**Technical English for Engineers**

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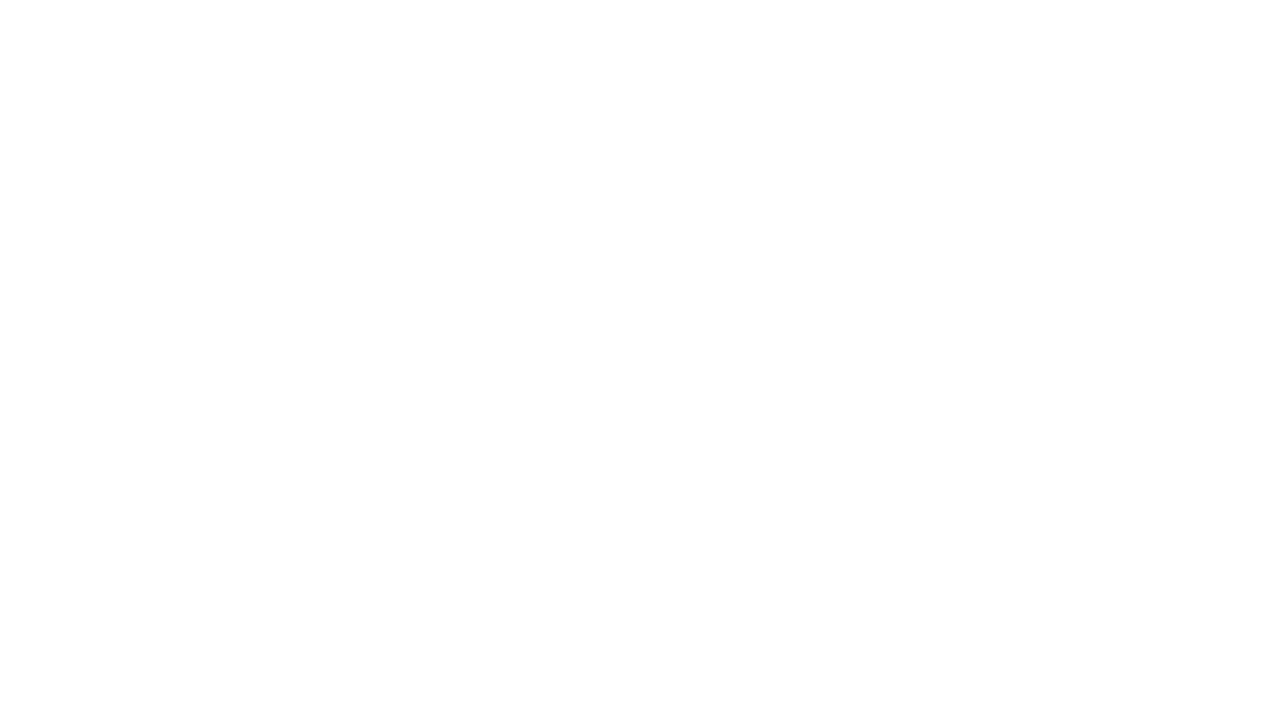
**Lecture - 02**

**Parts of Speech - Nouns**

Hello, friends. So, we will start with talking about Word classes. So, words, what are words? We will see, we will understand; but just like that. What do you understand by the term word and what are word classes? Now, see every word that is used in our writing, in our communication, in our speaking, the things we read, and the things we listen to. They are all words and every word as a class. We will soon see what are word classes.

Now see, the idea is that all of you are doing your various technical courses, engineering courses. The idea is that you should be well versed with the categories of words before you move on to more advance level of written and spoken English. So, that is what we are here for. So, we start from the fundamentals. Now there are 8 kinds of or 8 different kinds of words or parts of speech as we call them, and broadly speaking, I am very sure you know these things; they are nouns, pronouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, propositions, determiners and linking words. You get your 8 parts of speech. Each word, every word that you hear or that you speak can be classified thus. So, it is very important to understand especially in academic kind of English that, how we are using these words.

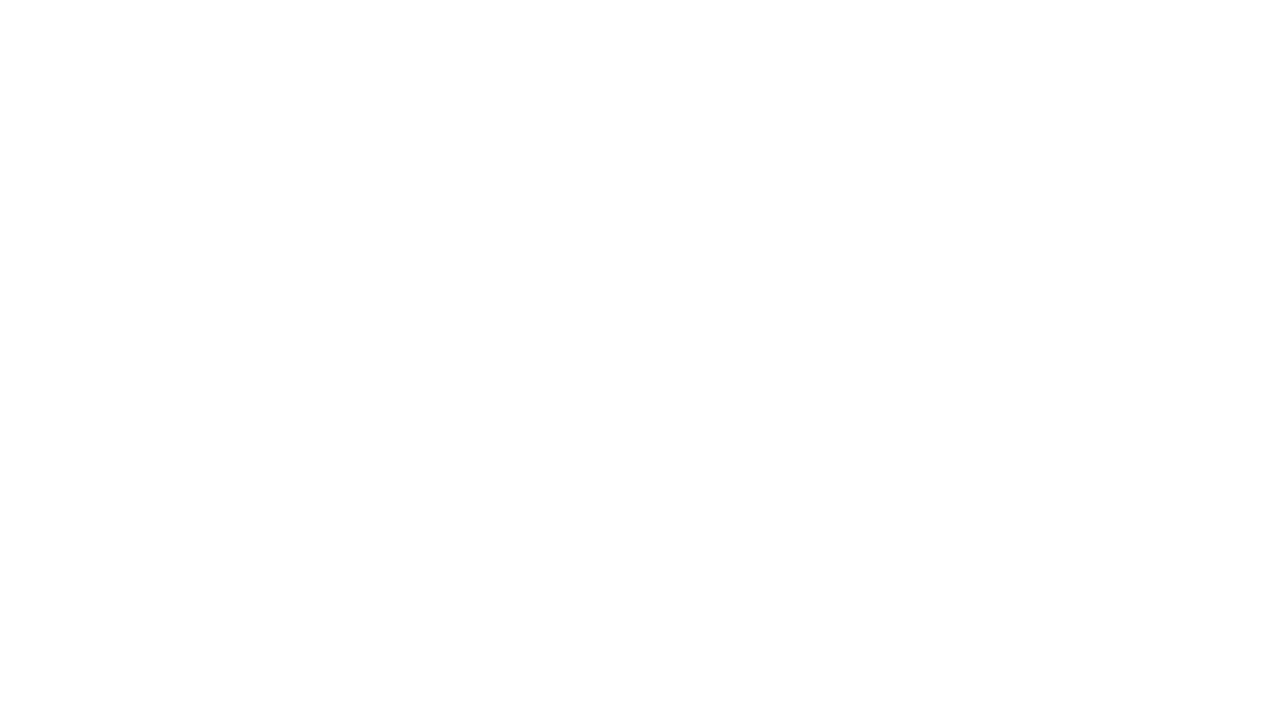
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Now, suppose I give you an example and you may take it down. Ram has an important meeting at work tomorrow so he is quite busy. I will repeat, Ram has an important meeting at work tomorrow, so he is quiet busy. Now where are the nouns? As you know, the definition a working definition of a noun is, noun is a name of a person, place or thing. So, Ram is a noun and Ram is a name and meeting also is a noun. Now, when I say I am meeting, so and so today then this becomes a kind of verb. However, when we say Ram is in a meeting today or I am in a meeting today it becomes a noun we have to understand the categories. So, same word can be used as different kinds of parts of speech. This is important to learn.

Now, Ram has an important meeting at work tomorrow; again remember that work is also a noun. The reason is in this context is a noun. He is at work, but if you say, he works hard, then is the main verb; again remember we do not say he works hardly that is a wrong usage of English or wrong use of English. We do not say he works hardly, hardly has a negative connotation. So, it was; he hardly worked, it means he did not work at all. But when we mean someone works hard it means he is really very good worker, hard worker; that is what we mean. He works hardly means; he does not work at all; that is a the difference. Coming to the verbs in this sentence, again let us go back to the sentence. Ram has an important meeting at work tomorrow so he is quite busy. Now 'is' and 'has' remember in the first part of the sentence 'has' is a verb in the second part of the sentence 'is' is a verb.

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We are going to see that, there is something called verb and the 'be' form, be. I will make it better the 'be' form is falls under this particular form. So, the 'be' form 'is' is a kind of verb has, have, had, these are verbs as well. Ram is the singular, therefore, has work. If boys are hard at work or boys have lot of work to do, then it becomes have; has and have, singular – plural. Now, an important meeting; 'an' is a determiner we will learn more about it. Now, important meeting we have already seen; meeting is a noun and important is something that adds to the meeting. What kind of a meeting? Not just casual meeting, not just any meeting is an important meeting. So, any thing that adds or that qualifies a noun becomes your adjective.