whitney / body / in / a / Costner / with

2. was / Shergar / a / horse / famous / 1980s / . / in / race / the

3. the / outside / found / foot / a / house / large / . / print / police / the / victim's

4. my / like / has / and / a / new / ! / style / hair / really / mother / I / it

5. lost / I / can't / phones / . / music / listen / to / head / my / because / I / my

6. there / coast / very / house / . / is / a / light / dangerous / the / is / because

7. it / light / was / enough / . / night / see / was / but / there / moon / to

8. will / put / burn / this / your / better / . / cream / on / tomorrow / sun / and / it / be

**Answer:** Kevin Costner played a **bodyguard** in a movie with Whitney Houston.

# exercise #4

use the words in the box to fill the blanks to form compound nouns

road flood news head jelly ~~coat~~ dead bow  
sky check key chair lid ~~math~~ fly

First Word + Second Word

1. \_\_\_\_\_ + board

2. after + math

3. \_\_\_\_\_ + fish

4. \_\_\_\_\_ + scraper

5. eye + \_\_\_\_\_

6. fire + \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_ + light

8. \_\_\_\_\_ + up

9. \_\_\_\_\_ + paper

10. over + coat

11. rain + \_\_\_\_\_

12. \_\_\_\_\_ + quarters

13. \_\_\_\_\_ + lock

14. cross + \_\_\_\_\_

15. wheel + \_\_\_\_\_

Compound Noun

= \_\_\_\_\_

= aftermath

= \_\_\_\_\_

= \_\_\_\_\_

= \_\_\_\_\_

= \_\_\_\_\_

= \_\_\_\_\_

= \_\_\_\_\_

= \_\_\_\_\_

= overcoat

= \_\_\_\_\_

= \_\_\_\_\_

= \_\_\_\_\_

= \_\_\_\_\_

= \_\_\_\_\_



## compound nouns

A classroom board used for writing on in schools.

The following period and result of a bad event.

A soft sea animal with a umbrella-shaped body and trailing tentacles.

A very tall building with many floors.

The thin skin covering and protecting the eye.

A small insect that produces light, especially at night.

A bright light, often used outdoors, that lights a wide area.

A medical examination to assess a person's health or progress.

A printed publication containing news, articles, and advertisements, usually published daily or weekly.

A large, heavy coat worn over regular clothing, especially in cold weather.

An arc in the sky with a range of beautiful colors appearing when it is sunny and raining.

The main office or center of an organization.

A situation where two sides can't agree.

A point where two or more roads cross over each other.

A chair with wheels for people who have walking difficulty.



# speaking / pronunciation practice

## nouns - initial stress (normally)

- table
- dog
- book
- car
- house
- glass
- river
- phone
- chair
- coffee

## beginning

1. happy
2. table
3. computer
4. picture
5. elephant
6. umbrella
7. guitar
8. banana
9. doctor
10. piano

She is always **happy** when she sees her friends.

Please set the dinner **table** for our guests.

The **computer** is on the desk, ready for use.

I have a beautiful **picture** of the sunset on my wall.

The zoo has a new baby **elephant** on display.

Don't forget to bring an **umbrella**.

He plays the **guitar** in a local band.

She ate a **banana** for breakfast.

The **doctor** will see you now.

She practiced the **piano** for hours before the show.

## compound nouns - initial stress (normally)

- classmate
- homework
- football
- bathroom
- website
- keyboard
- arm chair
- gold fish
- reading test
- due date

nouns - ending stress (rare)

- hotel
- extreme
- concise

## adjectives - initial stress

- happy
- big
- large
- funny
- busy
- noisy
- tasty
- cold
- heavy
- bright

verbs (and prepositions) - end stress (normally)

- become
- provide
- aside
- above
- between

## ending

1. about Tell me what you learned **about** the project.
2. forget Please don't **forget** to pick up some milk on your way home.
3. arrive They will **arrive** at the airport at 3 pm.
4. delay There was a **delay** in the train schedule.
5. describe Can you **describe** the painting in detail?
6. advice I need some **advice** on choosing a new laptop.
7. expand The balloon will **expand** when it is blown up.
8. include The package will **include** a variety of snacks.
9. relax Take a moment to **relax** and enjoy the sunshine.
10. recall I can't **recall** where I put my keys.



noun + adjectives - stress on noun

- a long walk
- a good grade
- a short speech
- a clear voice
- a hard quiz
- some organized notes
- a confident speaker
- an interesting person

a long walk - meaning

including numbers - stress on number

- example 1
- say the number 2
- exercise 3
- My class had 40 students
- I have reached level 5
- We can buy 6 oranges

## compound nouns - initial stress

- seaweed
- greenhouse
- Sat Nav
- supermarket
- seatbelt
- blackbird

## compound verbs - end stress

- understand
- overbook
- overflow

compound adjectives - initial stress of second word

- big-headed
- old-fashioned
- tight-fisted
- bad-tempered

3 syllables with -er or -ly - initial stress

- or-der-ly
- qui-te-ly
- ma-na-ger

## other stresses

Words ending in “ic,” “sion” and “tion”

- creation
- commision
- photogr~~ra~~phic

## other stresses

Words ending in “cy,” “ty,” “phy,” “gy” and “al”

- democracy
- photograph
- logical
- comomodity
- psychology



Some words in English can be both a noun and a verb

- record attendance
- Christmas present
- rebel
- record a song
- present my work
- rebel

more next week

## practice sounds in English

Course #1

<https://www.alps.academy/english-pronunciation-practice/>

### What would you like to learn?

- reading practice exercises
- practice conversations
- pronunciation practice



/ɔɪ/ – as in “boy”

- boy
- toy
- joy
- coin
- noise
- voice
- choice
- enjoy
- join
- boil

/aɪ/ – as in “bike”

- bike
- like
- time
- fine
- five
- fly
- night
- high
- right
- sky

/ə/ – as in “sofa” (*start*)

- about
- alone
- among
- alive
- adore
- arrive
- aside
- abandon
- afford
- accuse

/ə/ – as in “sofa” (*end*)

- extra
- cinema
- drama
- data
- idea
- mama
- opera
- banana
- comma
- drama

### Consonant Sounds in English

/m/ – as in “mat”

- map
- mom
- man
- mud
- mop

/n/ – as in “nut”

- nap
- net
- not
- nose
- nut

/p/ – as in “pat”

- pen
- pig
- pot
- pop
- pat

/t/ – as in “top”

- tip
- tap
- tom
- tent
- tan

# listening practice

## Cupid

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_i5UL7LqkuA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_i5UL7LqkuA)

Listen to the song and answer the following questions.

Select a, b or c

1. Cupid draw back your \_\_\_\_\_

a. bow      b. boat      c bowl

2. and let your arrow \_\_\_\_\_

a. throw      b. flow      c blow

3. straight to my lovers' \_\_\_\_\_ for me,

a. heart      b. harp      c heat

4. Cupid please hear my cry and let \_\_\_\_\_ fly

a. your marrow      b. pure arrow      c your arrow

5. Straight \_\_\_\_\_ my lover's heart, for me

a. through      b. two      c to

6. I don't want to bother you, but I'm \_\_\_\_\_

a. in this dress      b. in distress      c in distrust

7. There's danger of \_\_\_\_\_ all my happiness

a. meal using      b. me losing      c me using

8. for I love a man who doesn't know I \_\_\_\_\_

a. exits      b. eggs is      c exist

9. and this \_\_\_\_\_ fix

a. shoes can't      b. you can      c you can't

## lyrics

Cupid, draw back your bow  
And let your arrow flow  
Straight to my lover's heart for me  
Nobody but me  
Cupid, please hear my cry  
And let your arrow fly  
Straight to my lover's heart for me

I don't want to bother you  
But I'm in distress  
There's danger of me losin' all my happiness  
For I love a man who doesn't know I exist  
And this you can fix, so

Cupid, draw back your bow  
And let your arrow flow  
Straight to my lover's heart for me  
Nobody but me  
Cupid, please hear my cry  
And let your arrow fly  
Straight to my lover's heart for me

Now if your arrow makes his love strong for me  
I swear I'm going to love him 'til eternity  
I know that, 'tween the both of us, his heart we  
can steal  
Cupid, help me if you will, so

vocabulary

## phrasal verbs

### what is a phrasal verb?

multiple words that make a new meaning with a verb

- give up
- get on
- take off
- look after

## up

beat up  
bring up  
give up  
grow up  
keep it up  
look up  
make up  
mess up  
pick up  
put up with  
set up  
shut up  
show up  
stand up  
take up  
tie up

## out

check out  
come out  
drop out  
eat out  
figure out  
find out  
get out  
go out  
hang out  
point out  
put out  
run out  
sleep out  
speak out  
spell out  
turn out

## phrasal verbs

### back

come back  
cut back on  
go back  
hold back  
set back

### after

look after  
model after  
take after

### over

go over  
think over  
do over

## on

go on  
hold on

## off

1. break off
2. call off
3. cut off
4. drop off
5. go off
6. hit it off
7. hold off
8. log off
9. put off
10. show off
13. write off

## in

bring in  
check in  
drop in  
fill in  
put in  
turn in

## down

break down  
calm down  
cut down  
look down on  
put down  
turn down

## away

give away  
pass away



# exercise #1

## phrasal verbs

In pairs, match each phrasal verb with its correct definition.

1. Look up
  2. Run out
  3. Turn on
  4. Break up
  5. Bring up
  6. Put off
  7. Come across
  8. Set up
- a. To activate a device
  - b. To arrange or establish
  - c. To end a relationship
  - d. To exhaust the supply
  - e. To find unexpectedly
  - f. To mention or introduce a topic
  - g. To postpone
  - h. To search for information

# exercise #2

## phrasal verbs - listening exercise

As the city lights shimmered, I unexpectedly 1 \_\_\_\_\_ a charming bookstore nestled between skyscrapers.

Engaging in conversation, the bookseller enthusiastically 2 \_\_\_\_\_ rare editions.

However, my plans to return were 3 \_\_\_\_\_ by an urgent work commitment.

Urgently needing to 4 \_\_\_\_\_ my laptop, I hastily 5 \_\_\_\_\_ the nearest café for Wi-Fi, turning it into an impromptu office.

Reflecting on the day, I was disappointed about having to 6 \_\_\_\_\_ my bookstore visit.

Despite plans being unexpectedly 7 \_\_\_\_\_, the experience was an adventure worth cherishing.

# exercise #3

down  
in  
on  
on  
off  
off  
out  
out  
out  
over  
up  
up  
up  
up  
up

## phrasal verbs

Fill the gaps with the missing phrasal verbs

1. Take your shoes \_\_\_\_\_ before you enter the building.
2. The assignment needs to be handed \_\_\_\_ to the teacher next Friday.
3. My brother has stopped travelling and now he has settled \_\_\_\_\_ in Devon.
4. You must put \_\_\_\_\_ a life jacket before you get into the boat.
5. The manager is leaving next month, so this month he is handing \_\_\_\_\_ to his replacement.
6. I waited for nearly an hour, but my friend didn't turn \_\_\_\_\_ for the meeting.
7. That's a relief. I've finally sorted \_\_\_\_\_ the problem with my phone.
8. While business was slow in the beginning, after 12 months it really took \_\_\_\_\_
9. They are short staffed in the kitchen this morning; can you please help \_\_\_\_\_?
10. I always pick \_\_\_\_\_ my daughter from school at three o'clock.
11. This is a tough question; I'm having trouble working \_\_\_\_\_ the answer.
12. I'm afraid I can't hear you; can you speak \_\_\_\_\_ please?
13. Even though I was running very fast, I could not keep \_\_\_\_\_ with my friend.
14. Sorry. Can you please hold \_\_\_\_\_ for a few minutes? I'll be free very soon.
15. The children didn't run away but they stood \_\_\_\_\_ to the bully.

# bonus exercise

Select the phrasal verbs that have a similar meaning to the words below

- |              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| 1. calculate | a) hand on  |
| 2. remove    | b) help out |
| 3. wait      | c) hold on  |
| 4. submit    | d) sort out |
| 5. arrive    | e) take off |
| 6. assist    | f) turn up  |
| 7. solve     | g) work out |

**Thank you!**  
any questions?