

Parts of Speech

Nouns

1.) Definition

A word which represents a **person, place, thing or idea**.

Ex: policeman, Canada, desk, bravery.

2.) Making Nouns Plural (More than One)

A) To make most nouns plural, you usually just add an s.

Ex: cat cats
 (singular) (plural)

B) For nouns that end in s, ch, ch, x or z, add es.

Ex: dresses, bushes, churches, buzzes

C) For nouns that end in o, you sometimes have to add es and in other cases you just add s.

Ex: heroes, tomatoes, potatoes, zoos, photos.

D) For nouns that end in y, drop the y and add ies.

Ex: studies, stories, copies.

E) For nouns ending in f, you sometimes have to change the f to a v and then add s or es, but in other cases you can simply add s.

Ex: roof-roofs, shelf-shelves, loaf-loaves, chief-chiefs, thief-thieves.

3.) Common nouns and proper nouns

A common noun does name someone or something, but it does not name a particular one.

A proper noun does name a particular or special person, place or thing.

Common Nouns: actor, city, movie

Proper Nouns: Johnny Depp, New York, Cinderella

Verbs

1.) Definition

Are used to show action, or what someone or something is.

For example:

(action) (what something is)

They **train**. They **are** a team

Billy **kicked** his brother. Billy **was** a mean boy.

2.) Verb Endings

Verbs have three kinds of endings:

s (or es) d (or ed) ing

Paint can change to: paints painted painting

Changing the ending of a verb can also show time of an action:

I **walk** (present tense)

I **walked** (past tense)

I **will walk** (future tense)

3.) Irregular Verbs

Some verbs do not follow the regular d or ed patterns for showing past tense. You just have to try and remember these.

Ex: Regular verb: I collect I **collected** I have **collected**

Irregular Verb: I throw I **threw** I have **thrown**

4.) Subject and Verb Agreement

Nouns and verbs must agree in number. Singular nouns require singular verbs and plural nouns require plural subjects.

Ex: She go to the party. (Incorrect)
She goes to the party. (Correct)

The boys loves pizza. (Incorrect)
The boys love pizza. (Correct.)

5.) Helping Verbs

These are verbs that give more explanation to main verbs in sentence. They are used to show how time passes.

Ex: I hate broccoli. I **have** hated it I was five years old. (The helping verb **have** helps the verb hate).

Some common helping verbs are: am, as, are, was, were, been, has, have, should, would, could, had

Adverbs

1.) Definition

Are used to give more information about verbs. They can tell how, when or where an action occurs.

Ex: The child ran **quickly.** (how)
later. (when)
home. (where)

Many adverbs that tell how an action happens end in ly.

Adjectives

They describe or give more information about a noun.

Ex: That **grey** dog has **huge** teeth.
(adj.) (noun) (adj.) (noun)

Pronouns

1.) Definition

Are words used in place of nouns, so that you do not have to repeat a noun over and over.

Ex: Joey bought a new bike. **He** rode it all over town.

2.) Personal Pronouns

Personal pronouns replace nouns that name people, animals and things.

Singular: I, me, you, she, her, he, him, it

Plural: we, you, they, them

3.) Subject and Object Pronouns

Pronouns can either be subjects or objects in a sentence.

A subject pronoun performs or does the action in a sentence.

Ex: I chased the dog.

An object pronoun is used after an action verb or after a preposition.

Ex: The dog chased me.

Subject Pronouns: I, you, he, she, it, we, they

Object Pronouns: me, you, him, her, it, us, them

Prepositions

1.) Definition

Are joining words. They are pre-positioned before nouns and pronouns to join them to the rest of the sentence.

Ex: Preposition + Noun

Preposition + Pronoun

The accident occurred under the bridge.

Krista played for her.

The accident occurred above the bridge.

Krista played with her.

The accident occurred beside the bridge.

Krista played near her

The accident occurred behind the bridge.

Krista played to her.

2.) Prepositional Phrases

Prepositions are used to introduce or begin phrases. A prepositional phrase includes a preposition, the noun or pronoun that goes with it, and any describing words.

Ex: The dog was asleep **behind the old chair**.

3.) Time and Space

Prepositions show relationships of time (when) and space (where).

Ex: **after** school (time) **at** the mall (space)

Some commonly used prepositions:

after	under	beside	since
over	during	below	between
past	during	toward	outside
within	among	upon	on
until	through	around	behind

Interjections

1.) Definition

Are words or phrases used to show strong emotion or surprise?

A comma (,) or exclamation point (!) is used to separate an interjection from the rest of the sentence.

Ex: Wow, look at the size of that moose!

Hey! Keep your eyes peeled on the road!

Some common interjections are:

Wow Hey Bam Yuk Hurray Whoa

Conjunctions

1.) Definition

They connect or join two or more words in a sentence. Nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs and pronouns can all be joined by conjunctions.

Ex: Mary **and** John went swimming.
(noun) (conj.) (noun)

The prize was shared between her **and** him.
(pronoun) (conj.) (pronoun)

2.) Coordinating

These join or coordinate words or groups of words that are used in the same way in a sentence.

Ex: Bobby **and** Jimmy went fishing.
He didn't know if he wanted chicken **or** fish for supper.
The airplane's motor failed **so** it had to make a crash landing.

Coordinating Conjunctions: and, but, or, nor, for, yet, so

3.) Subordinating

These add other ideas to the main idea of a sentence.

Ex: I started training.
(main idea)

I started training **before** I joined the team.
(main idea) (sub conj.) (other idea)

Commonly used subordinating conjunctions are:

after although as because how if than that through unless
until when before where while

The Sentence and its Parts

The Sentence

1.) Definition.

A sentence is a group of words which express a complete thought.

Ex: I went to the store today. How are you? Get me some water. Get out!

2.) Types of Sentences

There are four types of sentences:

Statement: A statement tells something. It gives information.

Ex: I see a boy swimming in the river.

Question: A question asks something.

Ex: What do you think his name is?

Command: A command gives an order or some kind.

Ex: Ask him his name.

Exclamation: An exclamation shows strong feeling.

Ex: Oh no, he's leaving!

3.) Sentence Fragments and Run on Sentences

Sometimes writers do not express a complete thought when writing a sentence. These are sentence fragments. They need more words to express a complete thought.

Ex: When you go to the park. (Sentence fragment) **Incorrect**

When you go to the park you always have fun. (Complete sentence) **Correct**

In other cases, writers add too many words to a sentence. These sentences keep on going and going and are called run-on. They can usually be broken up into several smaller sentences.

Ex: Jimmy likes running and playing Xbox 360 and his sister is mean to him all of the time and he has red hair. (Run on sentence) **Incorrect**

Ex: Jimmy likes running and playing Xbox 360. His sister is mean to him all of the time. He has red hair. (Complete sentences) **Correct**

4.) Subject and Predicate

The part of the sentence that tells what you are talking about is called the subject.

The part of the sentence that tells what the subject does or is, is called the predicate.

Ex: Subject

The **wolf**

The **mother wolf**

Predicate

ran.

ran down the hole.

Punctuation

Capitalization

You have to capitalize (use the upper case letter) with the first words of sentences and proper nouns.

Note: With book, movie and magazine titles, capitalize the first word and all other important words. Do not capitalize connecting words such as: to, the, in, of, with.

Ex: Her name is Mary.
Bobby's favourite movie is Cowboys and Aliens.

Period (.)

They have two main uses:

1.) Use them at the end of statement or command sentences.

Ex: I went to the store. Go get me a glass of milk.

2.) Use them at the end of abbreviations (shortened words) or initials.

Ex: Dr. Smith Mr. Rowe Mountain View Dr. Main Rd. Mon. Sat. Sept.

Colon (:)

These are used:

1) In greetings in letters

Ex: Dear Sir: To Whom it May Concern:

2) In writing time figures

Ex: 8:25 11:45

3) After the word following before a list

Ex: Please retrieve the following: a cd player, a Hannah Montana cd and a coke.

Semicolon (;)

It is a cross between a period and a comma. It is used sometimes in the place of a period and in other cases it is used in the place of a comma.

In place of a period

Ex: My grandmother is 80; my grandfather is 90.

(Takes the place of a period, making two sentences one.)

In place of a comma

Ex: I'm already entered; otherwise, I would be your partner.

(It takes the place of the comma, helping to show a pause. Used commonly with the words or phrase: however, so, then, therefore, for instance, for examples, besides, otherwise, instead, consequently.)

Comma (,)

They tell a reader when to pause when reading, so sentences are easier to understand.

They are most commonly used:

1. In lists

Ex: She went to the store and bought apples, oranges, potatoes and corn.

2. After introductory words or phrases

Ex: Yes, I know you. By the way, it's your turn to do the dishes.

3. Around names of people you are speaking or writing to

Ex: If you leave, Matt, you can't come back.

4. Around or after explaining words

Ex: The dog, who was very tired, took a nap. I was talking to Molly, the vet.

5. To separate such words and phrases as "however," "of course" and "for example" from the rest of a sentence.

Ex: She does not want to go, however, she leaves anyway.

6. To separate direct quotations from explaining words

Ex: The teacher said, "Do your homework!"

7. In address and dates

Ex: NL, A1S 1C8 Sept. 28th, 2015

8. After a greeting or closing in letters and e-mails

Ex: Dear John, Yours truly,

Quotation Marks (“and”)

They are used to show when a person is speaking. You place them around the words that someone is saying.

Ex: Jimmy said, “Go to the store and get some milk.” “I’m thirsty,” cried Cindy.

Apostrophe (’)

They have two uses:

1.) Possession (Ownership)

To show when a noun owns something you simply add’s or s’ to it. If the noun ends in a s, just add an apostrophe, and if the noun doesn’t end in a s then you add’s.

Ex: John’s hat is big. James’ likes pizza. The boys’ went swimming.

The hat belongs to John --- John’s hat

The house belongs to the James ---- James’ house

2.) Contractions (two words shortened to make one)

To make two words into one, writers leave out letters and replace them with apostrophes.

Ex: do not don’t (contraction)
 would not wouldn’t (contraction)