

Literacy Development

Grammar Review

Parts of Speech

adjective

preposition

noun

pronoun

verb

adverb

conjunction

interjection

You probably already know about nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs, but you may not be quite sure what they are and how they are used. These, along with a few more, are known as **Parts of Speech**.

This refers to how words are used in a sentence. Each part of speech has a different job to do in a sentence. One part (noun) identifies a thing. Another part (verb) identifies an action. As you will see, some words may be used as different parts of speech. Understanding how the various parts of speech are used can help you analyze a sentence and understand its meaning.

Here is a quick review for you and a couple of cheat sheets to help you remember what's what when your teachers mentions these terms.

Table of English Parts of Speech

part of speech	function or "job"	example words	example sentences
Verb	expresses action, events or states of being	(to) be, have, do, like, work, sing, can, must	I run every day. Brainpop is a website that I like a lot.
Noun	name of a person, animal, place or thing	pen, dog, work, music, town, Vancouver, teacher, John	This is my cell phone . I can call all over Canada for the same price , although I only know people in Vancouver .
Adjective	describes a noun	a/an, the, 24, some, good, big, red, well, interesting	My cousin is a big fat liar. I, on the other hand, am totally honest .
Adverb	modifies a verb, adjective or adverb	also, consequently, finally, still, then, therefore, thus, boldly, quickly, slowly, silently, well, badly, very, really	My reading is going slowly . I wish I could read more quickly , but I really do make great art!
Pronoun	replaces a noun	I, you, she, he, it, we, you, they, me, her, him, it, us, you, them, mine, yours, hers, his, its, ours, theirs	Mark's the teacher; he's pretty good. I enjoy his class.
Preposition	links nouns, pronouns and phrases to other words	to, at, after, on, but, for, before, from, in, of with, without	Study club comes before or after school and it's in the building in front of the woods
Conjunction	Links words, phrases, or clauses	and, but, or, nor, for, so, yet, after, although, as, because, before, how, if, once, since, than, that, though, till, until, when, where, whether, while	Although I'm not crazy about school, I think it's a good idea to try to learn something worthwhile, since it's always better to be smart than to be uneducated.
Interjection	short exclamation, sometimes inserted into a sentence to express emotion - usually followed by an explanation mark	oh, ouch, hi, eh, good grief	My gosh , he must have a lot of money! His new car must cost over \$40,000, eh ?

Example Sentences Showing English Parts of Speech

Here are some sentences made with different English parts of speech:

verb
Stop!

noun	verb
John	works.

noun	verb	verb
John	is	working.

pronoun	verb	noun
She	loves	animals.

noun	verb	adjective	noun
Animals	like	kind	people.

noun	verb	noun	adverb
Tara	speaks	English	well.

noun	verb	adjective	noun
Tara	speaks	good	English

pronoun	verb	preposition	adjective	noun	adverb
She	ran	to	the	station	quickly.

pronoun	verb	adjective	noun	conjunction	pronoun	verb	pronoun
She	likes	big	snakes	but	I	hate	them.

Here's a sentence that contains every part of speech:

interjection	pronoun	conjunction	adjective	noun	verb	adverb	preposition	noun
Well,	she	and	crazy	Suzy	talked	endlessly	about	games

English Words with More than One Job

Many words in English can have more than one job, or be more than one part of speech.

Note, this can be a little confusing, so read carefully. "Work" can be a verb and a noun. "But" can be a conjunction and a preposition. "Well" can be an adjective, an adverb, and an interjection. In addition, many nouns can act as adjectives.

To analyze the part of speech, ask yourself: "What job is this word doing in this sentence?"

Here are some examples:

word	part of speech	Example
work	noun	My work is easy.
	verb	I work in London.
but	conjunction	John came but Mary didn't come.
	preposition	Everyone came but Mary.
well	adjective	Are you well ?
	adverb	She speaks well .
	interjection	Well! That's expensive!
afternoon	noun	We ate in the afternoon .
	noun acting as adjective	We had afternoon tea.

Get smart quick: Work with your teacher and practice some more. Go to:

http://grammar.englishclub.com/parts-of-speech_3.htm