



Parts of Speech

Why Learn Parts of Speech?




Why Learn Parts of Speech?

- They are the building blocks of English grammar.
- Understanding and applying a process is learning to learn.
- It is a foundation to improve your writing.



The Eight Parts of Speech

- Nouns
- Adjectives
- Pronouns
- Verbs
- Conjunctions
- Prepositions
- Adverbs
- Interjections



Nouns

- Names of persons, places, things, feelings, or ideas.
- Example: John has a new car, and he parks on the street under a big tree in Filer.

Nouns

- Names of persons, places, things, feelings, or ideas.
- Often indicated by "noun markers" -- a, an, and the.
- Example: The boy on the red bike hit a bird with a rock at the end of the long road.

Nouns

- Names of persons, places, things, feelings, or ideas.
- "Noun markers" -- a, an, and the.
- Noun endings: -ness, -ment, -ance, -ence, -ancy, -ency, -ity, -ion, -ure.
- Example: Happiness is the preference of every action and is the tendency toward kindness and contentment.

Nouns

- Names of persons, places, things, feelings, or ideas.
- "Noun markers" -- a, an, and the.
- Noun endings: -ness, -ment, -ance, -ence, -ancy, -ency, -ity, -ion, -ure.
- Can be made plural with s or es.
- Example: The needs of the masses may conflict with expectations of the members of legislative bodies.

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- Noun endings: -ness, -ment, -ance, -ence, -ancy, -ency, -ity, -ion, -ure.
- Can be made plural with s or es.

Verbs

- The action or "doing" words in a sentence.
- The horse ran, jumped and kicked until it threw the rider.
- Most verbs make sense in the blanks below:
 - He _____.
 - They _____.

Verbs

- The action or "doing" words in a sentence.
- "Linking verbs" show being.
- Example: She is a nice person, and we are her friends.
- Memorize the linking verbs: Be, am, is, are, was, were, been, being.

Verbs

- The action or "doing" words in a sentence.
- "Linking verbs" show being.
- Change to show time (tense).
- Example: Today I am on a bus, and it goes past my house.
- Yesterday I was on a bus, and it went past my house.
- The words that change are verbs.

Verbs

- The action or "doing" words in a sentence.
- "Linking verbs" show being.
- Change to show time (tense).
- Complete verbs include "helping verbs."

- Always helping verbs:
Can Will Shall May
Could Would Should Might
Must
- Always verbs, may be helping:
 - Have, has, had
 - Do, does, did, done
 - Be, am, is, are, was, were, been, being

Verbs

- The action or "doing" words in a sentence.
- "Linking verbs" show being.
- Change to show time (tense).
- Complete verbs include "helping verbs."

- Example:
They might have been going to the store if they could have gotten a ride.

Verbs

- The action or "doing" words in a sentence.
- "Linking verbs" show being.
- Change to show time (tense).
- Complete verbs include "helping verbs."

Adjectives

- Describe or modify only nouns.
- Example:
A big, red dump truck hit a parked little car and the worried driver ran to the other side of the busy street.

Adjectives

- Describe or modify only nouns.
- Answer questions, "what kind?" or "how many?"

- Example:
The three tired teens tried to eat a large pie at two pizza parlors.
- How many teens? three
- What kind of teens? tired
- What kind of pie? large
- How many parlors? two
- What kind of parlors? pizza

Adjectives

- Describe or modify only nouns.
- Answer questions, "what kind?" or "how many?"
- The "noun markers" a, an, the are always adjectives.

- Example:
The way to a smile and an appreciative attitude is through the stomach.

Adjectives

- Describe or modify only nouns.
 - Answer questions, "what kind?" or "how many?"
 - The "noun markers" **a, an, the** are always adjectives.
 - Usually "piled up" before nouns.
- Example:
- The long, shiny black limousine pulled in front of the huge old mansion, and a tall, well-dressed older gentleman got out.*

Adjectives

- Describe or modify only nouns.
 - Answer questions, "what kind?" or "how many?"
 - The "noun markers" **a, an, the** are always adjectives.
 - Usually "piled up" before nouns.
 - May follow linking verbs and describe the subject.
- Example:
- The river is deep, wide and cold, but the divers are brave and well-trained.*
- Note: to test these, try putting them in front of the noun they modify.

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Pronouns

- Specialized words to take the place of nouns.
 - Example:
- Paul gave Emily stationery because he wanted her to write to him when she could.*

Pronouns

- Specialized words to take the place of nouns.
- Often refer to people and have several forms.
- Memorize:
*I he we she they
me him us her them*
- Other common pronouns:
 - you, it, this, that, who, what, someone, everything, anyone, and many other similar words.

Pronouns

- Specialized words to take the place of nouns.
 - Often refer to people and have several forms.
 - May be possessive, showing ownership and working like an adjective.
 - Example:
- Her red car is faster than my old Ford, but their new Honda cost more than ours.*
- Note the form:
*I he we she they
me him us her them
my his our hers theirs
Others: yours, its, whose*

Pronouns

- Specialized words to take the place of nouns.
- Often refer to people and have several forms.
- May be possessive, showing ownership and working like an adjective.

Prepositions

- Specialized words to start prepositional phrases.
 - The man on the bus with a hat on his head looked at me and turned toward the window.
- A prepositional phrase is a group of words describing things which starts with a preposition and ends with a noun or pronoun.

Prepositions

- Specialized words to start prepositional phrases.
- Most prepositions are small, common words indicating time, place or position.
- Memory clue:
The rabbit went _____ the hollow log.
- Memorize:
at, from, to, on, in, into, onto, between, under, over, against, around, through

Prepositions

- Specialized words to start prepositional phrases.
- Most prepositions are small, common words indicating time, place or position.
- Some prepositions simply must be memorized.
- Example:
The problem with him is that he sleeps during the day and spends most of the night with his friends.
- Memorize:
of, with, for, during

Prepositions

- Specialized words to start prepositional phrases.
- Most prepositions are small, common words indicating time, place or position.
- Some prepositions simply must be memorized.

Conjunctions

- Words which "hook" words, phrases, or sentences.
 - Example:
She and I left, but they stayed, for Joe or Ted was coming on the bus, yet not on time.
- Memory clue: FAN BOYS.
- | | |
|-----|-----|
| For | But |
| And | Or |
| Nor | Yet |
| | So |

Conjunctions

- Words which "hook together" words, phrases, or sentences.
- Some conjunctions only hook clauses. They include:
when, as, if, since, because, while, after, although, before
- Example:
I ran when I saw her because I was happy since she was home.
- Memory clue:
She is cute _____ she smiles.

Conjunctions

- Words which "hook together" words, phrases, or sentences.
- Some conjunctions only hook clauses.

Adverbs

- Describe verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs.
- She quickly ran to her extremely tired friend and gave him a very big hug.

Adverbs

- Describe verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs.
- Answer the adverb questions: How? When? Where? Why? Under what conditions?
- Soon the very able pilot confidently flew west, and thus he almost crashed.
When? soon
Where? west
How? very, confidently
Why? thus
What conditions? almost

Adverbs

- Describe verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs.
- Answer the adverb questions: How? When? Where? Why? Under what conditions?
- Often end in -ly
- Example:
The extremely hungry animal howled eerily in the especially dark night.

Adverbs

- Describe verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs.
- Answer the adverb questions: How? When? Where? Why? Under what conditions?
- Often end in -ly
- Always adverbs: not, very, often, here, almost, always, never, there
- Example:
We do not very often want them here, for they are always late and almost never want to go there with us.

Adverbs

- Describe verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs.
- Answer the adverb questions: How? When? Where? Why? Under what conditions?
- Often end in *-ly*
- Always adverbs: *not very, often, here, almost, always, never, there*

Interjections

- Words which show emotion or are "fillers" with no other function.
- Example:
Oh, I am surprised, but please don't do it again. Ouch, you hurt me.

