



1 Nouns are the names of things concrete and abstract, people, animals, phenomena, actions, qualities, species, individuals etc. Nouns in Esperanto have an O-ending.

2

tablo - table = name of a concrete object (a concrete noun)

hundo - dog = name of a animal species

saĝo - wisdom = denotation of a quality

amo - love = denotation of a feeling

kuro - the act of running, the run = name of an action

martelado - hammering = name of a continuous or repetitive action

Petro - Peter = name of a person

Jokohamo - Yokahama = name of a city

3 The noun ending O can be followed by a [J-ending for the plural](#), and [the accusative N-ending](#). It is also possible to have both, but always J before N:

4

tabloj	tablon	tablojn
hundoj	hundon	hundojn

5 You can substitute the noun ending O by an [apostrophe](#), but only if it is not followed by J or N:**hund'** = hundo, **saĝ'** = saĝo, **am'** = amo, **kur'** = kuro, **Jokoham'** = Jokohamo

Use of nouns

6 Nouns, or rather clauses with a noun as its keyword, function mainly as the [subject](#), [object](#), [circumstantial complement](#) or [vocative](#), but they can also function as a **supplemental description** or [predicative description](#) of another word:

7

La bona virino [trankviligis sian soifon](#). - The good woman quenched her thirst.

The clause **la bona virino**, acts as the subject and its keyword is the noun **virino**.

Mi vidas leonon. - I see a lion.

The noun **leonon** is the object here (and therefore has the accusative ending -N).

Ludoviko, donu al mi panon. - Ludoviko, give me bread.

Ludoviko functions as a vocative.

Sur la fenestro [kuŝas kraĵono kaj plumo](#). - On the window lies a pencil and a pen.

The noun phrase **sur la fenestro** acts as a circumstantial complement of location (and therefore has the preposition of location **sur**).

La dentoj de leono [estas akraj](#). - The teeth of a lion are sharp.

The noun phrase **de leono** functions as a possessive supplement to the noun phrase **la dentoj** (and therefore has the preposition **de**).

Mi estas muzikisto. - I am a musician.

The nouns **muzikisto** acts as a predicate description of the subject **mi**.

Noun-like particles

8 Some particles in Esperanto can take on noun-like characteristics in a sentence, but they don't have the O-ending. Some examples are [personal pronouns](#), [correlatives ending in U and O](#), [the names of the Esperanto letters of the alphabet](#), [numerals](#) and the particle [ambaŭ](#).

9 [Also adverbs of quantity can act as nouns](#).

Proper nouns

10 Fully esperantized proper nouns always have the O-ending: **Anno**, **Petro**, **Teodoro**, **Mario**... Also non-esperantized proper nouns are considered nouns, but they don't usually have the O-ending: **Anna**, **Peter**, **Theodore Roosevelt**, **Marie Curie**, **Deng Xiaoping** With these names one can omit the accusative N-ending, even if its function in the sentence specifically requires that ending. For more detail read the [clarification of the N-ending](#).