

# Collective nouns

A collective noun denotes a collection of people, things, animals, emotions or concepts considered as a single whole.

A collective noun is usually treated as singular.

Consider the expression 'a committee of members'

There can be several members but only one committee. In this case, 'members' is a common noun whereas 'committee' is a collective noun.

More examples of collective nouns are given below.

A bunch of grapes or keys

A gang of bandits

A class of students

An army of soldiers

A hive of bees

A fleet of ships

A constellation of stars or galaxy

An archipelago of islands

A bevy of girls

A crowd of people

A mob of people

A swarm of flies

A jury of judges

A herd of cattle

A flock of sheep

A team of players

Examples are given below.

This class consists of fifty students.

The jury was unanimous in its decision.

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The crowd was too large to be controlled by the police.

The mob attacked the police station.

The Australian cricket team is scheduled to visit India in July.

A bevy of girls entered the garden.

A bunch of keys was lying on the table.

You can find a swarm of flies hovering over uncovered trays of sweets.

The crew of sailors controlled the ship in the stormy sea.