Green Sea Turtles of the Great Barrier Reef

The Great Barrier Reef is a magnificent habitat and nesting area for the critically endangered green turtle. The adult green turtles love to eat the tasty seaweed and algae found in the warm waters of the Pacific Ocean. These gentle plant eaters are olive-green in colour with perhaps some brown, reddish-brown or black markings. Each turtle has quite distinctive face markings. The shell is a cross between circular and heart-shaped and might grow to a metre long. It is a creamy colour underneath. Green turtles have oar-shaped flippers to pull themselves through the water like a canoe, and their heads and nostrils make them look like little aliens when they rise above the surface of their watery tropical paradise.

A noun group is a group of words that contains a main noun. The other words in the noun group tell more about the main noun.

*She ate ten chocolate fudge brownies.*

*He ate three pieces of pizza with cheese and mushrooms.*

Describing adjectives describe aspects of a noun such as colour, shape and texture. *pink round fluffy hat*

Classifying adjectives classify or tell the group that the noun belongs to. *tennis match*

1. Read Green Sea Turtles of the Great Barrier Reef. Underline the noun groups that contain classifying adjectives. Write the noun groups that contain describing adjectives.

2. Create your own noun groups by completing the table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Describing adjective</th>
<th>Classifying adjective</th>
<th>Noun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>magnificent</td>
<td>green</td>
<td>turtle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>decrepit</td>
<td></td>
<td>mansion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tuneful</td>
<td>travel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3 Build interesting noun groups for the noun ocean. Use any combination of adjectives.

ocean
ocean
ocean
ocean

Rule!

Nouns and noun groups can be categorised in a number of ways. They can represent general or specific participants:
ants  people  books  OR  that ant  Anita  my book
They can be common or proper:
ocean  country  beach  OR  Pacific Ocean  Australia  Bondi

4 Write two of each type of noun from Green Sea Turtles of the Great Barrier Reef.

General participants

Specific participants

Common nouns

Proper nouns

Rule!

A simile is a figure of speech. Something is spoken of as being like something else. The words like or as are used.

as white as snow  like lightning  as quick as a fox  as smart as a whip

A simile can build an image of a noun, by comparing it to something else.

His hands were like baseball mitts.  His legs were like tree trunks.

5 Find two similes in Green Sea Turtles of the Great Barrier Reef. What two things are compared in each simile?

6 Draw lines linking the word groups to create similes.

as dry as  cats and dogs
as cold as  a bone
fight like  ice
work like  an angel
sings like  a dog

7 Create similes of your own.

as hungry as
as sparkly as
snores like a
sings like a
eats like a

Try it yourself!

Write a description of a real or imaginary place. Use interesting noun groups to create a detailed description. Use simile to add to the imagery.