

Common and Proper Nouns

Decide whether the underlined word is a common noun, a proper noun, or a verb. Mark your answer on the answer sheet.

1. Every autumn, hurricanes threaten parts of the United States.
A common B proper C verb
2. People from Florida to Texas to New York have been battered by hurricanes.
A common B proper C verb
3. Hurricanes, typhoons, and cyclones are all the same kind of storm.
A common B proper C verb
4. What they are called depends on where you are in the world.
A common B proper C verb
5. For example, if you are in India, this storm might be called a tropical cyclone.
A common B proper C verb
6. If you are in Japan, the same type of storm might be called a typhoon.
A common B proper C verb
7. And, of course, the same kind of storm in Florida is called a hurricane.
A common B proper C verb
8. The naming of these storms gets even more detailed!
A common B proper C verb
9. In most cases, these storms are given names, such as Carrie, James, and Irene.
A common B proper C verb
10. Only tropical cyclones in the North Indian Ocean are not named.
A common B proper C verb
11. History says that, during World War II, soldiers began giving tropical cyclones women's names.
A common B proper C verb
12. These U.S. Army and Navy soldiers would call the storms by their wives' or girlfriends' names.
A common B proper C verb
13. From 1953 to 1979, hurricanes in the Atlantic Ocean were only named after women.
A common B proper C verb
14. But in 1979, the National Weather Service of the United States also included men's names.
A common B proper C verb
15. In sports, a great player might get his or her number retired on a team.
A common B proper C verb
16. Sports' numbers are retired when an athlete has done great things; for example, the Chicago Bulls retired Michael Jordan's number 23.
A common B proper C verb
17. In hurricane history, hurricane names are retired when a hurricane is especially bad.
A common B proper C verb
18. For example, the 1992 hurricane, Hurricane Andrew, devastated sections of the south, especially Florida.
A common B proper C verb
19. The name Andrew has been retired, and there will be no other hurricanes named Andrew.
A common B proper C verb
20. Some other retired names include Iris (a hurricane in 2001) and Lili (a hurricane in 2002).
A common B proper C verb