

Lecture 2

Review of English Grammar



CS 6320

Review of English Grammar

Outline

- Parts of speech
- Sentences
- Nouns and Pronouns
- Verbs
- Modifiers: Adjectives and Adverbs
- Prepositional phrases
- Complex sentences; clauses

Parts of speech 1/4

- **Noun** is a word that names something (*persons, animals, places, objects, substances, quantities, action, measures*).
- **Pronoun** is a word that replaces a noun, or even other sentence structures.
- **Verb** is the only part of speech that can make a statement about the subject. It is used to form predicates that are absolutely necessary to form a sentence.

The men work in the field.

The men are working in the field.

The men have been working in the field.

When a verb is composed of two or more words, it is called a verb phrase.

Parts of speech 2/4

- **Adjectives:** a word that adds a new idea to the nouns and pronouns. They are called modifiers since they modify (or change) the meaning slightly.

long road

rainy day

attractive hat

- **Articles:** *a, an, the* are articles (some people consider them adjectives)

the is definite article.

a, an are indefinite articles.

Parts of speech 3/4

- **Adverb:** a word that is added to a verb to expand the meaning of the verb. Adverbs are also called modifiers since they modify verbs. Adverbs are identified by answering the questions: "*when?*", "*where?*", "*how?*", "*in what manner?*", "*to what extent or degree?*"

Note: Adverbs may also modify adjectives or other adverbs.

You must set up the copy now.

He put the desk there.

Mary walks gracefully.

Sometimes I take a walk in the woods.

Jack usually leaves the house at seven.

I have always admired her.

Parts of speech 4/4

- **Prepositions** are words that show the relationship that exists between certain words in a sentences.

The accident occurred under the bridge.

- **Conjunctions** are words that are used to join other words or group of words.

and, or, but

- **Interjections** are exclamatory words.

Hey! Where have you been?

Note: POS ambiguities - The same word can be used as different parts of speech.

The [light]N in my study is bright.

Please [light]V the candles.

Her hat is a [light]ADJ. shade of blue.

The Sentence 1/3

- A sentence is a number of words that collectively express a complete thought. A sentence must have a subject and a predicate.

- Complete subject and complete predicate

My friend lives in NY.

The letter contains good news.

Both men are experienced salesmen.

- Simple subjects and simple predicates

The ambassador attended a conference.

The hero of the story had many adventures.

My friend in LA bought a car.

The Sentence 2/3

- Compound subjects and compound predicates

Corn and beans are growing in the valley.

I attended the lecture and took notes.

The boys and girls sang and danced.

The Sentence 3/3

- Kinds of sentences
 - Declarative: make a statement
 - Interrogative: ask a question
 - Imperative: give a command
 - Exclamatory: express strong feeling or sudden emotion
- Normal order and inverted order

We passed a number of army trucks, along the road.
Along the road we passed a number of army trucks.
- Expletive sentence

There was a heavy frost last night.
A heavy frost was last night.

Nouns and Pronouns 1/5

- **Kinds of nouns**

- Common nouns: *lake, general*
- Proper nouns: *Lake Michigan, General Eisenhower*

Note: In English all proper nouns begin with capital letters.

Nouns and Pronouns 2/5

■ Kinds of pronouns

- i. **Personal** - is a pronoun that refers to the person speaking, spoken to, or person or thing spoken of

First person: I, my, mine, me,
we, ours, us.

Second person: you, your, yours,
you, your, yours.

Third person: he, his, him, she, her, hers,
they, their, theirs, them.

Pronoun who: who, whose, whom.

The Academy revealed who won the prize.

Compound personal pronouns (or reflexive pronouns): myself, _ _ _

- ii. **Interrogative** - pronouns used to ask questions: who?, what?, which?

Who is the director?

What did they say about the paper?

Which is your car?

Nouns and Pronouns 3/5

- iii. **Demonstrative** - pronouns that point out definite persons, places, or things

this (these - plural)

that (those - plural)

This is my hat.

That is your book.

- iv. **Indefinite pronouns** - do not point to a particular place, person or thing:

all, any, anybody, each, each one, few, nobody, somebody, something, ...

- v. **Relative pronoun** - is a pronoun that joins the clause which introduces its own attachment.

Relative: who, which, that, what

Compound relative: whoever, whichever, whatsoever

She is the girl who won the race .

This is the dog that was lost .

Nouns and Pronouns 4/5

■ Pronouns used as adjectives

i. **Possessive** forms of pronouns

These are her gloves. (adjective)

I bought their home. (adjective)

ii. **Demonstrative** adjectives

This camera belongs to jack.

Those apples are delicious.

iii. **Indefinite** adjectives

Each girl carried a flag.

Several cars were ruined.

iv. **Interrogative** adjectives

What newspaper does he read?

Which play did you like best?

Nouns and Pronouns 5/5

- **Pronoun agreements** - Pronouns have to agree in gender, number and person with the noun it refers to

Gender

masculine: *he, him, father, king.*

feminine: *he, her, sister, princess.*

common: *child, adult, cousin, neighbor.*

neuter: *table, book, dress.*

Margaret attended her class reunion. (singular, feminine, 3rd person)

- **Cases of nouns and pronouns** - In English there are only three cases:

nominative case: the case of the subject

The door is open.

objective case: the case of the object

I closed the door.

possessive case: the case that shows ownership

I saw a bug at the edge of the door.

Verbs 1/2

- **Transitive and intransitive verbs**

Some verbs are both transitive and intransitive.

A transitive verb requires a direct object.

She refused the invitation.

I have seen Mary last night.

- **Direct object** is found with questions: *what? or whom?*

An intransitive verb does not require a direct object.

Some verbs are both transitive and intransitive.

The ship sailed the seas. (transitive)

The ship sails at noon. (intransitive)

I met my friend at the airport. (transitive)

The delegates met yesterday. (intransitive)

Verbs 2/2

- **Indirect object** indicates to whom the action is directed or for whom the action is performed

The librarian read the children a story.

Give him five dollars.

Note: An indirect object usually precedes a direct object if there is one.

- **Linking verb:** to be

It is used for the verbs that do not describe actions.

He is ill.

He was an aviator.

Linking verbs always requires a compliment to make a predicative.

Tenses 1/2

The basic tenses:

Tense	The Verb Sequence	Example
Simple present	simple present	He walks to the store.
Simple past	simple past	He walked to the store.
Simple future	<i>will</i> + infinitive	He will walk to the store.
Present perfect	<i>have</i> in present + past participle	He has walked to the store.
Future perfect	<i>will</i> + <i>have</i> in infinitive + past	I will have walked to the store.
Past perfect	<i>have</i> in past + past participle	I had walked to the store.

Tenses 2/2

The progressive tenses:

Tense	Structure	Example
Present progressive	<i>be</i> in present + present participle	He is walking.
Past progressive	<i>be</i> in past + present participle	He was walking.
Future progressive	<i>will</i> + <i>be</i> in infinitive + present participle	He will be walking.
Present perfect progressive	<i>have</i> in present + <i>be</i> in past participle + present participle	He has been walking.
Future perfect progressive	<i>will</i> + <i>have</i> in present + <i>be</i> as past participle + present participle	He will have been walking.
Past perfect progressive	<i>have</i> in past + <i>be</i> in past participle + present participle	He had been walking.

In progressive forms – action is continuing.

Voice 1/2

- **Voice** indicates whether the subject of sentence is acting or is receiving the action expressed by the verb

John washed the car. (active)

The car was washed by John. (passive)

Notes:

- Passive voice is recognized when auxiliary verb *be* plus a past participle of a main verb forms the predicate.
- Active voice is usually preferred to the passive voice.

Voice 2/2

- **Mood (or mode)** indicates the manner in which the verb expresses the action or state of being
 - i. **Indicative mood** makes a statement
The secretary wrote the memo.
 - ii. **Imperative mood** expresses a command
Come here!
 - iii. **Subjective mood** expresses a wish or a condition contrary to a fact
If he were here, I would give him the key.
I wish I were in California.

Agreement of subject and verb

- The verb must agree with its subject in person and number
He does not know the answer. (3rd person singular)
- Difficulties occur with compound subjects, and other subjects
Bacon and eggs is a popular combination. (here bacon and eggs form one unit)
His companion and friend is very devoted to him. (same person)
Ten miles is a long distance. (quantity is singular)
Half of the boys are in camp. (number of individuals)
Half of the pie is left. (a section)
A number of men were working on the same project.
The number of men present was small.

Prepositional Phrases (PP)

- **Prepositional Phrases (PP)** - Definition: In grammar, a phrase is a group of words without a subject or predicate that functions as a single part of speech.
 - PP consists of a preposition and its object. Sometimes the noun which serves as the object of the preposition has modifiers.

I walked [down the winding street]PP.

The girl [with red hair]PP is an artist.
 - The syntactic role of a PP is either adverb or adjective.

Adjective Phrase

- **Adjective phrase** is a PP that modifies a noun or a pronoun

The man at the gate sold us tickets.

We followed the path near the river.

She wore a hat with blue trimming.

The accident on the bridge was serious.

The injured man seemed in pain.

(Here *seem* is the linking verb – *as is in the pain*. PP follows linking verb, and is an adjective phrase)

Adverbial Phrase

- **Adverbial phrase** is a PP that modifies a verb, an adjective or an adverb

I shall return at noon.

The sailor was working on the deck.

Tell the story in your own words.

*In compliance with his request we closed the account. (*in compliance with* is a compound preposition)*

Clauses 1/10

- **A clause is a group of words that has a subject and a predicate.**
 - i. Independent clauses (or main clauses) - when they can stand alone
 - ii. Dependent clauses (or subordinate) - that can not stand alone

[The officer blew the whistle] and [the car stopped].
(these are two independent clauses; each can form an independent sentence)

The car stopped [when the officer blew the whistle].
(this is a subordinate or dependent clause)

Clauses 2/10

- **Compound sentence** has two or more independent clauses

John joined the navy, but Harry joined the Marines.

John joined the navy; Harry joined the Marines.

John joined the navy but Harry joined the Marines.

Note the punctuation: “,but”, “;”, “but”.

Mary cooks, sews, and sings. (this is a simple sentence with the compound predicate)

Mary cooks and sews, and she sings. (this is a compound sentence with the two clauses)

Clauses 3/10

- Sometimes transitional words are used in compound sentence instead of conjunctions

Examples: besides, consequently, yet, hence, thus, that is, as a result, nevertheless, etc.

The road was unpaved; nevertheless, we drove in the rain.

We can not get materials; consequently, we can not finish the job.

Clauses 4/10

- **Complex sentence** is a sentence that consists of one independent clause and one or more subordinate clauses.

A subordinate clause is less important than an independent clause or the principal clause.

A subordinate clause has verb and subject, but can not stand alone. Subordinate clauses are usually introduced by a subordinate conjunction or by a relative pronoun.

Kinds of subordinate clauses:

- Adjective clauses
- Adverbial clauses
- Noun clauses

Clauses 5/10

- **Adjectival clauses** are introduced usually by relative pronouns

John brought the books that you ordered.

Man who are thinkers look for facts.

Restrictive and nonrestrictive clauses

A restrictive clause identifies the word it modifies. Restricted clauses are necessary to the meaning of the sentence.

Note the absence of commas.

I spoke to the woman who was giving the demonstration.

I dislike driving in a town where there are no stop signals.

Clauses 6/10

A nonrestrictive clause is a subordinate clause that is not essential to the meaning of the sentence.

Dr. Miller, who lived next door, moved to Chicago.

Father, who was working in the garden, missed the broadcast.

- **Adverbial clauses** function in the same way as the adverbs. They are usually introduced by subordinate conjunctions.

We listened to the radio because we wanted to hear the news. (this is an adverbial clause - modifies listened)

She will find the telegram on her desk when she returns.

Examples of subordinate conjunctions: *after, although, as if, as long as, because, while*, etc.

Note:

after is a conjunction with sense "*after in time*"

after is a preposition with sense "*after the cover*"

Clauses 7/10

- **Adverbial clauses of degree**

Jane practiced so long that she became tired.

This is an adverbial clause of degree - if modifies the adverb *so*.

Harold made such a poor sales record that he lost his position.

- **Adverbial clauses of comparison**

I am younger than he. (is young)

The words *is young* are omitted, *he* is the subject of adverbial clause.

Clauses 8/10

- **Noun clauses** are not used as modifiers; they perform the functions that a noun performs.

- The function of the subject of a sentence

What the chairman proposed was not practical.

That their house is for sale is a well-known fact.

- The role of a direct object

I hope that you will be promoted.

Tell the manager why you are leaving.

These are the noun clauses that perform the role of a direct object. Note that they are not adverbial clauses because they answer to the question *what*?

Recall that adverbs answer the questions *how? when? where? to what extent or degree?*

Clauses 9/10

- **Predicate noun clauses**

The rumor was that he had left the city.

This is that we agreed to do.

These are predicate noun clauses because they follow the linking verb *to be* with the subject. They have the same meaning as the subject.

- **Noun clauses that act as objects of a preposition**

Give the message to whoever is in the office.

We did not agree about what the doctor ordered.

- **Noun clauses as appositives**

Appositives are words placed near other words to explain them.

Clauses 10/10

Examples of appositives:

Mike, our janitor, is very accommodating.

We called Dr. Hughes, a famous scientist.

My brother Andrew is in London.

The rumor that John would be elected spread rapidly.

The fact that the contract was signed was important.

These are noun phrases not adjective phrases. Note that they do not modify the nouns, instead are used as appositions.