

# THE NINE PARTS OF SPEECH

1. Noun
2. Pronoun
3. Verb
4. Adjective
5. Adverb
6. Preposition
7. Interjection
8. Conjunction
9. Articles



# NOUN

A noun is the name of a person, a place, a thing (object) or a quality.

## Common noun:

- A common noun is a concrete, tangible object , an object that can be touched or seen, with a shape and colour: teacher, student, mayor, president, king, lion, tiger, desk, car, house, tree, city, country, etc.
- A common noun may not only be the name of a thing with a definite form, but it may also be the name of a formless mass, a material, as tea, wheat, sand, water, gold, paper



# NOUN

## Common noun (continued):

- A common noun that is a formless mass and cannot be counted individually needs a quantifier.
- For example:

### Noun

tea

water

sand

hair

bread

jewellery

### Quantifier

a cup of

a glass of

a bucket of

a strand of

a slice of

a piece of



# NOUN

## Common Noun

- A common noun may also be the name of a collection of living beings or lifeless things, called **collective nouns**. Examples: class, nation, army, crowd, a herd of cattle, a row of trees, a chain of mountains.
- A common noun may also be the name of a quality, action, state, or a general idea, called an **abstract noun**. Abstract nouns are the things (objects) that cannot be touched or seen. Examples of an abstract noun are: courage, kindness, bravery, justice, honesty, friendship



# NOUN

## Proper noun:

- A proper noun names a particular person or thing (place): Mary, John, Shakespeare, Chicago, Christmas, January, the White House.
- There are seven functions of nouns:
  - subjects
  - direct objects
  - indirect objects
  - objects of prepositions
  - appositives (a word or expression usually placed next to another word or expression with which it has the same meaning. For example: Socrates, a Greek Philosopher, was the teacher of Plato. A Greek Philosopher is an appositive for the noun Socrates.)
  - subjective complements
  - objective complements



# PRONOUN

A pronoun is a word that takes the place of a noun. There are seven classes of pronouns:

## 1. PERSONAL PRONOUNS

Singular			Plural			
Pronoun Case (Most pronouns change their form depending on what place they occupy in a sentence.)						
Nominative: (subject pronouns)	I	You	he, she, it	We	You	They
Possessive:	My	Your	his, her, its	Our	Your	Their
	Mine	Yours	hers, his	Ours	Yours	Theirs
Objective	me	you	Him, her, it	us	you	them



# PRONOUN

## DEMONSTRATIVE PRONOUNS

This, that, these, those

## RELATIVE PRONOUNS

Who, whom, whose, which, what, that

## INTERROGATIVE PRONOUNS

who, whom, whose, which, what

## INDEFINITE PRONOUN

one, anybody, anyone, each, either, neither, everyone,  
everybody; no one, none, nobody; someone, somebody





# PRONOUN

**REFLEXIVE PRONOUNS** are personal pronouns combined with the word self. Used as a direct or an indirect object, they mean the same person as the subject.

1. He hurt himself.

2. I gave myself a shampoo.

- Note: A reflexive pronoun is not to be used either as a subject or as the object of a preposition.
- Wrong: John and myself were great friends.  
Right: John and I were great friends.
- Wrong: It was a discussion between John and myself.  
Right: It was a discussion between John and me.





# VERB

The verb expresses existence, action, or occurrence. There are three kinds of verbs:

- (1) action verb - expresses action (mental or physical),
- (2) linking verb – it links the subject to a word in the predicate
- (3) helping/auxiliary verb – helps another verb to make it complete

Examples of an action verb:

- He decided to go. (mental action)
- He broke the window. (physical action)

Example of a linking verb:

- The girl is beautiful. (State of being)

Example of an auxiliary verb:

- She had helped her mother.



# VERB

A verb is either:

1. transitive--it takes a direct object; OR
2. intransitive--does not take an object
3. linking--connects the subject to a predicate noun or a predicate adjective

Example of a transitive verb:

1. He **broke** the window. (window is the direct object)

Example of an intransitive verb:

1. She **goes** to work in the morning.

Example of a linking verb:

1. Plato **was** a philosopher. (philosopher is the predicate noun)
2. The water **is** clear. (clear is a predicate adjective [clear modifies the subject water])



# VERB

**Linking Verbs** are verbs that link the subject to a word in the predicate: most verbs show actions. Linking verbs do not show actions. They give information about the subject.

**Common linking verbs include:**

Be, am, is, are, was, were, been, seem, become, feel, look, smell, sound, taste

**The eight parts of the verb "to be" are:**

Am, is, are, was, were, be, being, been



# ADJECTIVE

An adjective is a word that modifies a noun or pronoun.

## Order of Adjectives:

When using more than one adjective to describe a noun place the adjectives in the following order before the noun.

NOTE: We usually use no more than three adjectives preceding a noun.

- |    |           |   |
|----|-----------|---|
| 1. | Opinion   | <b>Example:</b> <i>an interesting book, a boring lecture</i>                |
| 2. | Dimension | <b>Example:</b> <i>a big apple, a thin wallet</i>                           |
| 3. | Age       | <b>Example:</b> <i>a new car, a modern building, an ancient ruin</i>        |
| 4. | Shape     | <b>Example:</b> <i>a square box, an oval mask, a round ball</i>             |
| 5. | Color     | <b>Example:</b> <i>a pink hat, a blue book, a black coat</i>                |
| 6. | Origin    | <b>Example:</b> <i>some Italian shoes, a Canadian town, an American car</i> |
| 7. | Material  | <b>Example:</b> <i>a wooden box, a woolen sweater, a plastic toy</i>        |
| 8. | Purpose   | <b>Example:</b> <i>a sleeping dog, running shoes, a heating pad</i>         |



# ADJECTIVE

*Here are some examples of nouns modified with three adjectives in the correct order based on the list above. Notice that the adjectives are not separated by commas.*

A wonderful old Italian clock. (opinion - age - origin)

A big square blue box. (dimension - shape - color)

A disgusting pink plastic ornament. (opinion - color – material)

Some slim new French trousers. (dimension - age - origin)



# ADJECTIVE

**Which is the correct order?**

a small Canadian thin lady

a Canadian small thin lady

a small thin Canadian lady

a thin small Canadian lady

**A thin small Canadian lady**

an old wooden square table

a square wooden old table

an old square wooden table

a wooden old square table

**An old square wooden table**

a beautiful blue sailing boat

a blue beautiful sailing boat

a sailing beautiful blue boat

a blue sailing beautiful boat

**A beautiful blue sailing boat**

an new French exciting band

a French new exciting band

an exciting French new band

an exciting new French band

**An exciting new French band**



# ADVERB

An adverb is a word that modifies, describes, limits, restricts, or identifies **a verb, an adjective, OR another adverb**

## Examples:

1. **You should proceed slowly. (Slowly modifies the verb proceed.)**
2. **It is very hot. (Very is an adverb that modifies hot.)**
3. **She cooked quite well. (Quite is an adverb modifying the adverb well. Well is the adverb modifying the verb cooked.)**

**Adverbs answer the questions how, when, where, why, and under what condition.**





# PREPOSITION

Prepositions join objects and other words in sentences. They express locations, positions, directions, time, relationships and more.

Common prepositions include:

in, of, with, to, into, for, on, through, by, like,  
behind, around, between, before, after,  
down, except...



# CONJUNCTION

A conjunction is a word that connects (joins) words, phrases, or clauses.

Two types of conjunctions:

1. Coordinating conjunctions--connect two equal parts called independent clauses

Examples: FANBOYS, however, therefore, in addition, moreover, in contrast, hence...

2. Subordinating conjunctions--connect two parts that are not equal, such as dependent and independent clauses.

Examples: although, if, when, because, which, where, even though, etc...



# INTERJECTION

An interjection is an exclamation expressing emotions. It's usually used in depicting speech in stories but not used in formal, academic or business writing.

Examples:

Oh, Ouch, Wow, Oops, Oh my god, Holy cow, Jesus, of course, awesome, etc...



# ARTICLES

There are two kinds of articles:

Indefinite Articles: a, an

An indefinite article refers to a non-specific thing or person or when this thing or person is mentioned for the first time.

Example: There is a woman in the elevator.

Definite article: the

The definite article refers to a specific thing or person or something/someone that has already been referred to.

Example: The woman in the elevator is my sister.

