



## English Grammar: Nouns, Adjectives, and Prepositions

Summary of key points from the Mini Conference 2025 presentation by Steven Reid.

### Nouns

- Countable Nouns:
  - Can be individually counted
  - Have a plural form
  - Used with a/an
  - Quantifiers: many, several, few
- Uncountable Nouns:
  - Cannot be individually counted
  - No plural form
  - Not used with a/an
  - Quantifiers: much, a little, a lot
- Some nouns can be both countable and uncountable depending on context.
- Plural Nouns:
  - Regular: add -s or -es
  - Irregular
    - Ending in consonant +y: drop -y, add -ies
    - Ending in -f or -fe: drop -f or -fe, add -ves
    - Ending in -um or -on: drop -um or -on, add -a
    - Ending in -is: change -is to -es
    - Ending in -us: drop -us, add -i
  - Some nouns do not change in plural form (e.g., sheep, deer)
  - Some nouns change words, no pattern

### Adjectives

- Adjective order matters in English (e.g., 'two young red hound dogs')
- Adjectives typically precede the noun
- Teaching tip: Use examples and practice with adjective strings

## Prepositions

- Do not translate one-to-one from other languages
- Usage varies across English dialects
- Teaching tips include visual aids, body movement, and interactive activities
- Categories of Prepositions:
  - Place: at, on, in, above, below
  - Time: until, before, during
  - Direction: into, onto, over, across
- Phrasal Verbs:
  - Examples: break through, point out, catch up, pull over, cut off

## Resources

- Order of Adjectives
  - <https://www.gingersoftware.com/content/grammar-rules/adjectives/order-of-adjectives>
- Collocations:
  - <https://7esl.com/category/common-phrases/english-collocations/>
- Phrasal Verbs:
  - <https://englishilm.com/important-phrasal-verbs-examples/>