

Writing with Nouns



A noun names a person, place, thing, or idea.

A. Circle the nouns in each sentence.

1. Canada is the northern neighbor of the United States.
2. The country has two official languages.
3. Both French and English are spoken there.
4. Many different people form the population.
5. Important products include wheat and iron.
6. Wheat is grown on the prairies.
7. The mountains are rich in minerals.
8. There are many rivers and lakes.
9. Waterfalls help produce electricity.
10. Montreal is the largest city.
11. Montreal is named for a high mountain.

B. Find the nouns in the paragraph. List them below.

Canada is the second largest country in the world. Only the Soviet Union is larger in area. The Pacific Ocean is on the west. The Atlantic Ocean is on the east. The United States shares the southern boundary. It is the longest border without posts for defense in the world.

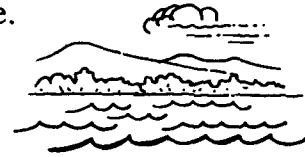
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|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 12. _____ | 17. _____ | 22. _____ |
| 13. _____ | 18. _____ | 23. _____ |
| 14. _____ | 19. _____ | 24. _____ |
| 15. _____ | 20. _____ | 25. _____ |
| 16. _____ | 21. _____ | 26. _____ |

WRITE IT

Write sentences about a place of interest to you. Use nouns. Write on a separate sheet of paper.

Writing with Nouns

Complete the sentence. Write one word for each picture.



The _____ rowed a _____ in the _____
 (noun) (noun) (noun)



A **noun** names a person, place, thing, or idea. Nouns name things we can see or touch. Nouns also name ideas, such as honesty, skill, and beauty.

A. Circle the nouns in each sentence. The number in parentheses () after the sentence tells how many nouns are in the sentence.

EXAMPLE: Emilio visited Newfoundland in Canada. (3)

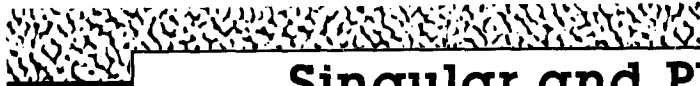
1. The island has an interesting history. (2)
2. The Vikings were early explorers of the land. (3)
3. One group built a settlement on the island in the tenth century. (4)
4. The settlers stayed for only a few years. (2)

B. Complete each sentence with a noun from the box. Use the noun that best fits the sentence.

EXAMPLE: _____ John Cabot _____ explored the eastern coast of Canada.

coast Canada fish John Cabot

5. _____ claimed Newfoundland and other areas for England.
6. Cabot told stories about amazing numbers of fish off the _____ of Newfoundland.
7. Travelers to _____ found some of the best fishing banks in the world.
8. A fishing bank is a shallow part of the ocean that has many _____.



Singular and Plural Nouns



A **singular noun** names one person, place, thing, or idea. A **plural noun** names more than one person, place, thing, or idea.

A. Draw one line under each singular noun. Draw two lines under each plural noun.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. A bird has feathers. | 5. A monkey can hang by its tail. |
| 2. Wolves and foxes are mammals. | 6. Many lizards live in the desert. |
| 3. Alligators and crocodiles are reptiles. | 7. Ducks have webbed feet. |
| 4. Some animals travel in packs. | 8. A frog lays eggs in the water. |

B. Write the plural of each noun.

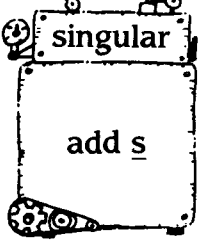
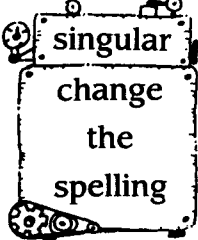
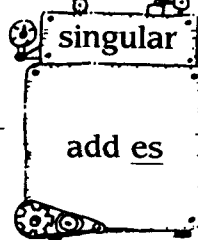
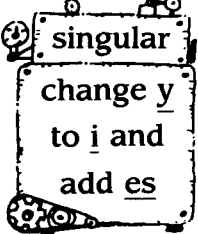
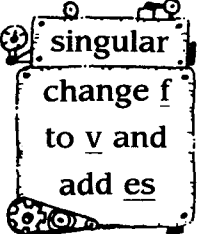
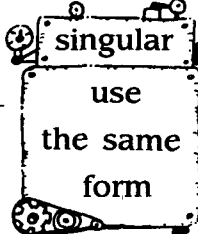
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|-------------------|------------------|
| 9. lady _____ | 23. branch _____ |
| 10. wolf _____ | 24. monkey _____ |
| 11. goose _____ | 25. foot _____ |
| 12. fox _____ | 26. baby _____ |
| 13. hiss _____ | 27. salmon _____ |
| 14. birch _____ | 28. canary _____ |
| 15. feather _____ | 29. bush _____ |
| 16. ostrich _____ | 30. pouch _____ |
| 17. woman _____ | 31. half _____ |
| 18. puppy _____ | 32. moose _____ |
| 19. boss _____ | 33. class _____ |
| 20. couch _____ | 34. summer _____ |
| 21. man _____ | 35. guppy _____ |
| 22. ranch _____ | 36. boot _____ |

WRITE IT

Write about animals. Use singular and plural nouns. Write on a separate sheet of paper.

Singular and Plural Nouns

Follow the hint on each machine. Change each singular noun to a plural noun. The first one is done for you.

	1. toy toys _____		2. mouse _____		3. glass _____
	4. candy _____		5. elf _____		6. sheep _____



A **singular noun** names one person, place, thing, or idea. A **plural noun** names more than one person, place, thing, or idea. Most nouns add an ending in the plural. Some nouns change their spelling in the plural.

A. Write the plural of each noun.

EXAMPLE: country _____ countries _____

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. roof _____ | 4. tray _____ | 7. deer _____ |
| 2. thief _____ | 5. woman _____ | 8. spy _____ |
| 3. foot _____ | 6. bush _____ | 9. ax _____ |

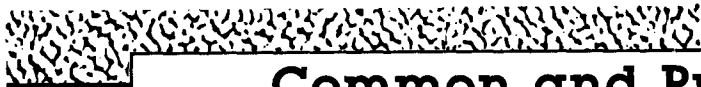
B. Rewrite each sentence. Change the underlined singular noun to a plural.

EXAMPLE: Howard spotted the wild strawberry.

Howard spotted the wild strawberries.

10. The leaf hid some of them.

11. We quickly filled the box.



Common and Proper Nouns



A **common noun** is the general name for a person, place, or thing. A **proper noun** names a particular person, place, or thing.

A. Circle the common nouns. Underline the proper nouns.

1. The Vikings sailed across the ocean from Iceland to Canada.
2. The new land was named Vinland by Leif Ericson.
3. Christopher Columbus looked for a new route to India.
4. Columbus made four voyages to the islands of the Caribbean Sea.
5. The country of Brazil was claimed by Pedro Cabral for Portugal.
6. The people of Brazil speak Portuguese.
7. Amerigo Vespucci was a skilled sailor from Italy.
8. Ponce de León landed in Florida.

B. Rewrite each sentence. Change the underlined words in each sentence to a proper noun.

9. The bus went to the city.

10. The baseball player hit a home run.

11. The rock star sang the girl's favorite song.

12. My neighbor collects stamps from another country.

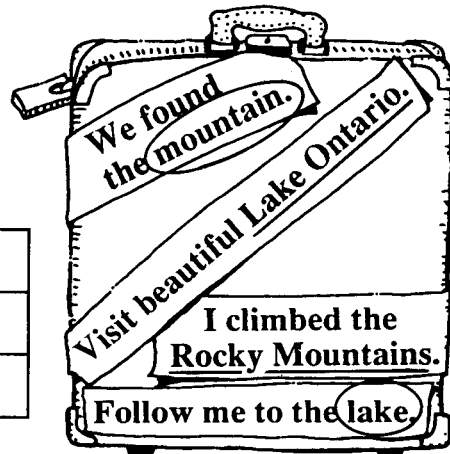
13. I love to hear the stories my relative tells.

WRITE IT

On separate paper, write about a place you would like to explore with a friend. Use both common nouns and proper nouns.

Common and Proper Nouns

Read the travel stickers. The common nouns are circled. The proper nouns are underlined. Write the common nouns and proper nouns in the chart.



Common Nouns	Proper Nouns



A **common noun** is the general name for a person, place, or thing. A **proper noun** names a particular person, place, or thing. A proper noun can be more than one word.

A. Underline each common noun. Circle each proper noun.

EXAMPLE: His favorite painter is Paul Gauguin.

1. My family drove to Washington.
2. A famous president is Abraham Lincoln.
3. Lake Louise is a beautiful place.
4. I took a trip to Arizona.
5. She fished last year at Alexandria Bay.

B. Complete each sentence with a common noun. Use the word or words in parentheses () as a guide.

EXAMPLE: Sean loves to watch _____ baseball _____. (sport)

6. Joyce has a _____ in her backyard. (animal)
7. Manuel ate _____ at the picnic. (food)
8. Chim Van went to the _____ on Tuesday. (place)
9. Elton saw a _____ enter the room. (person)
10. Carla plays the _____ in the band. (musical instrument)

Capitalizing Proper Nouns



When you write, use capital letters to begin the important words in proper nouns.

A. Write each sentence. Capitalize each proper noun.

1. In december of 1606, three ships set sail from london, england, for america.

2. The four-month voyage across the atlantic ocean ended in april 1607.

3. The settlers named their colony for king james I of england.

4. On saturday aunt marta and I will visit Jamestown, virginia.

5. My dog, patches, will miss me until our return on sunday.

B. Write a proper noun for each common noun.

6. state _____ 13. river _____

7. holiday _____ 14. language _____

8. month _____ 15. country _____

9. inventor _____ 16. friend _____

10. school _____ 17. ocean _____

11. pet _____ 18. day _____

12. lake _____ 19. town _____

WRITE IT

Plan a trip. Write sentences describing where you would go, what you would see, and who would go with you. Use proper nouns. Write on a separate sheet of paper.

Capitalizing Proper Nouns

The proper nouns are underlined. Circle the capital letters in the proper nouns.

Last Thursday William went with Janet to the Museum
of Natural History in New York City.



Use capital letters to begin the important words in proper nouns. Capitalize the names of people, pets, months, days, holidays, and particular places and things.

A. Circle the proper nouns in each sentence below.

EXAMPLE: Scientists scheduled the shuttle launch for August.

1. On Wednesday Jamie watched the shuttle launch.
2. He and his family arrived in Florida last June.
3. He attends Jefferson School near Orlando.
4. Next Friday he will show a film of the launch to Ms. Diaz.
5. The pilot could see the Atlantic Ocean below the shuttle.
6. The United States looked very small from the shuttle's window.

B. Write a proper noun to complete each sentence.

EXAMPLE: The day of the week I like best is Saturday.

7. I live with my family in the state of _____.
8. The name of the town I live in is _____.
9. My best friend's name is _____.
10. The school I attend is called _____.
11. My favorite holiday is _____.
12. I like the weather during the month of _____.
13. A famous place I would like to visit is _____.
14. My teacher's name is _____.
15. A good name for a dog is _____.

NAME _____

Abbreviations



An **abbreviation** is a shortened form of a word. Many abbreviations begin with a capital letter and end with a period. An **initial** is the first letter of a name. It is written with a capital letter and followed by a period.

A. Rewrite the following messages. Use correct abbreviations.

1. Monday, 3:30 after noon: appointment with Doctor Winslow

2. Tuesday, 3:15 after noon: meet Tim at Main Street and Lee Avenue

3. Thursday, 4:30 after noon: piano lesson with Mister Hernandez

4. Saturday, 11:15 before noon: call Mister Carl Dobbs, Junior, about play

B. Find the words that can be abbreviated in each sentence. Write each sentence with the abbreviations.

5. I read a speech by Doctor Martin Luther King, Junior.

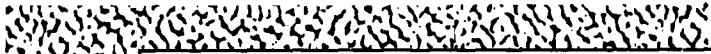
6. A parade in his honor will begin at 10:00 before noon.

7. Mister Clifford Oakes, Senior, organized the parade.

8. I will meet my friends at 9:30 before noon.

WRITE IT

Write a reminder to yourself about three future events. Use initials and abbreviations. Write on a separate sheet of paper.



Abbreviations

Compare the two messages. Circle the shortened forms of words in the second message. The first one is done for you.

Mister Mercado will arrive on Wednesday, April 7, at 1:15 in the afternoon.

Arrival: (Mr.) Mercado, Wed., Apr. 7, 1:15 P.M.



An **abbreviation** is a shortened form of a word. It may begin with a capital letter and end with a period. An **initial** is the first letter of a name. It is written with a capital letter and followed by a period.

A. Write each group of words correctly. Use capital letters and periods.

EXAMPLE: sun, aug 10 Sun., Aug. 10

1. mrs elena d jones _____
2. 16 birch st _____
3. dr kim clayton, jr _____
4. tues, 10:30 am _____
5. mr h r barker, sr _____
6. ms wanda l brooks _____
7. wed, nov 15 _____
8. 9:30 pm, thurs, feb 11 _____

B. Write each message. Make the abbreviations and initials correct.

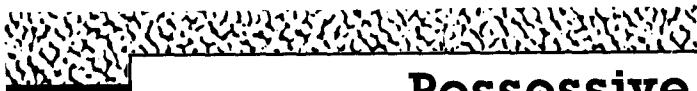
EXAMPLE: meeting place: rte 111 and Thorn dr
meeting place: Rte. 111 and Thorn Dr.

9. 3:30 pm: appointment with dr Lukas

10. Book Fair: mon through wed, 10 am to 4 pm

11. sat, mar 3, 1:30 pm: help mrs Riley

NAME _____



Possessive Nouns



A possessive noun shows ownership.

A. Circle each possessive noun that is singular. Underline each possessive noun that is plural. Then write the possessive noun.

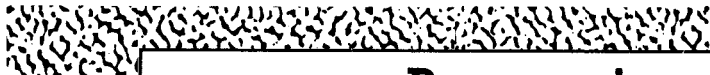
1. The cook's knife was too dull to cut the meat. _____
2. The dishwashers' gloves were made of rubber. _____
3. Ms. Santiago tasted the baker's cakes. _____
4. Then she shook the man's hand. _____
5. Other workers' smiles brightened the room. _____
6. The waitresses' dresses were long. _____
7. The owner's family ate at the center table. _____
8. The child's birthday cake was beautiful. _____
9. All of the children's eyes opened wide at the sight. _____
10. The family's birthday song filled the restaurant. _____
11. Some customers' voices added volume to the song. _____

B. Write the possessive form of each underlined noun.

12. The ladies coats were left at the front rack. _____
13. One guest sister arrived at the party very late. _____
14. The woman car was in a traffic jam. _____
15. Other drivers cars had blocked the entire street. _____
16. The traffic officers cars flashed their lights. _____
17. The men dogs waited in the front yard. _____
18. My friend birthday is tomorrow. _____

WRITE IT

Write sentences that tell about things your family has that were saved from past generations. Use singular and plural possessive nouns. Write on a separate sheet of paper.



Possessive Nouns

Write the words that tell who owns the bicycles. The first one is done for you.

1. One girl's bicycle was pink. _____ girl's
2. The twins' bicycle has two seats. _____
3. The men's bicycles have large frames. _____

The words girl's, twins', and men's are possessive nouns. The possessive form of a noun shows that the person or thing named owns something.



A possessive noun shows ownership. Possessive nouns are formed by adding an apostrophe and s or only an apostrophe.

A. Write the possessive noun in each sentence.

EXAMPLE: The dog's tail wagged. _____ dog's

1. My grandfather's bicycle is in good condition. _____
2. James's bicycle needs a new set of brakes. _____
3. The workers' tools are at the repair shop. _____
4. One man's hammer has a broken handle. _____
5. The owner's daughter also works at the shop. _____
6. The customers' problems usually are simple. _____

B. Write the possessive form for each noun.

EXAMPLE: flowers _____ flowers'

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 7. painter _____ | 14. pony _____ |
| 8. uncle _____ | 15. children _____ |
| 9. families _____ | 16. fox _____ |
| 10. goose _____ | 17. deer _____ |
| 11. woman _____ | 18. friends _____ |
| 12. sister _____ | 19. father _____ |
| 13. guest _____ | 20. ladies _____ |



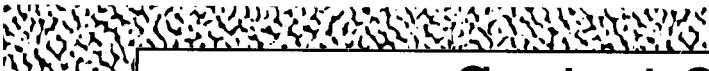
Context Clues

A. Circle the context clue that tells the meaning of each underlined word.

1. Juan saw his favorite steed, a spotted horse.
2. As it cantered, Juan admired its easy gallop.
3. Juan stared at the overcast sky and grumbled at the clouds.
4. He stowed a raincoat in a bag. Then he packed a hat, too.
5. Juan took a running jump and vaulted into the saddle.
6. He pondered his route. He thought about it a great deal.
7. Finally he decided to ramble, or roam, near the river.

B. Write the meaning of each underlined word. Use context clues.

8. He was not usually sullen, but today he felt gloomy. _____
9. Sometimes a remedy, or cure, takes a long time to work. _____
10. The rain soon penetrated my jacket. It soaked right through! _____
11. Sue was employed, or hired, by her uncle. _____
12. Bill established his lemonade stand last summer. He started it with Ned. _____
13. The spire, or tower, rose twenty feet. _____
14. Betty sprouted two inches this fall. She never grew so fast before. _____
15. He wants to install an elevator, but it would be difficult to put one in. _____
16. A trip abroad is a trip overseas. _____
17. Li thrashed, or tossed restlessly, all night. _____



Context Clues

A context clue helps you to understand the meaning of an unfamiliar word. Draw a line to match each kind of context clue with its example.

Kind of Context Clue	Example
synonym	A <u>minstrel</u> is a traveling musician.
definition	A spring <u>bouquet</u> may include tulips and daffodils.
further information	We wrote the <u>data</u> , or information, in our books.

A. Read each sentence. Write the word or words that give you a clue to the meaning of the underlined word.

EXAMPLE: The marsh, or low wet land, was cold and damp.

low wet land

1. The king will banish, or send away from the kingdom, all criminals.

2. Granite is a hard stone that does not wear away quickly.

3. They enjoyed the excursion so much that they were sorry when the trip ended.

4. This legislature is a good law-making body.

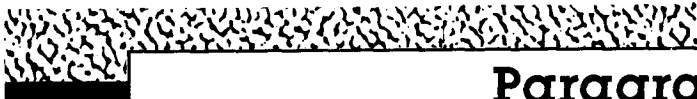
B. Read each sentence. Write the meaning of the underlined word.

EXAMPLE: The man's parka, or hooded jacket, was very warm.

a hooded jacket

5. He made a noose and hooked the loop of rope to the boat.

6. Tom trained his dog to retrieve, or bring back, a stick he threw.



Paragraphs



A **paragraph** is a group of sentences that tells about one main idea. When you write a paragraph, indent the first word.

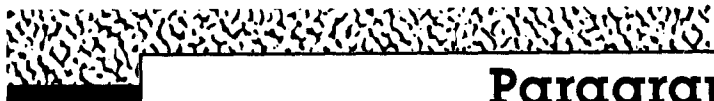
A. Write yes beside each sentence that belongs in a paragraph about James Weldon Johnson. Write no if a sentence does not belong.

1. James Weldon Johnson had many talents and interests. _____
2. He was active in the civil rights movement. _____
3. Martin Luther King, Jr., was active in the civil rights movement. _____
4. Johnson was a poet. _____
5. In 1900 he wrote a poem in honor of Abraham Lincoln's birthday. _____
6. Not all poems rhyme. _____
7. Many poems tell long stories. _____
8. Johnson's brother set the words to music. _____
9. Their work became the song "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing." _____
10. Scott Joplin was a talented music composer. _____

B. Use the sentences with yes after them in Exercise A to write a paragraph about James Weldon Johnson. Write the sentences in paragraph form, leaving out the numbers. Be sure to indent the first word of the paragraph.

WRITE IT

Write a paragraph on a separate sheet of paper. Use your favorite song as your main idea. Then write details that tell why it is your favorite song.



Paragraphs

Read the paragraph. The sentence that tells the main idea is underlined. Circle the indented word.

Insects use feelers, or antennae, to sense things. The antennae help insects smell and feel. Sometimes they help them taste and hear, too!



A **paragraph** is a group of sentences that tells about one main idea. The first word in the paragraph is indented. It is a signal to the reader that the sentences are about a new idea.

A. Write yes beside each sentence that belongs in a paragraph about starfish. Write no beside each sentence that does not belong.

EXAMPLE: The body of a starfish is covered with spines. yes

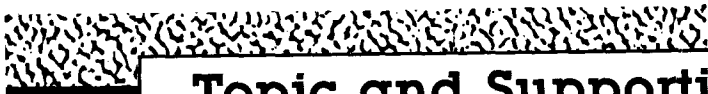
1. It has five arms that come out from its center part. _____
2. Sand dollars are round and have spiny skin. _____
3. The underside of each arm has rows of tiny tube feet. _____
4. The tube feet enable the starfish to walk on the ocean floor. _____

B. Draw a line through each sentence that does not belong in the paragraph. The first one is done for you.

It is not necessary to be afraid of spiders. Few of them are harmful. ~~Many people fear snakes.~~ In fact, many spiders are useful because they kill harmful insects. A daddy longlegs is not a true spider.

C. Write each sentence you did not cross out in Exercise A to form a paragraph. The first sentence is done for you.

It is not necessary to be afraid of spiders.



Topic and Supporting Sentences



A **topic sentence** states the main idea of the paragraph. **Supporting sentences** develop the main idea.

A. Use the sentences below to write a paragraph. Find and write the topic sentence first. Complete the paragraph by writing the supporting sentences in an order that makes sense.

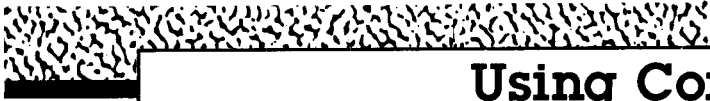
1. Other sources of energy include wind and water.
2. One major source of energy is the burning of fossil fuels.
3. A high standard of living depends on a plentiful supply of energy.
4. Atomic power adds to our supply of energy, too.

B. Use the ideas in the box to write a topic sentence and supporting sentences.

Personal Energy		
exercise	rest	energy for daily activities
	proper diet	enough sleep

WRITE IT

Write a paragraph that tells what you do to get enough energy. Underline your topic sentence. Write on a separate sheet of paper.



Using Commas



- Use a comma to separate words in a series of three or more items.
- Use a comma to set off yes, no, or well at the beginning of a sentence.
- Use a comma to set off the name of someone directly spoken to.
- Use a comma to separate a last name from a first name when the last name is written first.

A. Add commas where they are needed.

1. No John Glenn did not orbit the earth before Alan Shepard's space flight.
2. Kim who is your favorite hero?
3. Well I think Thomas Edison and his inventions helped the most people.
4. Yes I think someone like Charles Lindbergh is a true hero.
5. Pecos Bill Paul Bunyan and Calamity Jane are my favorite folk heroes.
6. John Henry was strong hardworking and brave.
7. Was he a real person Jill?
8. Yes I think so.

B. Write a complete sentence for each direction.

9. Name three states you would like to visit.

10. Name three breakfast foods.

11. Name the four seasons.

12. Name three of your favorite vegetables.

13. Name three kinds of transportation.

WRITE IT

Write sentences that name your favorite three foods in each food group. Use commas where they are needed. Write on a separate sheet of paper.

Commas

Each sentence shows a different way to use a comma. Circle each comma.

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Tanya, go home please. | 5. Dora, Amy, and Tony will come. | |
| 2. Then, Ray, you follow her. | 6. Hernandez, Dora | Sella, Sandra |
| 3. Yes, we will go right now. | Johnson, Andy | Timmons, Mary |
| 4. Well, I need to make a list. | Salerno, Tony | Vega, Dan |



A **comma** can tell a reader where to pause.

- Use a comma to separate words in a series of three or more items.
- Use a comma to set off yes, no, or well at the beginning of a sentence.
- Use a comma to set off the name of someone directly spoken to.
- Use a comma to separate a last name from a first name when the last name is written first.

A. Add commas where they are needed.

EXAMPLE: Well, I hope to become an astronaut one day.

1. Jenny tell me about Sally Ride.
2. Well she was the first American woman in space.
3. An astronaut's life must be fascinating exciting and sometimes scary.
4. This article Mike tells about life aboard a space shuttle.
5. Yes I would miss my family on a space voyage.
6. Well you could use the communication system to relay messages.
7. How much food water and equipment can fit in a spacecraft?
8. Gina let's go to the library.
9. Come with us Ben.
10. Let's find out more about space travel astronauts and moonwalks.

B. Write a sentence to answer each question.

EXAMPLE: What are the names of three of your classmates?

John, Kate, and Tina are three of my classmates.

11. What are three of your favorite sports?
-

12. Which birds live in your town or city?
-