

PARTS OF SPEECH

The 8 “building blocks” of
the English language...



NOUN

A person, place, idea, or thing – “what” or “who”

Concrete vs. Abstract

Concrete noun examples:

- dog
- car
- Keiko
- computer



James



Africa



bear

Abstract noun examples:

- anger
- liberty
- friendship
- inspiration



idea

Common vs. Proper

Common noun examples:

- desk
- puppy
- friendship
- man



man



bear



idea



shrine

Proper noun examples:

- Amazon
- Keiko
- Japan
- Toshiba



James



Africa

PRONOUN

A word that replaces a noun or noun phrase

Personal Pronouns



Subject pronouns:

- I, you, he, she, it, we, they

Object pronouns:

- me, you, him, her, it, us, them

Reflexive pronouns:

- myself, yourself, himself, herself, itself, ourselves, yourselves, themselves

Possessive pronouns:

- mine, yours, his, hers, ours, theirs

Other Pronouns

Demonstrative Pronouns

- this, that, these, those

Indefinite Pronouns

- everyone, everybody, everything, everywhere, someone, somebody, something, somewhere, anyone, anybody, anything, anywhere, no one, nobody, nothing, nowhere,

Relative (Question) pronouns

- who, which, that (what), whose, whom



ADJECTIVE

Describes/modifies/tells us more about a noun, a pronoun, or another adjective

Common adjective categories:

Beauty: beautiful, pretty, gorgeous, ugly, attractive, hideous

Goodness: good, bad, great, terrible, excellent, awful

Size: big, large, huge, massive, tall, wide, small, tiny, miniscule, petite, short, narrow

Number: many, few, much, little, all, some, various

Age: ancient, old, antique, new, young, fresh, advanced

Color: Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, brown, black, white, gray

VERBS

Define actions or connections between ideas

Action Verbs (most verbs)



Physical movement:

- Run, walk, sit, stand, swim, play, practice, cook, speak, complain, buy, visit, write, eat, ...



Observation:

- Listen, look, hear, read, see, watch, study, wait for, ...



Possessions:

- Have, own, enjoy, appreciate, admire, gather, ...

Other:

- Start, stop, continue, annoy, bother, frustrate, amuse, love, receive, send, ...



Linking Verbs

Existence verbs:

- to be, to become, to get (*passive*), to remain (*unchanged*)

Sensory verbs:

- The eggs **smell** rotten.
- The cinnamon rolls **taste** delicious.
- I **feel** tired today.
- You **seem** upset by his words.
- Your wedding plans **sound** nice.
- You **look/appear** exhausted after staying up late.



ADVERB

Describe the time, place, or manner of an action



Time/Frequency

- When
- 3 o'clock
- Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow, Tonight, Last night
- Always / Never
- Usually / Seldom, Rarely
- Often / Sometimes
- Now / Soon / Later
- Daily, Weekly, Monthly, Annually



Place

- Where (Elsewhere, somewhere, anywhere, nowhere, everywhere)
- Here / There
- Abroad
- Nearby
- Indoors/Outdoors
- Inside/Outside



Manner (How)

- Very, quite, somewhat, rather, too, fairly*
- Quickly**
- Frighteningly
- Rapidly
- Slowly
- Loudly
- Innocently
- Well / Badly



*Can modify other adverbs **Most adverbs end with -ly

PREPOSITIONS

Show time, location, or purpose connections between ideas

Time

- At [hour], on [day], in [month, year]
- In the morning/afternoon/evening
- **During, until, for, since, by, within, from ... to,**

Direction

- **To, towards, into, out (of), away from, along, across**

Purpose/Other ●●●

- **Despite, since, for, to, of**

Location

- At [a residence, a business, school, university, a park/beach/public location, a specific spot]
- On [a mountain, an island, a horse/donkey/elephant/camel, a bicycle or motorcycle, a train/bus/boat/airplane]
- In [the world, a country, a region/state/province, a building, a car, a box/package/envelope, prison/jail, (the) hospital]
- **Behind, between, beside, near, above, over, below, under, inside, outside, beneath, underneath, by, opposite, among, off, along, across, with**
- **next to, in front of, close to**

CONJUNCTIONS: COORDINATING AND SUBORDINATING

Connect ideas and sentences

Coordinating Conjunctions

There are 7 coordinating conjunctions.

- And – I met Tom and Jerry, and we went to the bar.
- But – She was small but strong, but she still lost.
- For – (old-fashioned) *Fear not, for I am with you.*
- Nor – Neither John nor Mary came to the wedding, nor did they call to explain.
- Or – Do you like roses or lilies, or do you prefer a different flower?
- So – I was tired, so I went home early.
- Yet – He's firm yet gentle, yet I sense fear in him.

Subordinating Conjunctions

There are many subordinating conjunctions.

Contrast

- Although, even though, even if, as much as, whereas, unless

Condition (incomplete, hypothetical)

- Provided (that), as long as, if, on the condition that, lest, supposing, wherever, *so that (present, future)*

Counterfactuality

- As if, if only,

Condition (completed, factual)

- Given that, now that, since, as, due to, because (of) *so that (past)*

Time

- When, while, after, before, as soon as, once, whenever

INTERJECTION



“Watch out! Where’d this rocket come from???”

- An interjection is a word (or words) of shock or surprise.
- It is usually used by itself and is followed by an exclamation point.
- Examples are: Wow!, Cool!, Awesome! and so on...

OFTEN FORGOTTEN – ARTICLES

In titles:

Do not
capitalize

- An article is a function word that gives information about a noun
- In English, the main function of an article is to clarify whether an item is *specific* (“the”) or not specific (“a, an”)
 - **An apple is a fruit.**
 - The apple on my table is mine.
 - Apples are grown worldwide.
 - The first apples were grown in Central Asia.
- In English, there are articles: “the, a, an”