

Parts of Speech

What Are Parts of Speech?

In language, parts of speech are words which are based on their function in a sentence. A part of speech is also sometimes known as a word class.

According to Wikipedia: *'In traditional grammar, a part of speech (PoS or POS) is a category of words (or, more generally, of lexical items) that have similar grammatical properties. Words that are assigned to the same part of speech generally display similar syntactic behavior—they play similar roles within the grammatical structure of sentences—and sometimes similar morphology in that they undergo inflection for similar properties.'*

There are eight parts of speech in English: [Nouns](#), [Pronouns](#), [Adjectives](#), [Verbs](#), [Adverbs](#), [Prepositions](#), [Conjunctions](#), And [Interjections](#). Each shows the function of the word as well as how it is used grammatically in the sentence.

Nouns



Definition: A noun is a word that functions as the NAME of something. It identifies people, places, or things. It is the most common class of words in English.

COMMON <i>Used to name people, places or things in GENERAL. It refers to the class or type of person or thing (without being specific). Examples: girl, city, animal, house, food</i>	vs	PROPER <i>Used to name a SPECIFIC (or individual) person, place or thing. Proper nouns begin with a capital letter. Examples: John, London, Pluto, France</i>
COUNTABLE <i>Have a singular and a plural form and can be used with a number or a/an before it. They are sometimes called Count Nouns Examples: car, desk, cup, house, bike</i>	vs	UNCOUNTABLE <i>Cannot be counted. They often refer to substances, liquids, and abstract ideas. They are sometimes called Mass Nouns. Examples: wood, milk, air, happiness</i>
CONCRETE <i>Refer to people or things that exist physically and that at least one of the senses can detect. Examples: dog, tree, apple, moon, sock</i>	vs	ABSTRACT <i>Have no physical existence. They refer to ideas, emotions and concepts you cannot see, touch, hear, smell or taste. Examples: love, time, fear, freedom</i>
COMPOUND <i>Two or more words that create a noun. They can be written as one word, joined by a hyphen or written as separate words. Examples: rainfall, son-in-law, credit card</i>		COLLECTIVE <i>Refer to a set or group of people, animals or things. They are often followed by OF + PLURAL NOUN (e.g. bunch of flowers) Examples: team, pile, stack, flock, bunch</i>

Pronouns

Pronouns are substitutes for nouns, taking the place of nouns that precede or follow them.

Pronouns make a sentence less awkward and less repetitive.

PERSONAL PRONOUNS	DEMONSTRATIVE PRONOUNS	INTERROGATIVE PRONOUNS	
<p>Used for a specific object or person.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subjective Case: I, We, You, They, He, She, It• Objective Case: Me, Us, You, Them, Him, Her, It• Possessive Case: My, Our, Your, Their, His, Her, Its	<p>Used to show or identify one or a number of nouns that may be far or near in distance or time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This• That• These• Those 	<p>Used to ask questions about a person or object that we do not know about.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who• Whom• Which• What• Whoever• Whichever	
RELATIVE PRONOUN	INDEFINITE PRONOUNS	REFLEXIVE AND INTENSIVE PRONOUNS	RECIPROCAL PRONOUN
<p>Used to join or relate two different clauses together by referring to the noun in the previous clause using the pronouns.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who• Which• Whom• That• Whose	<p>Used to show unspecified objects or people, whether in plural or in singular.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Someone• Few• Anybody• Many• Anyone• Nothing• Nowhere• ...	<p>Used to indicate a noun which has been used in an earlier part of the same sentence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Myself• Herself• Themselves• Himself• Yourself• Itself• Ourselves	<p>Used when two or more nouns are doing or being the same to one another.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each other• One another 

Adjectives

An adjective is a word that describes a [noun](#). There are two kinds of adjectives: attributive and predicative.

ADJECTIVES OF QUALITY
<p>Describe the nature of a noun</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> honest, kind, large, beautiful, ugly etc. <p>Savita is a beautiful woman</p>

ADJECTIVES OF QUANTITY
<p>Help to show amount or the approximate amount of the noun or the pronoun</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> all, half, many, few, little, enough etc. <p>They have finished most of the rice.</p>

ADJECTIVES OF NUMBER
<p>Show the number of nouns and their place in an order</p> <p>Definite Numeral – clearly denote an exact number of nouns or the order of the noun. one, two (cardinals), first, second (ordinals)</p> <p>Indefinite Numeral – do not give an exact numerical amount but just give a general idea of the amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> some, many, few, any, several, all, etc. <p>There were many people present at the meeting.</p> <p>Distributive Numeral – used to refer to individual noun within the whole amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> either, neither, each, another, other, etc. <p>Taxes have to be paid by every employed citizen.</p>

INTERROGATIVE ADJECTIVES

Used to ask questions about nouns or in relation to nouns

- where, what, which and whose

Which is your favorite author?

DEMONSTRATIVE ADJECTIVES

Used to point out or indicate a particular noun or pronoun using the adjectives

- this, that, these and those

That bag belongs to Neil.

ADJECTIVAL PHRASE

Group of words that describe a noun or pronoun in a sentence

The adjective phrase can be placed before, or after, the noun or pronoun in the sentence

- The trials for the games were **unbelievably difficult**.
- The **overly enthusiastic** students tried to impress the teacher.

1. A tree was situated in between the two dwellings and she couldn't see the other one from where she lived.

An oak tree blocked Sarah's view of the cottage from her house.

2. I have never been more sure of anything in my life.
I have never been surer of anything in my life.

Identify the noun in the sentence

3. Most of the calls to this company are placed on lengthy holds.
 - a) Most
 - b) Placed
 - c) Lengthy
 - d) **Holds**

Some examples:

1. Bachelor of Arts is a three-years degree course.
 - a) a three-years degree courses
 - b) a three years degree course
 - c) **a three-year degree course**
 - d) No improvement
2. Somesh gifted his sister many furnitures.
 - a) many furniture
 - b) **many pieces of furniture**
 - c) many pieces of furnitures
 - d) no improvement

3. Two-third of the member of parliament were agreed on this bill.

- a) **two-thirds of the members of parliament**
- b) two-thirds of the member of parliaments
- c) two-third of the members of parliament
- d) two-thirds of the member of parliament

4. The boy _____ fell of his bicycle has hurt his leg.

- a) **who**
- b) whom
- c) which
- d) not

5. The cabinet gave _____ vote.

- a) **their**
- b) its
- c) our
- d) your

6. This is the paragraph about the teacher is talking.

- a) that
- b) **which**
- c) whom
- d) not

7. Suddenly there arose a _____ storm.

- a) **violent**
- b) many
- c) great
- d) mammoth

Find the error:

8. He works very hard. It's not _____ that he's always tired. (**surprising**/surprised)

9.

- a) **He walked as faster**
- b) as he could so that
- c) he would not
- d) miss the train to work

10.

- a) My observation is that
- b) between Vivek and Shashi
- c) Vivek is
- d) **the most intelligent**