

# THE STUDY OF NOUN FOUND IN SHAWN MENDES' SONG ENTITLED LOST IN JAPAN

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## Abstract

Descriptive qualitative method is used in this study. This study aimed to investigate nouns and the variety of nouns found in a song entitled Lost in Japan by Shawn Mendes. In collecting the data, the researchers applied three steps, namely selecting one song to be examined, read and elaborate the song lyrics to discover nouns, and classify nouns based on the types. Based on the data analysis, the researchers discovered 16 nouns with seven types of nouns. All nouns can be indicated to more than one type. The results are summarized as follows; 15 common nouns, 1 proper noun, 11 abstract nouns, 5 concrete nouns, 12 countable nouns, 4 uncountable nouns, and 4 compound nouns.

**Keywords:** Noun, Song lyrics, Types of noun

## INTRODUCTION

Language is a system consisting of structured words that form sentences to communicate with each other. The function of language is to express something, convey information, and interact with one another. (Efransyah, 2018) stated that language is used by people to deliver their feelings, and to understand each other. Language is a necessity that used to convey information through oral or written (Aprianti & Parmawati, 2020). There are a lot of languages in the world, such as Japanese, Mandarin, French, Dutch, English, etc. Since a lot of countries use English as their language, English is chosen as an international language that is used by people from different backgrounds or countries.

In English, there is word classifications that are usually called part of speech. Part of speech is word collection that has different types and functions to form sentences. In line with Richard (1985, p.209) as cited in (Nopikasari et al., 2018) that part of speech is various types of word that are used to build sentences. Understanding the use of word classification or part of speech is very basic but important to form sentences that can be understood by others. (Eastwood, 2002) stated there are eight major word classification that consist of two kinds; 1) Vocabulary words; consists nouns, adjectives, adverbs, and verbs, 2) Grammatical words, consist of prepositions, determiners, pronouns, and conjunctions.

Noun is a part of speech that is used to name a person, thing, animal, place, feeling, event or idea. (Eastwood, 2002) defines nouns as words that can refer to a name of physical things, ideas, qualities, actions, and events. Noun has several types namely, proper noun, common noun, concrete noun, abstract noun, countable noun, uncountable noun, collective noun, and compound noun. Some nouns may belong to several types of noun.

### Common Noun and Proper Noun

A common noun is a word that names something in general. Girl, boy, building, city, chair, flower, tree, are a common noun. Since a common noun does not refer to something specific, it doesn't require capital unless it is at the beginning of a sentence. Different from a common noun, a proper noun is a kind of noun to name or represent something more specific or particular

person, place, or thing. A proper noun is a person's name, country, institution, organization, day, month, and place. For example; Mr. Jokowi, Indonesia, WHO, Monday, September, etc. A proper noun always starts with a capital letter.

### **Concrete Noun and Abstract Noun**

Concrete noun is a name of a person, place, and thing that we can see, hear, or touch. In other words, a concrete noun is a noun that can be identified with human senses. For example, police, doctor, hospital, bedroom, table, etc. Opposite of concrete noun, an abstract noun has no physical existence. Which means, an abstract noun is a word to name something that can't be identified with five senses. Generally, an abstract noun refers to actions, ideas, qualities, feelings, and conditions.

### **Countable Noun and Uncountable Noun**

Countable noun refers to something that can be counted. It can be singular or plural. They can use an article, number or determiner. In plural form, usually we add an -s at the end of the word. For example; an apple, two chairs, four children, etc. Uncountable noun is a non-count noun or things that can't be counted. We can't use indefinite article, number, and some quantifiers on uncountable noun and it doesn't have plural form. It refers to ideas (*information, news, love, peace, etc*), liquid (*water, oil, gasoline, blood, etc*), materials or substances (*ice, bread, butter, cheese, meat, gold, silver, glass, paper, wood, etc*), gases (*oxygen, air, smoke, etc*), things that made up of lots of small pieces (*sand, rice, sugar, salt, flour, etc*), group or collection of things (*furniture, jewelry, clothing, equipment, luggage, etc*), and natural phenomena (*weather, season, snow, rain, lightning, wind, thunder, etc*).

### **Collective Noun**

Collective noun is a noun that points to a group of people or things as a unit. Based on American English, collective noun is singular noun, while British English thinks it's a plural noun. Team, group, crowd, committee, audience, jury are some examples of collective noun.

### **Compound Noun**

Compound noun is when two or more words are combined into a noun. The combination of compound noun usually formed with noun + noun (*football*), adjective + noun (*whiteboard*), noun + verb (*footwear*), preposition + noun (*outdoor*). According to (Indarto & Garnida, 2015), compound noun can be written in three ways; 1) Open or spaced is space between word (*knee cap*), 2) Hyphenated that means hyphen or (-) between words (*tongue-tied*), 3) Closed or solid is no space or hyphen between words (*breakfast*).

Based on the explanation above, this study focuses on analyzing nouns in a song entitled Lost In Japan by Shawn Mendes. The reason why the researchers chose a song as a source of data because language can be conveyed through speech, written, or song. And since every people listens to the song everyday, it would be something fun and interesting if we can analyze and learn nouns while listening to music. Also through song, we can discover new words, one of them is nouns.

## **METHOD**

This research used descriptive qualitative. The data of this study was a song entitled Lost In Japan by Shawn Mendes. The data contained words that are qualified as nouns. In collecting the data, the researchers were using three steps, namely:

1. Selecting one song to be examined
2. Read and elaborate the song lyrics to discover nouns
3. Classify nouns based on the types

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

## Results

In finding, the researchers found and collected several words that consider as nouns. To make it easier, the researchers provided the lyrics and the researchers used a table in presenting the data.

The table below explains nouns found in the song Lost in Japan

**Table 1. Nouns in song entitled Lost in Japan**

The lyrics	Nouns
All it'd take is one flight	Flight
We'd be in the same time zone	Time zone
Looking through your timeline	Timeline
Seeing all the rainbows	Rainbows
I got an idea	Idea
Do you got plans tonight?	Plans
I'm a couple hundred miles from Japan	Miles Japan
I was thinking I could fly to your hotel tonight	Hotel
'Cause I can't get you off my mind	Mind
I could feel the tension	Tension
We could cut it with a knife	Knife
I know it's more than just a friendship	Friendship
It'll only be a couple hours	Hours
I was hoping I could get lost in your paradise	Paradise
Baby, you and I	Baby
Total	16 nouns

After investigating nouns in the lyrics, the researchers tried to classify them based on the types. A noun can be classified in more than one type. The table below shows nouns based on their types.

**Table 2. Types of nouns in song entitled Lost in Japan**

Noun	Types of Noun							
	Proper	Common	Concrete	Abstract	Countable	Uncountable	Collective	Compound
Flight		√		√	√			
Time zone		√		√	√			√
Timeline		√		√	√			√
Rainbows		√	√		√			√
Idea		√		√	√			
Plans		√		√	√			
Miles		√		√	√			
Japan	√		√			√		
Hotel		√	√		√			
Mind		√		√		√		
Tension		√		√		√		
Knife		√	√		√			
Friendship		√		√	√			√
Hours		√		√	√			
Paradise		√		√		√		
Baby		√	√		√			
TOTAL	1	15	5	11	12	4	-	4

## Discussion

From the analysis above, there are 16 nouns with seven kinds of nouns found in the song Lost in Japan. Every noun belongs to several types.

1. Flight

In accordance with the Oxford dictionary, flight is a trip made by air in a plane. In the lyrics "*All I'd take is one flight*", flight refers to action hence, flight is considered as an abstract noun since we can't experience it with our senses. Other than that, flight is a common noun since the word *flight* is not the actual name. Flight is also considered as a countable noun because it can be counted and can use numbers and articles before the word *flight*.

2. Time zone

Time zone is one of the 24 areas that the world is divided into, each of which has its own time. Time zone is an abstract noun because it has no physical appearance. Therefore it can't be perceived with our senses. Time zone is also categorized as a common noun, a countable noun, and a compound noun. Time zone is written with open or spaced means use space between words.

3. Timeline

Timeline is a schedule for when an event will be carried out. Timeline is a concept, so it is considered as an abstract noun. Timeline is also a common noun, countable noun, and compound noun. Timeline is written with a closed or solid style, which means there is no space or hyphen between words.

4. Rainbows

Rainbow is a phenomenon in curved shape of different colors that appears in the sky when the sun shines through the rain. The word *rainbow* is a concrete noun because it can be seen. Rainbow is also a countable noun, the plural form is rainbows. Rainbow is a compound noun, formed by the words *rain* and *bow*. Rainbow is written with a closed or solid writing style. And rainbow is considered a common noun as well.

5. Idea

Idea is a suggestion about what to do in a particular situation. Idea can't be experienced with our senses, so it is an abstract noun. Idea is a common noun, and a countable noun. The plural form of idea is ideas.

6. Plans

Plan is a set of decisions or goals that we intend to do or achieve in the future. Plan is an abstract noun, a common noun, and a countable noun. Plans is the plural form of plan.

7. Miles

Mile is a unit to measure the distance between places. Miles is included in common noun and abstract noun. Other than that mile also a countable noun, the plural form is miles.

8. Japan

Japan is a name of a country in East Asia. So *Japan* is absolutely a proper noun. The word *Japan* also a concrete noun because Japan refers to a country or place, which means it can be perceived. Japan has no plural form. means that the word *Japan* is categorized as uncountable noun.

9. Hotel

Hotel is a building where people pay in the amount of money to stay and it is considered as a concrete noun. Hotel is a common noun since it is not named something specific. And then, the word *hotel* is a countable noun.

10. Mind

According to the Oxford dictionary, mind is the part that makes a person be able to think, to feel, and to be aware of something. Mind is an abstract noun because it is something that can't be perceived with the human's senses. Also, mind is considered a common noun and an uncountable noun.

11. Tension

In the lyrics "*I could feel the tension*," the word *tension* means a strained relationship or situation between individuals, and it is categorized as an abstract noun. Other than that, tension is also considered as a common noun and an uncountable noun.

12. Knife

Knife is an instrument that is used for cutting. Knife has physical existence, so it is considered as a concrete noun. Knife is also a common noun and a countable noun. The plural form of knife is knives.

13. Friendship

Friendship means the state of being friends, and it is an abstract noun and common noun. But, the word *friendship* could be a countable or an uncountable noun. According to the lyrics "*I know it's more than just a friendship*," the word *friendship* means a relationship between friends, and it is considered as a countable noun. The word *friendship* is also a compound noun. Formed by the words *friend+ship*, friendship is use closed or solid written style.

14. Hours

Hour is a unit that used in measuring time. Hour is definitely indicated as a common noun, abstract noun, and countable noun. The plural form of hour is hours.

15. Paradise

In the lyrics "*I was hopin' I could get lost in your paradise*," paradise refers to a place or a condition of great happiness where everything is just as what you wanted to be. Paradise can be categorized as an abstract noun, a common noun, and an uncountable noun.

16. Baby

Based on the Oxford dictionary, the word *baby* is defined as a very young child. But in the lyrics "*Baby, you and I*," the word *baby* used to address somebody in a way to express love. So we can say that the word *baby* in the lyrics is a concrete noun, a common noun, and a countable noun.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the data analysis of the song *Lost in Japan* by Shawn Mendes, the researchers discovered 16 nouns with seven types of nouns. Every noun was classified into several kind. Thus, the researchers concluded that seven types of nouns were found in the lyrics as follows:

- a. 15 common nouns
- b. 1 proper noun
- c. 11 abstract nouns
- d. 5 concrete nouns
- e. 12 countable nouns
- f. 4 uncountable nouns

- g. 4 compound nouns

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