SENTENCE ESSENTIALS – ENC 0002
NOUNS - REVIEW

Nouns

A noun is a word that names a person, a place, a thing, an idea, or an activity.
Examples: *astronaut, Mars, spaceship, knowledge, orbiting*

Nouns may function as **subjects**, **objects of verbs**, **objects of prepositions**, or **complements of linking verbs**:
The young ***man*** *gave up his* ***seat*** *on the* ***bus****. He was a true* ***gentleman****.*
subject obj. of vb obj. of prep. link. vb. complement

Common and Proper Nouns

Common Nouns refer to people, places, things, ideas, or activities in general terms. Common nouns are not capitalized except at the beginning of a sentence.
Examples: *bridge, woman, street, college*

Proper Nouns refer specific people, places, or things. These nouns are capitalized.
Examples: *Golden Gate Bridge, Eleanor Roosevelt, Main Street, Fairfax Community College*

Noun Markers

Noun Markers signal that a noun will follow and often tell you if the noun will be **singular** or **plural.** The most common **noun markers** are the words ***an, an, the***. Adjectives such as number words are often noun markers to signal that a noun will follow. [see chart on page 17]

Some Common Singular Noun Markers: *a, an, one, each, every, a single*
Some Common Plural Noun Markers: ***two ... , all, some, many, both, few, several, most, one of***

Possessive nouns always function as noun markers: *Jeremy's books were stolen.*

Singular and Plural Nouns

Singular Nouns refer to only one person, place, thing, idea, or activity.
Examples: *the astronaut, the planet, the rocket, a flight, an achievement*

Plural Nouns refer to more than one person, place, thing, idea, or activity. Most nouns form their plural by adding *-s* or *-es*. [see rules on pages 19 & 20]
Examples: *astronauts, planets, rockets, flights, achievements, watches, churches*

Watch out: Plural nouns are NOT formed by adding an apostrophe.
This summer, I went on two trips. [NOT *two trip's*]

I. In the following sentences, underline the NOUNS. Write "C" above COMMON NOUNS and "P" above PROPER NOUNS.

1. Whenever Mrs. Jacobs goes to the doctor, he prescribes anti-depressant drugs.
2. When Latoya was in high school, she went to Spain with a school group.
3. Mark Twain once lived in the Bronx in a house that overlooked the Hudson River.
4. America has often been called a nation of immigrants.
5. In ancient Greek mythology, Mentor was a sensible and intelligent friend of Odysseus.
6. December and January are summer months in Australia.
7. Aesop's fables are entertaining stories that teach moral lessons.
8. Mike had a bad cold, so he was unable to attend the party.
9. As I drove along Main Street, I slowed down when I saw children playing.
10. Maria asked her mother if she could housesit while her mother vacationed in Europe.

II. Fill in the blank with the SINGULAR or PLURAL NOUN that fits the sentence.

1. One of the _____ in my aerobics class likes to groan when she is tired.
   (woman, women)
2. Each _____ that the dentist removes will hurt a lot.
   (tooth, teeth)
3. How many _____ will attend the benefit concert?
   (person, people)
4. My parents have three grown _____ living in their house.
   (child, children)
5. These _____ look beautiful in the green vase.
   (flower, flowers)
6. Several of the _____ of the jury concluded that the defendant was not guilty.
   (member, members)
7. A _____ ran across the room while the couple ate a candlelight dinner.
   (mouse, mice)
8. Many scary _____ have similar plots.
   (movie, movies)

III. Fill in the blanks with "a" or "an," whichever fits the sentence.

1. Leo needed _____ hour to finish his project.
2. The guard was given _____ uniform to wear while on the job.
3. Margo was already ready for _____ holiday.
4. I want to buy _____ umbrella before I go on vacation.
5. Do you have _____ excuse for your absence?