

# Nouns

**11a.** A **noun** is a word or word group that is used to name a person, a place, a thing, or an idea.

**PERSONS** Maya Angelou, Mr. Johnson, firefighters, audience

**PLACES** hospital, library, classroom, New Zealand

**THINGS** dolphin, burritos, 1776, Big Dipper

**IDEAS** joy, faith, freedom, destiny

**EXERCISE A** Underline the nouns in each of the following sentences. Hint: The number in parentheses indicates the number of nouns in each sentence.

**Example 1.** (3) Thomas Hooker has been called the father of American democracy.

- (4) Thomas Hooker immigrated to the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1633 to find religious freedom.
- (3) Disagreements with the religious leaders of the colony soon developed.
- (5) Hooker and several followers carved out a new, independent settlement nearby, which eventually became Hartford, Connecticut.
- (5) He supported the right of the people—not just the members of the church—to vote for their judges.
- (3) He explained his beliefs in a book published in 1648.

**EXERCISE B** Underline the nouns in the following sentences.

**Example 1.** This past summer, Joey and his sister Dawn took a photography class.

- On the first day, Mr. Armstrong went around and demonstrated how to use the various cameras.
- Each camera had at least one mysterious button that had to be explained.
- After this first lesson, the class learned about composition.
- Mr. Armstrong displayed his best photos, and Dawn was impressed and inspired.
- The next class was a field trip to the San Diego Zoo.
- Joey got a great shot of a howler monkey showing its teeth.
- Dawn, who adores koala bears, was determined to get a picture to put on her wall.
- Waiting patiently, Dawn finally caught a koala bear that was looking in her direction.
- Joey wanted to see the photos right away, so his dad dropped off the film at the drugstore.
- Dawn bought a shiny silver frame for the koala picture that now hangs over her desk.