

The Gladys Grammar Show

The Noun Brothers

Characters:		
<i>Announcer</i>	<i>Doctor Syntax</i>	<i>Gladys Grammar</i>
<i>Common Noun</i>	<i>Proper Noun</i>	<i>Compound Noun</i>

(Enter Announcer)

Announcer: Hi, I'm Justin Tyme from Freezyubuns, Minnesota, and this is the Gladys Grammar Show. Today's guests are the famous and talented Noun Brothers from the hit movie, *Noun Story 2*.

(Audience applause)

Announcer: And here's our fabulous host, Gladys Grammar!

(Enter Gladys, exit Announcer)

Gladys: Hell-oooo, everybody! What a show we have today! Those wild and crazy Noun Brothers will be here to discuss their new movie with us. And what a fantastic movie it is! Everybody in the audience today will receive the soundtrack featuring "Rappin' with Nouns."

(Loud Applause)

Gladys: But first, let's hear it for my sidekick, my right-hand man, the guy with no PhD, but a degree in cool: Doctor Syntax!

(Applause and enter Dr. Syntax)

Gladys: So, Dr. S., you heard what happened last night, right?

Doctor Syntax: Nope, Gladys, but we're all dying to find out.

Gladys: CNN used a dangling participle. Right there during a live broadcast! Unbelievable! The journalist said, "I watched the suspect's car drinking my latte from the coffee shop." Now, how can a suspect's car drink a latte?

(Audience laughs)

Doctor Syntax: Ridiculous, Gladys! That journalist should watch your show.

Gladys: No doubt. Well, let's bring out our first guests, shall we? They're brothers who are all starring in a new film, *Noun Story 2*. Let's hear it for Proper Noun, Common Noun, and Compound Noun!

(Audience applause. Enter Noun Brothers waving to audience.)

Gladys: So, Common, tell us about this new movie of yours: *Noun Story 2*.

Common Noun: Well, it's a really fun and suspenseful movie about this little kid named Randy who has two favorite toy cars. One day, he gets a new racecar played, of course, by my talented brother, Compound Noun. The two cars are worried that Randy will like racecar more and team up to get rid of him.

Gladys: What part do you play, Common?

Common Noun: Well, being the Common Noun of the Noun brothers, it was necessary that I play the role of the plain, ordinary car, since a common noun is pretty much just any, average ordinary noun. That's me; just your average, ordinary kind of guy.

Gladys: Well, you gave a fine performance. Your "beep, beep" was so perfect.

Common Noun: Well, thanks, I . . .

Proper Noun: If I may interrupt my brother here, I'd like to say that although Common played the role of an ordinary car—and he did it well, I'll admit—it was really me that made this movie so appealing. I mean, I was the star! Playing the role of the sleek, black Ferrari was clearly the most challenging role of the film. As Proper Noun, I only accept parts of specific and well-known persons, places, or things. I'll tell you, I have had many wonderful jobs throughout my career. But, for this role, I had to make sure that the audience saw me as a daredevil, kind of like the James Bond of cars.

Gladys: Well, yes, of course, Proper. You did an extraordinary job. But now let's talk to your brother, Compound Noun. Tell us about your role in this movie.

Compound Noun: I played the racecar, a noun formed by the two words: race and car. It was quite a perfect role for me. I also loved being kind of the bad guy—or excuse me, bad noun—in this film. And, as always, it was a treat just to work with my brothers.

Gladys: Well, I do appreciate you coming here today to tell us a little about *Noun Story 2*. When does it open?

Common: It opens this Friday in theaters everywhere. And check us out online where you can order the “car”, “racecar”, and “Ferrari” toys.

Gladys: Now, before we leave today, I believe you have a poem for us?

Proper: Yep, we do, Gladys. Ready brothers?

Common: A noun is a person, like Lady Gaga or Tom Cruise; like teacher, or doctor, or students who snooze.

Proper: A noun is a place, like Hawaii or the beach, like dungeon or classroom, where teachers can teach.

Compound: A noun is a thing, like underwear or socks, like roses or pencils, or a drum set that rocks.

Common: A noun’s an idea, like love or like hate; something we can’t touch: like luck or maybe fate.

Proper: Without nouns, you’d have nothing to see or describe. You’d have nothing to pick up, write on, or drive.

Compound: So remember to thank us nouns for our service, because a world without nouns? Well, that just makes me nervous!

Gladys: Bravo! Thank you, Noun Brothers. You’re all delightful!

Common: Um, well, no “delightful” is an adjective, so . . .

Gladys: (*frustrated*) Um . . . yes . . . whatever! Let’s give a round of applause for the Noun Brothers.

(*Applause*)

Gladys: And that’s all for today. See you tomorrow on The Gladys Grammar Show!

The Gladys Grammar Show

Adjective Authors

Characters:		
<i>Announcer</i>	<i>Doctor Syntax</i>	<i>Gladys Grammar</i>
<i>Which One</i>	<i>What Kind</i>	<i>How Many</i>

(Enter Announcer)

Announcer: Hello! I'm Lotta Cash from Money, Nevada, and this is The Gladys Grammar Show. Today's amazing guests are the three well-known authors of the New York Times best-selling book, *101 Ways to Describe A Noun*.

(Audience applauds loudly)

Announcer: And here she is now: the star of our show . . . Gladys Grammar!

(Enter Gladys, exit announcer)

Gladys: Howdy to you all! So glad you're here today. My guests have been all over television and the Internet discussing their new book. I am just thrilled that they agreed to do my show. And, to top it off, we have a copy of their book, *101 Ways to Describe A Noun*, for everyone in the audience!

(Audience applause)

Gladys: But first, let's hear it for the smartest guy I know; the king of the English world: Doctor Syntax!

(Applause and enter Dr. Syntax)

Gladys: So, Dr. S., what's up?

Doctor Syntax: Well, I saw a great play last night on Broadway.

Gladys: Really? Which one?

Doctor Syntax: *Pronoun of the Opera*. Outstanding! The struggle that poor pronoun went through, always standing in for nouns and never getting any spotlight of his own. Wow! I was moved to tears!

Gladys: I'll have to check it out. Do you think we could get that Pronoun guy on our show? I'll have the producers call him. Anyway, we have some wonderful guests today; some very talented writers of a fascinating book. Let's welcome them: Which One, What Kind, and How Many!

(Applause and enter Which One, What Kind, and How Many, waving)

Gladys: So, which one of you came up with the idea for this book?

Which One: Actually, it wasn't me who came up with the idea; it was What Kind. He's the creative genius of the group.

Gladys: What I really meant was . . . never mind. So what kind of book is it?

What Kind: Uh, Gladys, it's really ALL of us who wrote this book, not just me. Which One and How Many contributed in so many ways, too.

Gladys: Gee, I seem to be asking all the wrong questions here. How many days did it take you to write it?

How Many: Gladys, we keep telling you; we all wrote it together! I didn't do it on my own! It was a collaborative thing, Gladys!

Gladys: I think I'm beginning to understand that. OK, guys, so tell my audience please, just what exactly your book—that ALL of you wrote—is about?

Which One: See, Gladys, it's like this. We've been really fed up lately with all the publicity those nouns have been getting, what with the success of *Noun Story 2*. Nobody realizes that without adjectives, nouns are just ordinary and very boring guys. It's adjectives like us that spice up the world. For example, listen to this. Show 'em, What Kind!

What Kind: Take Car, for example, that over-rated star of *Noun Story 2*. You really need to know **what kind** of Car he is for him to be really exciting. Is he a "big" Car? Is he a "fast" Car? Is he a "red" Car? Personally, I think he's a "no-good, lousy" Car . . .

How Many: That's enough, Kind. We all know how you feel about Noun biz. But really, Gladys, somebody needed to bring attention to adjectives, since we really bring the world of nouns into focus, give them color and description and character.

Gladys: So this book really takes a look at how adjectives, like you guys, work and function, right?

Which One: Exactly. It shows how a noun is really very unexciting without an adjective to answer one of three basic questions about that noun.

Gladys: Let me guess what those questions are: What Kind, How Many, and Which One? Right?

What Kind: Well, not “Right?” but you got everything else correct!

Gladys: We’re almost out of time. But before we go, How Many, could you read a little passage from your book, please?

How Many: Sure, I’d love to. Eh-hem. (*clears throat*) “An adjective’s a blessing, adding detail to a noun. There’s really no one else like an adjective around.”

Which One: “It answers a few questions, like What Kind or How Much! It might tell you what color or size, or how an item feels to touch.”

What Kind: “Adjectives describe nouns and without them, our lives can’t be good. After all, what is good? An adjective, describing “lives,” as only an adjective could.”

How Many: “Without adjectives, a boy can’t be tall, a girl can’t be sweet. Cookies can’t be yummy, and you wouldn’t have smelly old feet.”

Which One: “I can’t describe a world without adjectives, because you’d have no words for the task. So please remember, thank an adjective or two, that’s really all we ask.”

Gladys: Just wonderful. You definitely have a way with words! And, for those watching, remember to pick up your copy of *101 Ways to Describe a Noun* at your local bookstore!

(*Applause*)

Gladys: That’s all for today. See you tomorrow on the *Gladys Grammar Show!*

The Gladys Grammar Show

Demonstratives and Articles

Characters:

Announcer

Doctor Syntax

Gladys Grammar

Mr. Adjective

Mrs. Adjective

Announcer: Hi, I'm Reed Mylips from Noe-tockin, Georgia, and this is The Gladys Grammar Show. Today's unbelievable guests are Mr. and Mrs. Adjective, the parents of newborn septuplets: An, A, The, This, That, These and Those! You won't want to miss their story!

(Audience applause)

Announcer: And here's our host: the lady who knows everything there is to know about the English language . . . Gladys Grammar!

(Enter Gladys, exit announcer)

Gladys: Hello, hello, hello! What a bunch we have with us today! You've seen them in the news. You've probably seen the headlines in the tabloids. And today, they're with us, each one of those cutey-patooteys. All seven babies and two exhausted parents. Please give a warm welcome to the Adjective family!

(Audience applause)

Gladys: But first, let's hear it my terrific sidekick; the guy who puts the exclamation at the end of my sentences: Doctor Syntax!

(Applause and enter Dr. Syntax)

Gladys: Ok, Doctor S., did you see it?

Doctor Syntax: See what, Gladys?

Gladys: *Who Wants to Be A Gazillionaire!* Did you see the guy who didn't know that "over the hill" was a prepositional phrase? Who doesn't know that? Did he skip the fifth grade? He had to use all three lifelines on the first question and he still got it wrong! The first question! I'm so embarrassed for him! Think he'll come on my show?

Doctor Syntax: Pretty sure that's a "No," Glad.

Gladys: (*shaking her head sadly*) Shoot. I just can't believe he thought it was a gerund phrase. Does he never watch my show? What a doofus! I'll bet that our guests today would have gotten that question right! Let's welcome: the Adjective septuplets and their two very tired parents. Article and Demonstrative!

(*Applause and enter Article and Demonstrative*)

Mrs. Adjective: Gladys, we watched your show yesterday and we sure loved the three guys who wrote that book, *101 Ways to Describe a Noun*! My husband, Art, went out and bought a copy. We read it during the fourteen times we were up during the night to feed the babies. Come to find out, one of them--Which One--a distant cousin of mine! Can you believe it?

Gladys: No kidding! What a small world!

Mr. Adjective: We're really thrilled to be here, Gladys. We love your show and we're just huge fans of yours. We thought about naming one of our babies Gladys, but that would break with family tradition, so we couldn't.

Gladys: Well, thanks. Let's talk about these babies of yours. Seven babies. Were you shocked to find out?

Mrs. Adjective: Not really. It's pretty common in our family to have lots of kids all at once. My sister, Possessive, had sextuplets with her husband, Pronoun, about a year ago. And Art and I just knew we were in for a big family.

Mr. Adjective: We're kind of relieved, actually. Dem and I had seven names all picked out. Coming from the families we did, we pretty much had to use these names.

Mrs. Adjective: Yes, in Art's family, every child is named either An, A, or The. We were just lucky to be able to use all three. And in my family, kids must be called This, That, These, and Those.

Gladys: Boy, are they cute! So tell me, who is that one right over there?

Mr. Adjective: This.

Gladys: No, that one.

Mr. Adjective: Yes, I know. This.

Gladys: No, not *this* one, *that* one.

Mrs. Adjective: (*talking to Mr. Adjective*) Art, she's doing the same thing your Aunt Addy did. That little one's name is This, Gladys. See how important these little babies of ours are? They help the whole world know *which one* of something you're talking about. They are really important Adjectives!

Mr. Adjective: I forget how confusing our children's names are sometimes. We were in the grocery store the other day and one of the babies dropped his bottle. I asked the check-out lady to give it to The. She looked at me funny and asked, "The what?" and I said, "No, just give it to The." She got a little mad at me and said again, "The what, sir?" I had to explain that the baby's name was The. She apologized and we all laughed, but it can be confusing.

Gladys: Well, I can definitely understand how important these little guys are when you are trying to point out a certain noun. You guys should write a book!

Mrs. Adjective: Maybe I'll call my cousin Which One and he can tell our story to the world.

Gladys: Now, before we go, Mrs. Adjective, my producers told me you have a lullaby that you sing to put the kiddos to sleep. Can you sing it for us?

Mrs. Adjective: Certainly.

“Go to sleep, go to sleep,
Go to sleep little Articles,
Little A, and An and The,
Lay your heads down now and rest.

And my dear Demonstratives,
You all need to sleep now,
Little This, That, These, and Those,
It is time your eyes to close.”

Gladys: (*whispering*) Looks like it worked! They're all out! Thanks for coming today, Mr. and Mrs. Adjective. And we'll see all the rest of you on the next Gladys Grammar Show!

The Gladys Grammar Show

Verbs

Characters:

Announcer

Mr. Action Verb

Helping Verb

Doctor Syntax

Mrs. Being Verb

Gladys Grammar

Linking Verb

Announcer: Hi, I'm Kent Duit from Hotta Hotta, Arizona, and this is the Gladys Grammar Show! Today's guests are the stars from the hit movie, *Verbassic Park!* Welcome!

(Audience applause)

Announcer: And here's our host: the lady who puts the exclamation mark in our lives . . . Gladys Grammar!

(Enter Gladys, exit announcer)

Gladys: Hello and welcome everybody! We're going to have a fun time today talking with a family of talented actors! And everyone in our audience is going home with the action figures from their hit movie, *Verbassic Park!*

(Excited audience applause)

Gladys: But let's kick things off by welcoming my better half; the guy who understands how to avoid a sentence fragment: Doctor Syntax!

(Applause and enter Dr. Syntax)

Gladys: What a night at the Golden Globes last night, huh?

Doctor Syntax: Amazing!

Gladys: Can you believe those Noun brothers? They each took home a Golden Globe for their work in *Noun Story 2*. Did you really think those guys would win an award?

Doctor Syntax: Unbelievable.

Gladys: *(shaking her head)* And that dress that Lady Gaga wore! I think it was made of cheese or something like that! Crazy! What will she think of next? But let's get

to today's show. We've got a very talented family here today. Let's welcome them right now: the Verb family! Action, Being, Linking and Helping! Come on out, guys!

(Applause and enter Action, Being, Linking and Helping)

Gladys: First, tell us how you all got into show business?

Action Verb: I started working as a stuntman, back when I was a teenager. My father was a producer of some low budget films and he gave me my first break. Being a member of the Verb family, I was really cut out for action films: especially ones that have roles that require a lot of moving around, stunts, and crazy stuff like that.

Being Verb: I met Action here on the set of a Johnny Depp film. Action was working with Johnny on being more involved, using more motion, while I was playing several extras in the film who were really required to just BE there. I didn't really have to DO anything, you know? Just EXIST. That's me, right? Just BE. Anyway, Action and I knew it was love at first sight.

Gladys: What a romantic story! And what about your two beautiful children? How did they get involved in this film.

Being Verb: Well, Linking is our little angel. She really focuses our lives. She, well, kind of links us with the real world, the world of beautiful descriptions. Linking introduced us to some wonderful people, the Adjective family, and we've been friends ever since. It's Linking's purpose in life to connect us Verbs to others.

Linking: Mom! Can I talk here? I'm sorry, Gladys, my mom gets a little sentimental when she starts talking about us kids. *Verbassic Park* is my first real film. I've been in commercials and things, but never a big role like this one. I love this part because my character really connects to other characters. It's a perfect role for me.

Helping: Sure, sis, but don't forget who really helps out the main character in the end, right? I mean, it was me, who made sure that our Dad—the star—learned that he can't always stand alone, that sometimes he has to rely on others for a little assistance. I've been acting for a while now, Gladys, so this is nothing new for me.

Gladys: So how did you all like working together as a family? Any arguments on the set?

Action: Not really. We all get along fairly well. This was the first time we've all been involved in the same project but it seemed to work out all right. We verbs know what we DO, and we just DO it.

Gladys: So tell us all about this movie, *Verbassic Park*? Opens this weekend, right?

Being: Yes, Gladys. It opens Friday. And the movie is the story of a guy, played of course, by Action, who is constantly battling these huge creatures of evil. His whole life is moving, doing, fighting, and then on to the next task. Then, he meets this beautiful woman--played by me—who tries to convince him that he should quit being so ACTIVE all the time and spend some time just BEING. They fall madly in love with the help of Linking and Helping's characters. It's a great story about the human spirit and love.

Helping: Geez, Mom. You make it sound so boring! It's really a cool movie with lots of battle scenes and fighting and huge dinosaur-like creatures. It's really awesome!

Gladys: Sounds fascinating. Well, thanks to your wonderful family for stopping by and good luck on the opening of the movie. Remember, *Verbassic Park*—this weekend in theaters!

(Audience Applause)

Gladys: That's all for today. See you all tomorrow on the Gladys Grammar Show!