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Parts of speech in english with definition and examples pdf

TIP SheetTHE EIGHT PARTS OF SPEECH There are eight parts of speech in the English language: noun, pronoun, verb, adjective, adverb, preposition, conjunction, and interjection. The part of speech indicates how the word functions in meaning as well as grammatically within the sentence. An individual word can function as more than one part of speech when used in different circumstances. Understanding parts of speech is essential for determining the correct definition of a word when using the dictionary. 1. NOUN A noun is the name of a person, place, thing, or idea. man... Butte College... house... happiness A noun is a word for a person, place, thing, or idea. Nouns are often used with an article (the, a, an), but not always. Proper nouns always start with a capital letter; common nouns do not. Nouns can be singular or plural, concrete or abstract. Nouns show possession by adding 's. Nouns can function in different roles within a sentence; for example, a noun can be a subject, direct object, indirect object, subject complement, or object of a preposition. The young girl brought me a very long letter from the teacher, and then she quickly disappeared. Oh my! See the TIP Sheet on "Nouns" for further information. 2. PRONOUN A pronoun is a word used in place of a noun. She... we... they... it A pronoun is a word used in place of a noun. A pronoun is usually substituted for a specific noun, which is called its antecedent. In the sentence above, the antecedent for the pronoun she is the girl. Pronouns are further defined by type: personal pronouns refer to specific persons or things; possessive pronouns indicate ownership; reflexive pronouns are used to emphasize another noun or pronoun; relative pronouns introduce a subordinate clause; and demonstrative pronouns identify, point to, or refer to nouns. The young girl brought me a very long letter from the teacher, and then she quickly disappeared. Oh my! See the TIP Sheet on "Pronouns" for further information. 3. VERB A verb expresses action or being. jump... is... write... become The verb in a sentence expresses action or being. There is a main verb and sometimes one or more helping verbs. ("She can sing." Sing is the main verb; can is the helping verb.) A verb must agree with its subject in number (both are singular or both are plural). Verbs also take different forms to express tense. The young girl brought me a very long letter from the teacher, and then she quickly disappeared. Oh my! See the TIP Sheet on "Verbs" for more information. 4. ADJECTIVE An adjective modifies or describes a noun or pronoun. pretty... old... blue... smart An adjective is a word used to modify or describe a noun or a pronoun. It usually answers the question of which one, what kind, or how many. (Articles [a, an, the] are usually classified as adjectives.) The young girl brought me a very long letter from the teacher, and then she quickly disappeared. Oh my! See the TIP Sheet on "Adjectives" for more information. 5. ADVERB An adverb modifies or describes a verb, an adjective, or another adverb. gently... extremely... carefully... well An adverb describes or modifies a verb, an adjective, or another adverb, but never a noun. It usually answers the questions of when, where, how, why, under what conditions, or to what degree. Adverbs often end in -ly. The young girl brought me a very long letter from the teacher, and then she quickly disappeared. Oh my! See the TIP Sheet on "Adverbs" for more information. 6. PREPOSITION A preposition is a word placed before a noun or pronoun to form a phrase modifying another word in the sentence. by... with... about... until (by the tree, with our friends, about the book, until tomorrow) A preposition is a word placed before a noun or pronoun to form a phrase modifying another word in the sentence. Therefore a preposition is always part of a prepositional phrase. The prepositional phrase almost always functions as an adjective or as an adverb. The following list includes the most common prepositions: The young girl brought me a very long letter from the teacher, and then she quickly disappeared. Oh my! See the TIP Sheet on "Prepositions" for more information. 7. CONJUNCTION A conjunction joins words, phrases, or clauses. and... but... or... while... because A conjunction joins words, phrases, or clauses, and indicates the relationship between the elements joined. Coordinating conjunctions connect grammatically equal elements: and, but, or, nor, for, so, yet. Subordinating conjunctions connect clauses that are not equal: because, although, while, since, etc. There are other types of conjunctions as well. The young girl brought me a very long letter from the teacher, and then she quickly disappeared. Oh my! See the TIP Sheet on "Conjunctions" for more information. 8. INTERJECTION An interjection is a word used to express emotion. Oh!... Wow!... Oops! An interjection is a word used to express emotion. It is often followed by an exclamation point. The young girl brought me a very long letter from the teacher, and then she quickly disappeared. Oh my! See the TIP Sheet on "Interjections" for more information. What is a Part of Speech? We can categorize English words into 9 basic types called "parts of speech" or "word classes". It's quite important to recognize parts of speech. This helps you to analyze sentences and understand them. It also helps you to construct good sentences. Parts of Speech Table Parts of Speech Examples Parts of Speech Quiz Parts of Speech Table This is a summary of the 9 parts of speech*. You can find more detail if you click on each part of speech. part of speech function or "job" example words example sentences Verb action or state (to) be, have, do, like, work, sing, can, must EnglishClub is a web site. I like EnglishClub. Noun thing or person pen, dog, work, music, town, London, teacher, John This is my dog. He lives in my house. We live in London. Adjective describes a noun good, big, red, well, interesting My dogs are big. I like big dogs. Determiner limits or "determines" a noun a/an, the, 2, some, many I have two dogs and some rabbits. Adverb describes a verb, adjective or adverb quickly, silently, well, badly, very, really My dog eats quickly. When he is very hungry, he eats really quickly. Pronoun replaces a noun I, you, he, she, some Tara is Indian. She is beautiful. Preposition links a noun to another word to, at, after, on, but We went to school on Monday. Conjunction joins clauses or sentences or words and, but, when I like dogs and I like cats. I like cats and dogs. I like dogs but I don't like cats. Interjection short exclamation, sometimes inserted into a sentence oh!, ouch!, hi!, well! Ouch! That hurts! Hi! How are you? Well, I don't know. * Some grammar sources traditionally categorize English into 8 parts of speech. Others say 10. At EnglishClub, we use the more recent categorization of 9 parts of speech. Examples of other categorizations are: Verbs may be treated as two different parts of speech: lexical Verbs (work, like, run) auxiliary Verbs (be, have, must) Determiners may be treated as separate part of speech. Parts of Speech Examples Here are some examples of sentences made with different English parts of speech: noun verb verb John is working. pronoun verb noun She loves animals. noun verb noun adverb Tara speaks English well. noun verb adjective noun Tara speaks good English. pronoun verb preposition determiner noun adverb She ran to the station quickly. pron. verb adj. noun conjunction pron. verb pron. She likes big snakes but I hate them. Here is a sentence that contains every part of speech: interjection pron. conj. det. adj. noun verb prep. noun adverb Well, she and my young John walk to school slowly. Words with More Than One Job Many words in English can have more than one job, or be more than one part of speech. For example, "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?" In the table below you can see a few examples. Of course, there are more, even for some of the words in the table. In fact, if you look in a good dictionary you will see that the word "but" has six jobs to do: verb, noun, adverb, pronoun, preposition and conjunction! 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. Parts of Speech Quiz Grammar main page Parts of Speech Games A part of speech is a term used in traditional grammar for one of the nine main categories into which words are classified according to their functions in sentences, such as nouns or verbs. Also known as word classes, these are the building blocks of grammar. Word types can be divided into nine parts of speech:nounsverbsadjectivesadverbsprepositionsconjunctionsarticles/determinersinterjectionsSome words can be considered more than one part of speech, depending on context and usage.Interjections can form complete sentences on their own. Every sentence you write or speak in English includes words that fall into some of the nine parts of speech. These include nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions, articles/determiners, and interjections. (Some sources include only eight parts of speech and leave interjections in their own category.) Learning the names of the parts of speech probably won't make you witty, healthy, wealthy, or wise. In fact, learning just the names of the parts of speech won't even make you a better writer. However, you will gain a basic understanding of sentence structure and the English language by familiarizing yourself with these labels. The parts of speech are commonly divided into open classes (nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs) and closed classes (pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions, articles/determiners, and interjections). The idea is that open classes can be altered and added to as language develops and closed classes are pretty much set in stone. For example, new nouns are created every day, but conjunctions never change. In contemporary linguistics, the label part of speech has generally been discarded in favor of the term word class or syntactic category. These terms make words easier to qualify objectively based on word construction rather than context. Within word classes, there is the lexical or open class and the function or closed class. Read about each part of speech below and get started practicing identifying each. Nouns are a person, place, thing, or idea. They can take on a myriad of roles in a sentence, from the subject of it all to the object of an action. They are capitalized when they're the official name of something or someone, called proper nouns in these cases. Examples: pirate, Caribbean, ship, freedom, Captain Jack Sparrow. Pronouns stand in for nouns in a sentence. They are more generic versions of nouns that refer only to people. Examples: I, you, he, she, it, ours, them, who, which, anybody, ourselves. Verbs are action words that tell what happens in a sentence. They can also show a sentence subject's state of being (is, was). Verbs change form based on tense (present, past) and count distinction (singular or plural). Examples: sing, dance, believes, seemed, finish, eat, drink, be, became Adjectives describe nouns and pronouns. They specify which one, how much, what kind, and more. Adjectives allow readers and listeners to use their senses to imagine something more clearly. Examples: hot, lazy, funny, unique, bright, beautiful, poor, smooth. Adverbs describe verbs, adjectives, and even other adverbs. They specify when, where, how, and why something happened and to what extent or how often. Examples: softly, lazily, often, only, hopefully, softly, sometimes. Prepositions show spacial, temporal, and role relations between a noun or pronoun and the other words in a sentence. They come at the start of a prepositional phrase, which contains a preposition and its object. Examples: up, over, against, by, for, into, close to, out of, apart from. Conjunctions join words, phrases, and clauses in a sentence. There are coordinating, subordinating, and correlative conjunctions. Examples: and, but, or, so, yet, with. Articles and determiners function like adjectives by modifying nouns, but they are different than adjectives in that they are necessary for a sentence to have proper syntax. Articles and determiners specify and identify nouns, and there are indefinite and definite articles. Examples: articles: a, an, the; determiners: these, that, those, enough, much, few, which, what. Some traditional grammars have treated articles as a distinct part of speech. Modern grammars, however, more often include articles in the category of determiners, which identify or quantify a noun. Even though they modify nouns like adjectives, articles are different in that they are essential to the proper syntax of a sentence, just as determiners are necessary to convey the meaning of a sentence, while adjectives are optional. Interjections are expressions that can stand on their own or be contained within sentences. These words and phrases often carry strong emotions and convey reactions. Examples: ah, whoops, ouch, yabba dabba do! Only interjections (Hooray!) have a habit of standing alone; every other part of speech must be contained within a sentence and some are even required in sentences (nouns and verbs). Other parts of speech come in many varieties and may appear just about anywhere in a sentence. To know for sure what part of speech a word falls into, look not only at the word itself but also at its meaning, position, and use in a sentence. For example, in the first sentence below, work functions as a noun; in the second sentence, a verb; and in the third sentence, an adjective: Bosco showed up for work two hours late. The noun work is the thing Bosco shows up for. He will have to work until midnight. The verb work is the action he must perform. His work permit expires next month. Learning the names and uses of the basic parts of speech is just one way to understand how sentences are constructed. To form a basic complete sentence, you only need two elements: a noun (or pronoun standing in for a noun) and a verb. The noun acts as a subject and the verb, by telling what action the subject is taking, acts as the predicate. In the short sentence above, birds is the noun and fly is the verb. The sentence makes sense and gets the point across. You can have a sentence with just one word without breaking any sentence formation rules. The short sentence below is complete because it's a command to an understood "you". Here, the pronoun, standing in for a noun, is implied and acts as the subject. The sentence is really saying, "(You) go!" Use more parts of speech to add additional information about what's happening in a sentence to make it more complex. Take the first sentence from above, for example, and incorporate more information about how and why birds fly. Birds fly when migrating before winter. Birds and fly remain the noun and the verb, but now there is more description. When is an adverb that modifies the verb fly. The word before is a little tricky because it can be either a conjunction, preposition, or adverb depending on the context. In this case, it's a preposition because it's followed by a noun. This preposition begins an adverbial phrase of time (before winter) that answers the question of when the birds migrate. Before is not a conjunction because it does not connect two clauses.

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