T.O.O.L.S. for Work Supplement 2
Nouns

Materials: Dictionary
Prerequisite: None
Lesson duration: 30-60 minutes

I. Introduction & Practice
   A. Explain that a noun is a word that is the name for something: a person, place or thing.

   B. Write several examples of nouns that name a person on the board. For example:

   teacher  Tom  mother  doctor  Dr. Alvarez  Mary
   1. Ask the participants to add to this list of nouns that represent a person, or people.
   2. Continue this exercise until you feel participants truly understand the concept.
   3. Evaluate their understanding by asking if they would add words you suggest, such as the following, which includes "test" words.

   sing  Raul  student  cat  working  boss  Latinos  Americans
   adults  children  book  girl
   4. Do not proceed further until you see that participants understand this first level.

   C. Write several examples of nouns that name a place on the board. For example:

   California  San Francisco  Los Angeles  Asia  Mexico  Saigon  city
   state  beach
   1. Ask participants to add to this list.
   2. Continue the exercise until you feel participants truly understand the concept.
   3. Evaluate their understanding by asking if they would add words you suggest, such as the following, which includes "test" words.

   New York City under  Canada  carry  hotel

   D. Write several examples of nouns that name a thing on the board. Begin with only obvious, tangible, nouns at first:

   For example, include things in the room:

   pen  marker  board  desk  table  chair
   1. Ask the participants to add to the list.
   2. Continue the exercise until you feel participants truly understand the concept.
   3. Evaluate their understanding by asking if they would add words you suggest, such as the following, which includes "test" words.

   calendar  bird  red  window  shine
   4. Do not proceed further until you see that they understand this concept.

   E. Introduce nouns that name abstract things. Ask participants if the following could be considered things:

   (an) idea  (a) thought  (your) memory  honesty
   1. Explain that some nouns name things that cannot be seen or touched, such as those things you just listed.
   2. Ask participants to add to this list.
   3. Continue the exercise until you feel participants truly understand the concept.
   4. Evaluate their understanding by asking if they would add words you suggest, such as the following, which includes "test" words.

   helpfulness  kindness  forgotten  politeness  very
II. Using the dictionary and more practice

A. See Supplement 5 Dictionary Use when participants are ready for details about dictionary content and use. Many participants have little confidence about, or exposure to, using dictionaries. Therefore, the exposure in this supplement is intended only to demonstrate an easy way to determine part-of-speech, while also providing practice of alphabetizing skills.

B. Together, look up in the dictionary several of the words from your lists. Show participants how to look for the "part-of-speech" indicator (n.) next to the word which shows that it is a noun. Explain that the "n." is an abbreviation, is short for or means "noun."

1. Let participants look up other words in the dictionary to see if they are nouns. If time permits, encourage them to have fun exploring, other information they find in the dictionary.

2. Ask participants if they can identify nouns in "Ground Rules" and "Consequences" found in Session 1 in their binders. Ask participants find this section themselves by using their table of contents.

3. Ask participants check their findings in the dictionary.