

UNIT 2 **NOUNS**

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Lesson 8: Common and Proper Nouns

LEARN

- A **noun** is a word that names a person, place, or thing.
A **common noun** names any person, place, or thing.

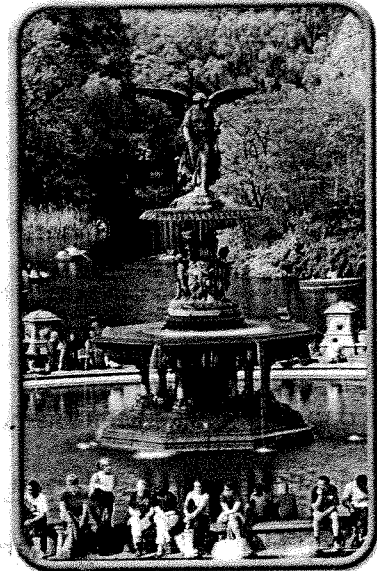
The **girl** visited the **fountain** in the **park**.

- A **proper noun** names a specific person, place, or thing.
It can be one word or more than one word.

Julia visited **Bethesda Fountain** in **Central Park**.

- Each important word in a proper noun begins with a capital letter.

	Common	Proper
Person	teacher	Ms. Jones
Place	city	Los Angeles
Thing	statue	Statue of Liberty



Bethesda Fountain in
Central Park

- Ideas such as *fear* and *greed* are called **abstract nouns**.
You can't see or touch them, but they are still nouns.
Abstract nouns are always common nouns.

Greed was his undoing.

PRACTICE



Match each common noun with a proper noun. Write the letter of the proper noun on the line.

Common Nouns

- ____ 1. month
- ____ 2. country

Proper Nouns

- a. Mexico
- b. October

PRACTICE A *continued*

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| ___ 3. holiday | c. Venus |
| ___ 4. planet | d. Fourth of July |
| ___ 5. building | e. White House |
| ___ 6. state | f. Asia |
| ___ 7. continent | g. Abraham Lincoln |
| ___ 8. day of the week | h. Nebraska |
| ___ 9. lake | i. Monday |
| ___ 10. president | j. Lake Charles |

B Read each sentence. Write **common** if the noun in **boldface** is a common noun. Write **proper** if it is a proper noun.

1. Dora visited **Yellowstone National Park** last summer. _____
2. The **park** lies mainly in Wyoming. _____
3. Is it the largest national park in the **United States**? _____
4. The park's geysers attract many **visitors**. _____
5. Water from inside the earth shoots out of a **geyser**. _____
6. **Old Faithful** is the most famous geyser. _____
7. Spectators feel great **excitement** when this geyser erupts. _____
8. People visit the **Mammoth Hot Springs**, too. _____
9. **Dora** hiked up to Yellowstone Lake. _____
10. Her **love** of Yellowstone is apparent. _____

C Dora wrote this letter to her grandmother. She made twelve mistakes when writing common and proper nouns. Look for the mistakes and fix them. Use the proofreading marks in the box.

Remember 

Each important word in a proper noun begins with a capital letter.

Dear Grandma,

Can you imagine a Canyon 18 miles wide and a mile deep? Well, if you were here in Grand Canyon national Park in arizona, you wouldn't have to. You could be hiking in it with us!






The Trip is not all hiking, though. On tuesday, we rafted down the Colorado river for about 10 Miles! We only got wet twice, and we got to see some Sheep. We might take a mule Trip tomorrow to a place called Phantom ranch. That sounds scary, but I still want to go.

We will be home by september 1st, and I will see you at our picnic on Labor day. I can't wait to tell you more about the trip!

Love,

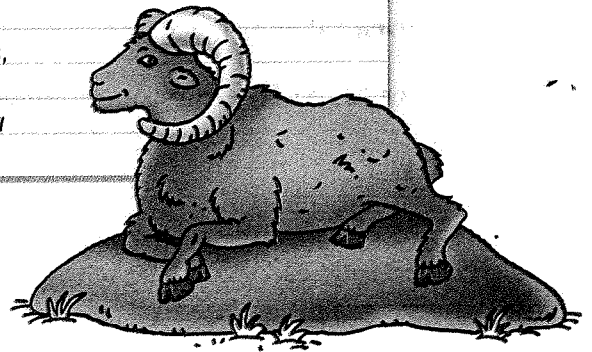
Dora

Proofreading Marks

-  Add
-  Period
-  Take out
-  Capital letter
-  Small letter



Did you correct twelve mistakes?





WRITE



Additional Resources at
grammarworkshop.com

Sometimes your sentences might have nouns that are not clear or specific.

Our train travels along the **river**.

We can see **boats** on the water.

You can replace these nouns with nouns that are more descriptive. The words you choose can be either common or proper nouns.

Our train travels along the **Hudson River**.

We can see **sailboats** on the water.



*In each sentence below, change the word or words in **boldface** to a more descriptive noun. Use either a common noun or a proper noun. Write the new sentence on the line.*

1. I would like to visit **a city** some day.

2. There is a really famous **thing** there.

3. I will probably invite **a friend** to go with me.

4. We could pack **food** for lunch.

5. We will bring some **fruit** for snacktime, too.

6. We would send postcards to **a teacher**.

7. During the trip home, we would play **a game**.



Go back to the sentences you wrote.
Circle the more descriptive nouns you used.

Lesson 9: Singular and Plural Nouns

LEARN

- Nouns can be singular or plural. A **singular noun** names one person, place, or thing. A **plural noun** names more than one person, place, or thing.

SINGULAR I visited an **exhibit** at the county fair.
PLURAL I visited three **exhibits** at the county fair.

- Follow these rules to make plural nouns.

- Add **-s** to most singular nouns.

SINGULAR	bird	bee	flower	vegetable
PLURAL	birds	bees	flowers	vegetables

- Add **-es** when a singular noun ends in **s, ss, ch, sh, or x**.

SINGULAR	bus	dress	porch	dish	ax
PLURAL	buses	dresses	porches	dishes	axes

- When a singular noun ends in a vowel and **y**, add **-s**.

SINGULAR	boy	key	holiday
PLURAL	boys	keys	holidays

- When a singular noun ends in a consonant and **y**, change the **y** to **i**, and add **-es**.

SINGULAR	lady	family	cherry
PLURAL	ladies	families	cherries



PRACTICE



Write the plural form of each noun.

1. wish _____

2. bunny _____

3. patch _____

4. donkey _____

5. tax _____

6. celebration _____

7. guess _____

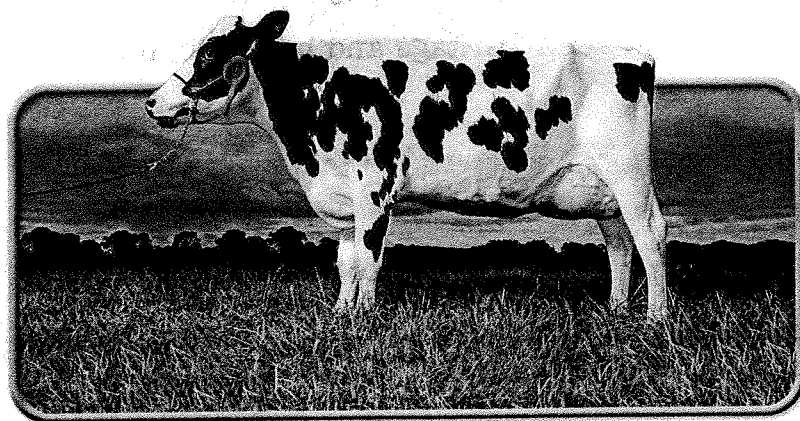
8. song _____

9. party _____

10. fox _____

B Write the plural form of the noun in parentheses to complete each sentence.

1. Many _____ in our state hold fairs each summer. (county)
2. Different farm _____ help pay for the events. (group)
3. Tourists arrive in cars and _____. (bus)
4. The _____ at the fair are always interesting. (event)
5. Some _____ sell products to the visitors. (business)
6. _____ of prize-winning fruits and vegetables fill one building. (box)
7. The apples and _____ always look delicious. (peach)
8. You can sample the homemade jams and _____. (jelly)
9. _____ of fresh-squeezed juice are on sale, too. (glass)
10. _____ made with local cheeses are popular. (sandwich)
11. Most children and _____ love the animal exhibits. (baby)
12. Horses and _____ fill one huge barn. (pony)
13. Visitors look at the colorful chickens and _____. (turkey)
14. The best cows and sheep win blue ribbons for _____. (prize)
15. We look forward to the fair for _____. (month)








C Ron wrote this report. He made nine mistakes when writing nouns. Sometimes he misspelled plural nouns. At other times, he used a plural noun for a singular noun or a singular noun for a plural noun. Use the proofreading marks to correct these mistakes.

Remember

If a noun ends in *s*, *ss*, *ch*, *sh*, or *x*, add *-es* to form the plural.

If a noun ends in a consonant and *y*, change the *y* to *i*, and add *-es* to form the plural.

Proofreading Marks

-  Add
-  Period
-  Take out
-  Capital letter
-  Small letter

Many communitys today celebrate *Cinco de Mayo*.
These words are Spanish for the "Fifth of May."

On May 5, 1862, the Mexican army defeated a much larger French army. The Mexican people were proud of this important victory, and the day became a holidays.

Cinco de Mayo celebrates Mexican history and culture. In some large city, official organize a big fiesta, or festival. In Los Angeles, almost a million residents attend. Boy and girls in colorful costumees perform folk dances. Bands play traditional music. Different business prepare Mexican dishes for the crowd. Parades are also usually part of the big day.

Cinco de Mayo is a great way for familys and neighbors to remember their heritage and have fun, too!



Did you correct nine mistakes with nouns?





WRITE



Additional Resources at
grammarworkshop.com

Singular and plural nouns can appear in the subject or the predicate of a sentence. Sometimes you can combine two related sentences by joining the nouns. Use the conjunction *and* or *or* to join the nouns.

Cowboys ride in the rodeo.

Cowgirls ride in the rodeo.

Cowboys **and** cowgirls ride in the rodeo.

The rodeo will take place in the United States.

The rodeo will take place in Canada.

The rodeo will take place in the United States **or** Canada.



Combine each pair of sentences by joining nouns in the subject or predicate. Use the conjunction in parentheses to join the nouns.

1. Rodeo is based on traditions from the United States. Rodeo is based on traditions from Mexico. (and) _____
2. The events developed from chores on ranches. The events developed from activities on ranches. (and) _____
3. Rodeo riders enter contests. Rodeo riders enter races. (or) _____
4. The cowboys might perform first. The cowgirls might perform first. (or) _____
5. Audiences enjoy the action. Audiences enjoy the excitement. (and) _____



Look back at the sentences you wrote. Underline the nouns you joined in the subject or predicate.

Lesson 10: Irregular Plural Nouns

LEARN

- Some nouns have **irregular plurals**. In most cases, the spelling of the singular noun changes to form the plural.

SINGULAR	man	woman	child	tooth
PLURAL	men	women	children	teeth
SINGULAR	foot	goose	mouse	ox
PLURAL	feet	geese	mice	oxen

- In a few cases, the plural noun and the singular noun are the same.

SINGULAR	One deer nibbles the grass.
PLURAL	Three deer stand and watch.
SINGULAR	This sheep is white.
PLURAL	The other two sheep are brown.
SINGULAR	A moose swam across the lake.
PLURAL	Several moose live on the island.



PRACTICE



Read each sentence. Write *singular* if the noun in **boldface** is a singular noun. Write *plural* if it is a plural noun.

1. The **children** in our class went to the wildlife refuge.
2. A friendly **man** met us at the entrance.
3. Several Canada **geese** were swimming in the pond.
4. A single **moose** stood at the water's edge.
5. We were as quiet as **mice**, but it still ran away.
6. Two **women** showed us a tree cut down by a beaver.
7. What sharp **teeth** that beaver must have!
8. At sunset, a **deer** came down to the water to drink.

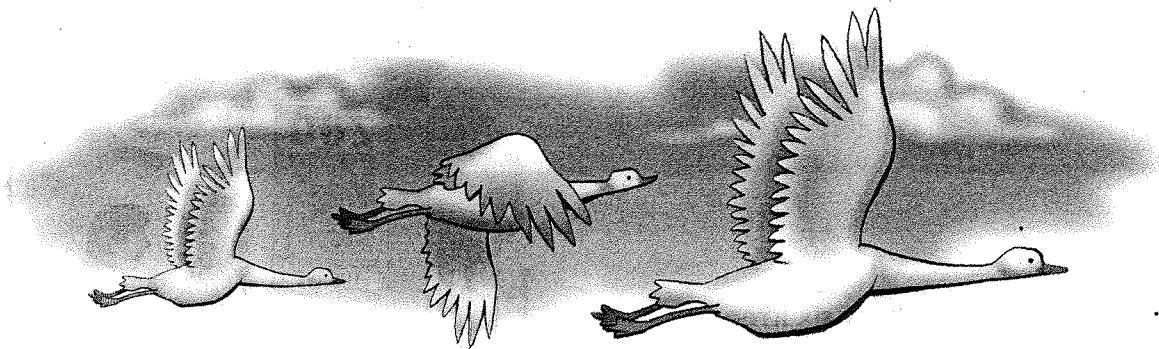
PRACTICE A *continued*

9. Three other **deer** soon followed.

10. An **ox** stood alone in the field.

B Write the plural form of the noun in parentheses to complete each sentence.

1. Twelve _____ are honking in the sky above. (goose)
2. Three _____ look up at the big birds. (woman)
3. A group of _____ is eating from a bush. (deer)
4. The animals use their _____ to tear the leaves. (tooth)
5. Several _____ chewed the bark from this young tree. (mouse)
6. Many tiny _____ left prints in the mud. (foot)
7. The four _____ point with excitement across the lake. (child)
8. Two huge _____ are standing on the other side. (moose)
9. At a farm museum, two _____ tell us about the past. (man)
10. Two _____ pull a plow in a field. (ox)
11. A flock of _____ grazes in a meadow nearby. (sheep)
12. A family of _____ races across the field. (mouse)





Connie wrote this poem about the first day of spring. She made six mistakes when forming irregular plural nouns. Look for the mistakes, and fix them. Use the proofreading marks in the box.

Remember



For most **irregular plurals**, the spelling of the singular noun changes to form the plural.

The First Day of Spring

The first day of spring can't be beat!

I smile at all the people I meet.

The other childs are smiling, too.

We all go together to the zoo.

The reindeers and lions are having fun.

They all seem glad that winter is done.

The bighorn sheeps don't say, "Baa," today.

Instead, they're yelling, "Hip, Hip, Hooray!"

Up in the sky, six geoses are squawking.

It almost sounds as if they're talking

About spring to the mans and womens below,

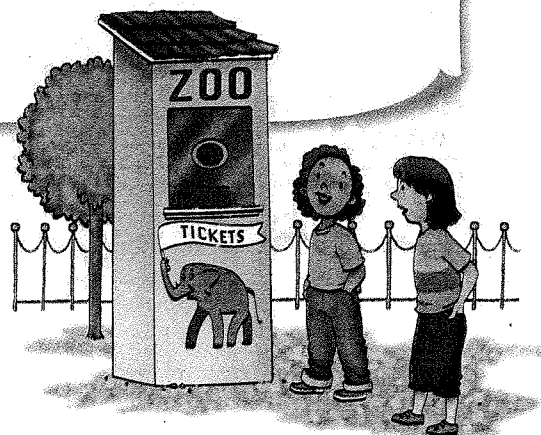
But what they're saying, we'll never know.

Proofreading Marks

- ^ Add
- Period
- ~ Take out
- ≡ Capital letter
- / Small letter



Did you correct six irregular plural nouns?





WRITE



Additional Resources at
grammarworkshop.com

D Read these rhymes about irregular plural nouns. Then write three rhymes of your own. Use the words in parentheses in your rhymes.

One bird is a goose,
And two are called geese.
But the plural of moose
Can never be meese!

The singular is man,
The plural is men.
But the plural of pan
Just cannot be pen!

1. _____ (foot)

_____ (feet)

_____ (boot)
_____ (beet)

2. _____ (ox)

_____ (oxen)

_____ (fox)
_____ (foxen)

3. _____ (mouse)

_____ (mice)

_____ (blouse)
_____ (blice)

Proofreading Checklist ☒

- ☐ Did you use the words in parentheses in your rhymes?
- ☐ Did you spell the real singular and plural nouns correctly?

Lesson 11: Possessive Nouns

LEARN

A **possessive noun** is a noun that shows who or what has something.

Janet's mother teaches quilting.
She displayed the **students'** quilts.

Both singular and plural nouns can be made possessive.

- To make a singular noun possessive, add an apostrophe and -s.

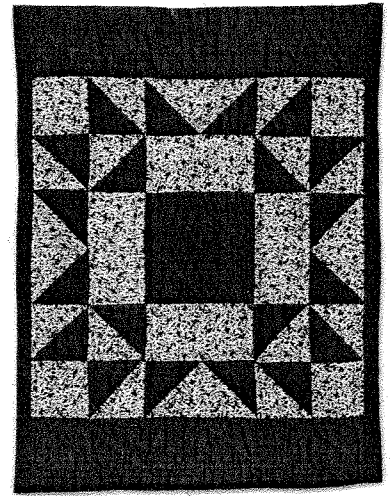
SINGULAR	Janet	family	class
SINGULAR POSSESSIVE	Janet's	family's	class's

- To make a plural noun that ends in -s possessive, add only an apostrophe.

PLURAL	students	families	classes
PLURAL POSSESSIVE	students'	families'	classes'

- To make a plural noun that does not end in -s possessive, add an apostrophe and -s.

PLURAL	women	children	sheep
PLURAL POSSESSIVE	women's	children's	sheep's



PRACTICE



Write the possessive form of the noun in **boldface**.

- the tools owned by the **workers** the _____ tools
- the hats belonging to the **men** the _____ hats
- the rugs belonging to the **museum** the _____ rugs
- the sizes of the **frames** the _____ sizes
- the clay belonging to the **potter** the _____ clay
- the quilt owned by **Mia** _____ quilt

PRACTICE A *continued*

7. the smocks used by the **painters** the _____ smocks
8. the purchases of the **tourists** the _____ purchases
9. the design of the **building** the _____ design
10. the collection owned by **Gus** _____ collection

B Write the possessive form of the noun in parentheses that correctly completes each sentence.

1. Our _____ first craft fair was a great success. (town)
2. Our _____ projects were on display. (neighbors)
3. Some _____ embroidered pillows were in the show. (women)
4. _____ hand-carved chairs attracted a crowd. (Mr. Moss)
5. His birdhouses attracted the _____ attention. (children)
6. _____ aunt is a weaver. (Sharon)
7. She uses wool from a local _____ sheep. (farmer)
8. The _____ wool is soft. (sheep)
9. A _____ wheel turned slowly in one area. (potter)
10. A _____ hands slowly shaped clay into a vase. (man)
11. The _____ shape was almost perfect! (vase)
12. All the artists answered _____ questions. (visitors)



C David wrote about a class trip to a glassblower's workshop. He made seven mistakes when writing possessive nouns. Look for the mistakes, and fix them. Use the proofreading marks in the box.

Remember



A **possessive noun** shows who or what owns or has something.

Our classs visit to Ms. Andersons' glass workshop was really interesting. I especially enjoyed the glassblowing demonstration. It gave everyone a firsthand look at this artists' amazing skills.

The workshops furnace heated some glass until it melted. When the mixtures temperature was about 2000°F, Ms. Anderson briefly dipped a hollow iron blowpipe into it. A small amount of melted glass stuck to the blowpipes tip.

Ms. Anderson then blew gently into the blowpipe. Her breath forced the glass to bulge out and form a hollow bulb. With a few twists and turns, the glass'es final shape appeared. It was now a beautiful vase.

Of all the crafts I have seen so far, handmade glass fascinates me the most.

Proofreading Marks

- ^ Add
- Period
- ✓ Take out
- _____ Capital letter
- / Small letter



Did you correct seven possessive nouns?



WRITE



Additional Resources at
grammarworkshop.com



Rewrite each phrase using a possessive noun. Then write a sentence using the new phrase. The first one is done for you.

1. the bright colors of the quilt the quilt's bright colors
The quilt's bright colors will make the room look cheerful.
2. the unusual shape of the basket _____

3. the bird feeder belonging to our class _____

4. the clubhouse of the members _____

5. the sweater belonging to the baby _____

6. the workshop of a blacksmith _____

7. the rocking horse of the toy makers _____

8. the needle of the sewing machine _____

Proofreading Checklist ☒

- ☐ Did you make singular nouns possessive by adding an apostrophe and -s?
- ☐ Did you make plural nouns ending in -s possessive by adding just an apostrophe?

Unit 2 Review

Lessons 8–11

Common and Proper Nouns (pp. 40–43) *Read each sentence.*

*Write **common** if the noun in **boldface** is a common noun.*

*Write **proper** if it is a proper noun.*

1. The town of **Plymouth** is in Massachusetts. _____
2. Settlers called **Pilgrims** built the town. _____
3. **Native Americans** lived nearby. _____
4. Together, they celebrated a harvest **festival**. _____
5. The Pilgrims set up long **tables** outdoors. _____
6. Today, **actors** dress up as the Pilgrims in Plymouth. _____
7. They act out the first **Thanksgiving**. _____
8. At the first Thanksgiving, the Pilgrim's showed their **appreciation** for the plentiful harvest. _____

Singular and Plural Nouns (pp. 44–47) *Read each sentence.*

Write the plural form of the noun in parentheses.

9. Most American (family) celebrate Thanksgiving. _____
10. Traditional (dish) are important in this feast. _____
11. Stores sell many (turkey) for the main meal. _____
12. (Box) of pies are piled up on shelves. _____
13. (Cranberry) are another specialty of the day. _____
14. Cooks use them to make (sauce) and relishes. _____
15. Guests arrive from faraway towns and (city). _____
16. Some (community) have Thanksgiving Day parades. _____

Irregular Plural Nouns (pp. 48–51) *Read each sentence. Write the plural of the noun in parentheses.*

17. There were ten (child) at our Thanksgiving dinner.

18. The dining room table was over 16 (foot) long.

19. All the men and (woman) helped cook the meal.

20. I couldn't wait to sink my (tooth) into the turkey!

21. Later, we went outside and saw a flock of (goose).

22. I asked if a group of (sheep) is also called a flock.

23. I think a group of (deer) would be a herd.

24. Ben wanted to know what to call a group of (moose).

Possessive Nouns (pp. 52–55) *Read each sentence. Write the possessive form of the noun in parentheses.*

25. Have you ever heard (Sarah Hale) name before?

26. She called attention to (Thanksgiving) importance.

27. Each (state) date for Thanksgiving was different at one time.

28. This magazine (editor) idea was to make Thanksgiving a national holiday.

29. She told some of our (country) leaders of her plan.

30. Her idea had many (governors) support.

31. In 1863, Hale even got the (president) attention.

32. (Abraham Lincoln) proclamation made Thanksgiving a national holiday.

Unit 2 Test

DIRECTIONS Fill in the circle next to the sentence that shows correct spelling and the correct use of capital letters and apostrophes.

1. ☐ California is the third largest states.
☐ Only Texas and alaska are larger in area.
☐ California has the most people.
☐ What is this states capital?
2. ☐ The Pacific Ocean is just west of california.
☐ How beautiful the beaches must be!
☐ San Francisco and San Diego are on the coast.
☐ These cities have natural harbors.
3. ☐ Have you visited the states northern counties?
☐ Ranchs, farms, and orchards dot this region.
☐ The Napa Valley is known for growing grapes.
☐ The redwood trees' grow there.
4. ☐ Amazement is your reaction when viewing these many giant tree.
☐ Have you heard of Inyo National Forest?
☐ The worlds oldest living trees grow there.
☐ Tall palm trees line Los Angeles' many boulevards.
5. ☐ San Jose is one of Californias' major cities.
☐ About 912,000 People live there.
☐ Oakland is another Major city.
☐ What is Oakland's population?
6. ☐ Where is Yosemite national park?
☐ The park is 200 miles east of San Francisco.
☐ It covers over 1200 square mile's.
☐ Some of our Continent's highest waterfalls are there.
7. ☐ Only small trees and bushes grow in desert areas.
☐ Ms. jones's class is learning about desert plants.
☐ The class read about Joshua Tree National Park.
☐ The childrens want to see this national park.
8. ☐ What animals roam California's forests?
☐ Deers and foxs all live there.
☐ The forests are also the California condors home.
☐ Isn't that our countrys' largest land bird?

DIRECTIONS Read the paragraph, and look carefully at each underlined part. Fill in the circle next to the answer choice that shows correct spelling and the correct use of capital letters and apostrophes. If the underlined part is already correct, fill in the circle for "Correct as is."

Gold was discovered in California in 1848. News of James Marshall's
(9)
discovery on the american river spread like wildfire. Thousands of would-be
(9)
miners from the eastern part of the United states rushed to California. People
(10)
with "gold fever" also sailed from countrys in europe and asia. In all, over 80,000
(11)
newcomers arrived in California in 1849. Some found richs, but many miners'
(12)
lives were filled with hardship. Still, the "forty-niners" liked California and stayed
(12)
there. Success came to many of those who built businesss, ranchs, and farms,
(13)
turning Sacramento and San Francisco into well-to-do cities.
(14)

9. ☐ James Marshall's discovery on the american River
☐ James Marshall's discovery on the American River
☐ James Marshall's discovery on the American river
☐ Correct as is
10. ☐ eastern part of the united states
☐ eastern part of the united States
☐ eastern part of the United States
☐ Correct as is
11. ☐ countries in Europe and Asia
☐ countrys in Europe and asia
☐ countrys in Europe and Asia
☐ Correct as is

12. ☐ found richs, but many miners lives
☐ found richs, but many miners's lives
☐ found riches, but many miners' lives
☐ Correct as is
13. ☐ businesses, ranchs, and farms
☐ businesses, ranches, and farms
☐ businesss, ranches, and farms
☐ Correct as is
14. ☐ Sacramento and San Francisco into well-to-do citys
☐ sacramento and San Francisco into well-to-do cities
☐ Sacramento and san francisco into well-to-do cities
☐ Correct as is