

Name _____

Underline the concrete nouns in the sentences below. Highlight any abstract nouns.

1. While Murray's *Oxford English Dictionary* is certainly the largest and most impressive lexicon in the English language, it was certainly not the first.
2. One notable work by an earlier scholar was Dr. Samuel Johnson's *A Dictionary of the English Language*, published in 1755.
3. Johnson's cleverness and wit permeated the entire book, and some of his definitions have become famous for their humor.
4. The final work contained 114,000 entries and filled two complete volumes.
5. Considering it was all the work of one man, Johnson's dictionary is considered a monumental success of scholarship.
6. The dictionary included quotations to illustrate the usage of words.
7. These quotations generally came from classical works of English Literature by authors such as Shakespeare, Dryden, and Milton.
8. The work took nine years and caused its author much stress; however, it cemented his reputation and won him much fame.
9. Some praise for the work came from its patron, the Earl of Chesterfield, who had promised Johnson financial support while he wrote the text.
10. Johnson, however, grew impatient with his patron and wrote a scathing letter outlining his displeasure.