

# Linguistic levels of structure

Sound



Phoneme

ð i: z b ju: t ə f ŭ l w i m i n s ə d w i: w ɜ: t r u: m ə n

Morpheme

These beauti-ful women said we were true men

Word

These beautiful women said we were true men

Phrase

These beautiful women said: "We were true men."

Clause

C(These beautiful women said: "C(We were true men.)")

Sentence

These beautiful women said: "We were true men."

Meaning

?

# Word structure

	Prefix (Optional)	Root / Stem (Required)	Suffix (Optional)	
Happy		Happy		
Unhappy	Un-	happy		
Happily		Happi	-ly	Suffixes can require some spelling changes in root
Unhappily	Un-	happi	-ly	Prefix and suffix can be added together
Industry		Industry		
Industrial		Industri	-al	
Industrialize		Industri	-al-ize	More than 1 suffixes can be added
Industrialization		Industri	-al-iz-ation	
Change		Change		
Non-interchange	Non-inter-	change		More than 1 prefixes can be added

Lists of common: [prefixes](#), [roots & prefixes](#), [suffixes](#)

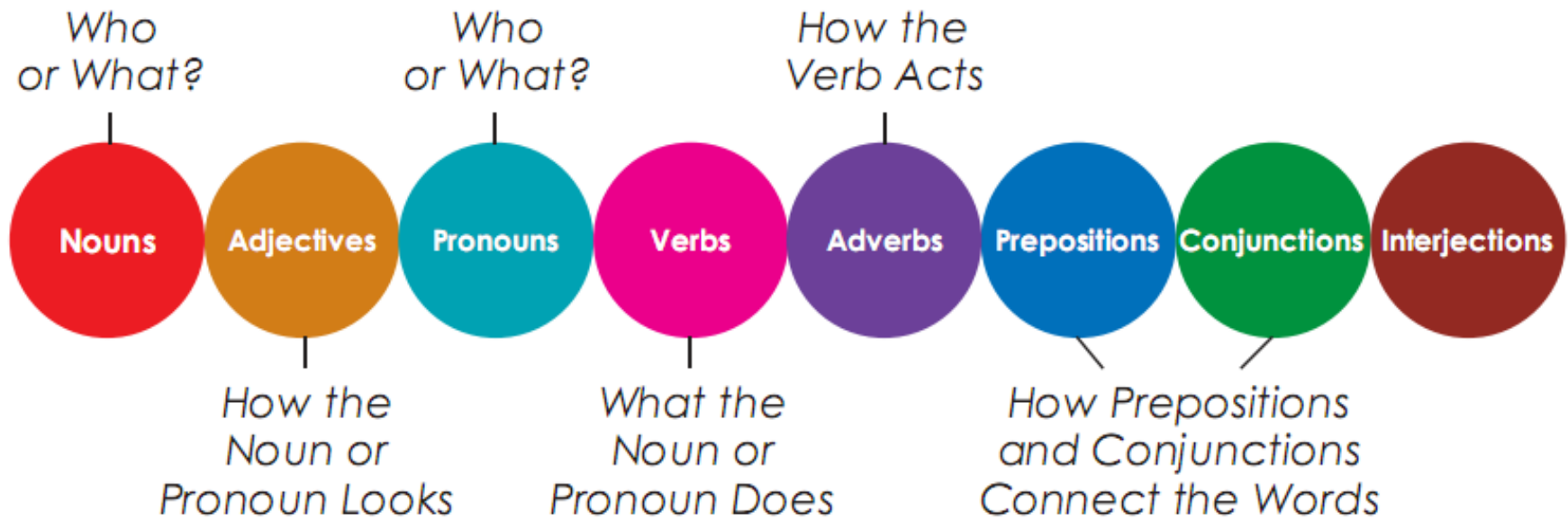
# Small test

- Analyze the structure of these words: players, worker, working, inputting, output, thrilling, interestingly, amazed, amazingly, academy, unacademic, academically

# Word classes

- Old term: Parts of speech
  - Refers to the role that certain words play in a language
- New term: Word classes
  - Refers to classes of words that have some characteristic or other in common

# Way 1: Parts of speech



Traditional way

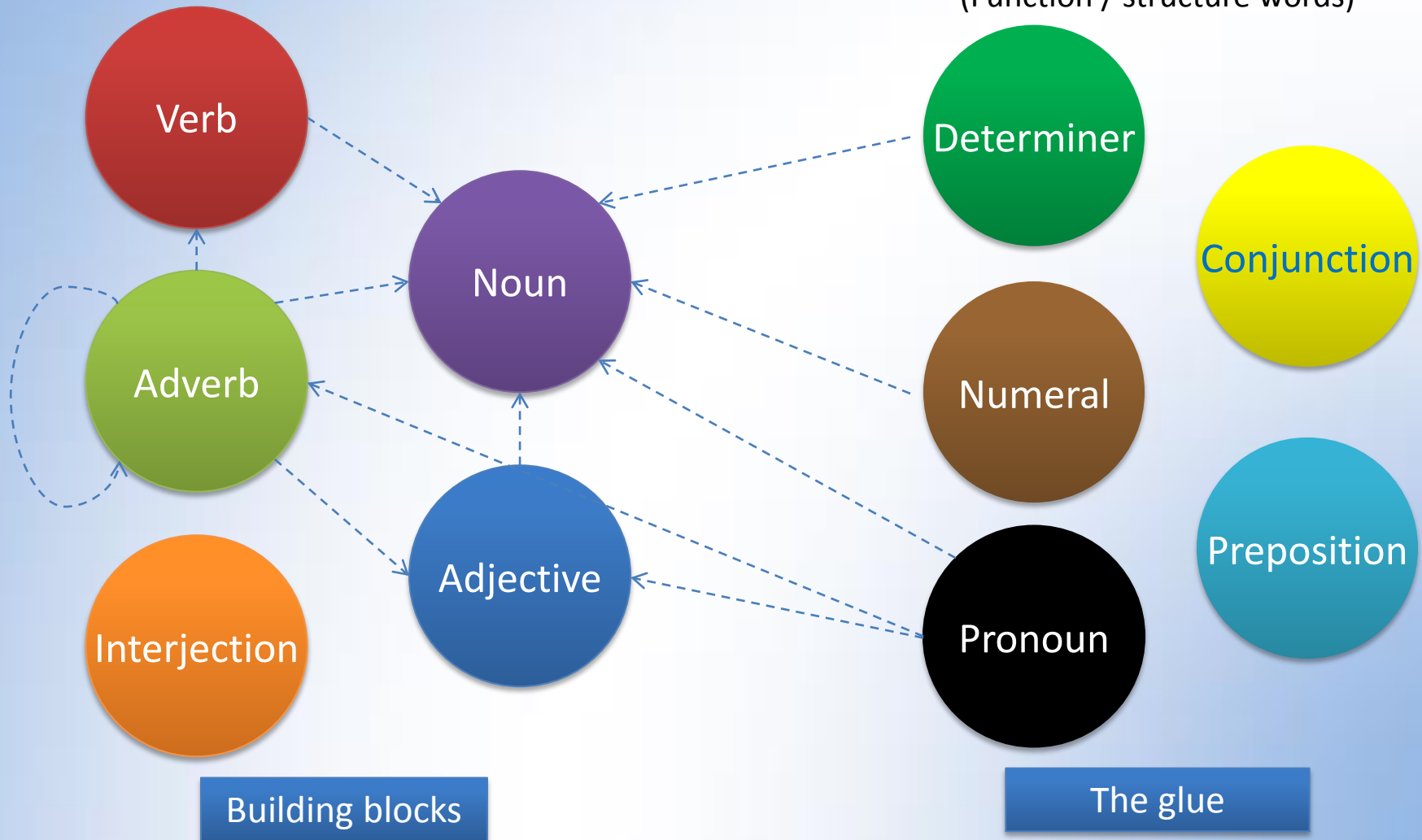
# Way 2: Word classes

## Open class

(content / lexical / autosemantic words)

## Closed class

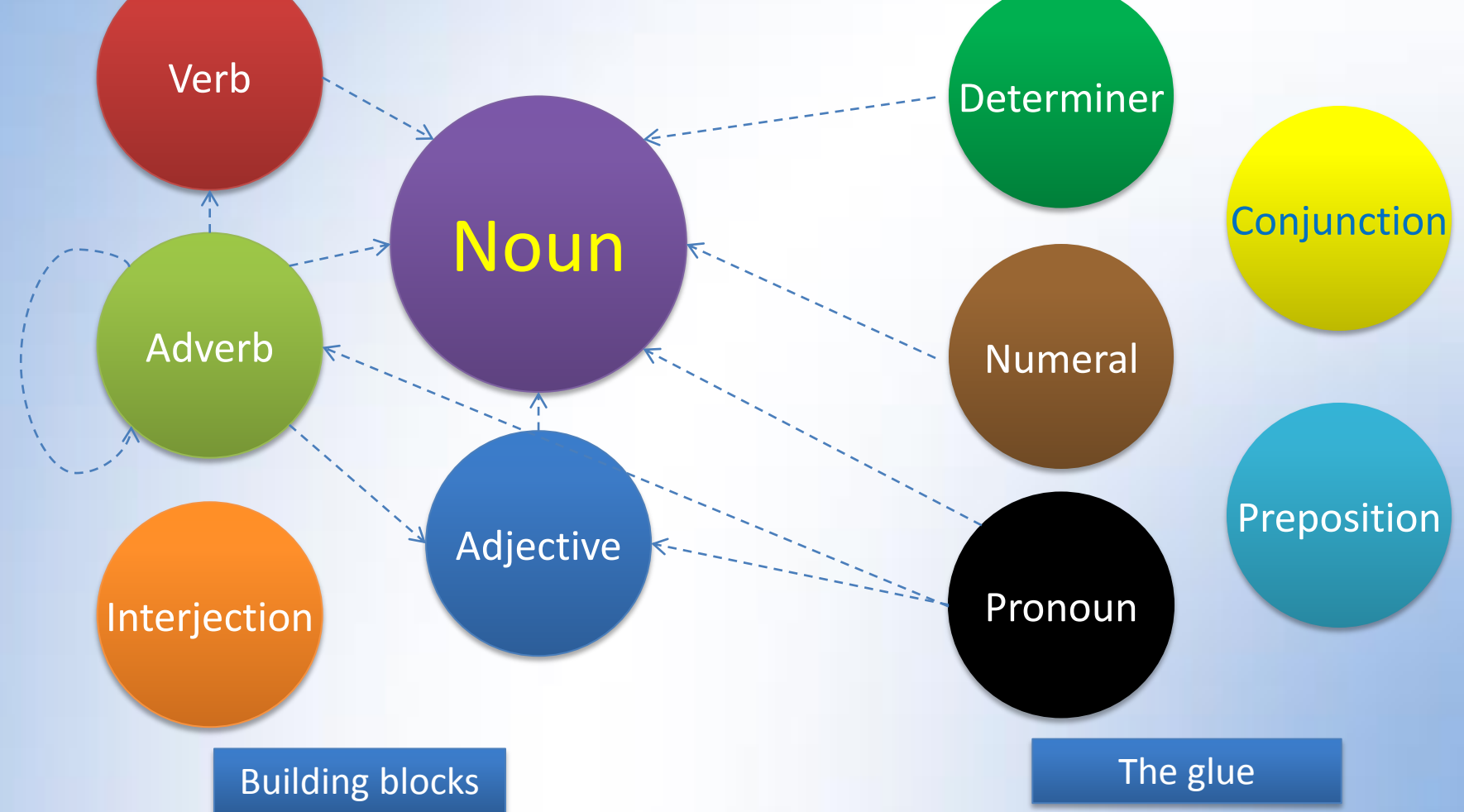

(Function / structure words)



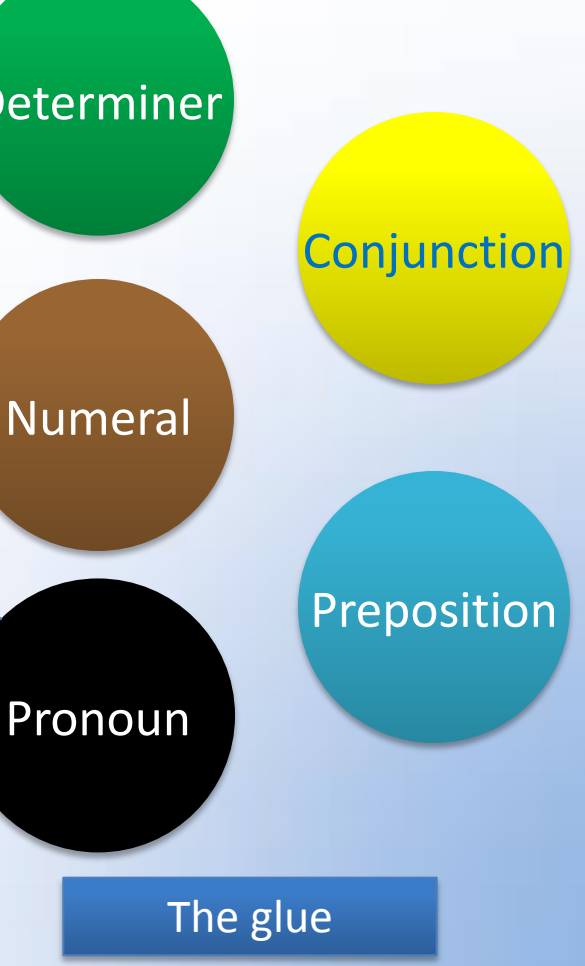
- Identify the word classes in these sentences
  - Tom loves Jerry like a cat loves a mouse.
  - Click on the left mouse button.
  - He likes to climb up mountains. What is wrong with that?
  - Gosh, we really envy you!
  - What a beautiful Christmas tree!
  - Tell me what happened, and I will give you what money I have.

## Word classes

(content / lexical / autosemantic words)



(Function / structure words)





# Nouns



Susan

## **Proper**

Unique things

Proper nouns label specific people, places, or things. The first letter must be capitalized.



school

## **Common**

Other things

Common nouns label general groups, places, people, or things.

A noun refers to **'things'** in the broadest sense (*person, place, thing, idea, quality, action, etc.*). If we have a noun for something, it implies that we view it as a 'thing'.

# Common nouns



hamburger

**Concrete**  
Perceivable

Concrete nouns label things experienced through the senses of sight, hearing, taste, smell, and touch.



love

**Abstract**  
Others

Abstract nouns label things not knowable through the senses.

See:

- A sample list:

<http://users.tinyonline.co.uk/gswithenbank/collnoun.htm>

- Origin:

<http://www.englishleap.com/grammar/collective-nouns>

- Agreements: [here](#)

A noun can belong to more than one group.

E.g. *suntan lotion* is both a common and a concrete noun, as well as a compound noun.



family

**Collective**

Collective nouns label groups as a unit.



suntan lotion

**Compound**

Compound nouns label a single concept composed of two or more words.

# Common nouns

## COUNTABLES



## UNCOUNTABLES



A noun can be classified as **countable** or **uncountable (mass)**.

- Some nouns may be **both** depending on the context. *E.g. I want some cake. and I have 6 cakes.*
- Some mass nouns can be used as countable nouns to mean '**a number of kind/portion of objects**'. *E.g. five cheeses, a beer.*
- Mass nouns like **flour** and **bread** can only be made countable by prefixing some expression of measurement. *E.g. six spoonful of flour.*



# Small test

**Grammar Check Up**

*Countable or Uncountable?*

1 books

2 alien

3 time

4

5 children

6 luggage

7 grapes

8 food

9 homework

10 balloon

11 rain

12 gas

13 astronaut

14 paint

15 flowers

16 sunshine

**countable nouns**

**uncountable nouns**

**Rx** Comes in singular and plural form

**Rx** Only comes in singular form

Decide if the nouns are countable or uncountable.

Write them under the correct category.

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# Noun forms

Nouns carry information about *number*. When a word refers to one person or thing, it is singular in number. When it refers to more than one of the same type of thing, it is plural in number.

One



Singular

More Than One



Plural

**The *number* of a noun is indicated by its ending.  
The final letters of a noun determine  
how its plural is formed.**

# Noun forms

The plural of most nouns is formed by adding **-s**.



ball



ball**s**

For nouns ending in **s**, **x**, **z**, **sh**, and **ch**, add **-es**.



watch



watch**es**

# Noun forms

Nouns ending in **f** or **fe** form their plurals by changing the **f** or **fe** to **v** and adding **-es**.



wife

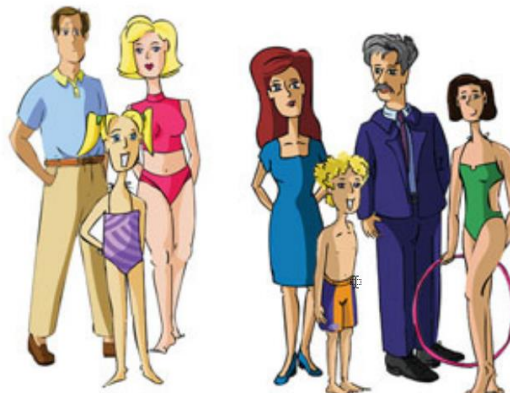


wi**ves**

Nouns ending in **y** form their plurals by changing the **y** to **i** and adding **-es**.



family



famil**ies**

Take a look at other noun endings to discover other irregular noun plurals. See:

<http://www.edufind.com/english-grammar/plural-nouns/>

- What is the plural form of these nouns?
  - Boat, house, cat, wish, pitch, box, penny, spy, city, club, baby, watch, sky, hatch
  - Woman, man, child, foot, leaf, half, knife, wife, potato, thesis, focus, datum, mouse
  - Sheep, fish, deer, species, aircraft
  - News, athletics, linguistics, darts, billiards
  - Trousers, jeans, scissors



# Small test

- Are uncountable nouns always singular?
- Are collective nouns always plural?

# Any question?

