

### Introduction 0.1.3: Review of English Grammar

The purpose of this review is practical, therefore it is selective and unconventional.<sup>1</sup> We will use English as a springboard to understand the forms and the functions of Greek. There are eight types of words or parts of speech in English:

<i>Types</i>	<i>Examples and subtypes</i>	<i>What does each one do?</i>	<i>Which English parts of speech are variable (change their endings)?</i>
<i>noun</i>	<u>Peter</u> (proper name), <u>architect</u> , <u>book</u> , <u>hypothesis</u>	Nouns name persons, things, etc.	Nouns vary according to <b>number</b> : singular, plural
<i>adjective</i>	<u>new</u> plans, <u>higher</u> purpose <b>Demonstrative</b> : <u>this</u> house, <b>Possessive</b> : <u>our</u> Julian	Adjectives modify nouns. Sometimes they are used as nouns or "substantives": <u>the</u> <u>poor</u>	English adjectives are <b>invariable</b> , except for the <b>Demonstratives</b> , which vary according to <b>number</b> : plural <u>these</u> , <u>those</u>
<i>article</i>	<b>Definite</b> : <u>the</u> cat <b>Indefinite</b> : <u>a</u> / <u>an</u> idea	Articles may precede nouns, marking them as specific or general.	English articles are <b>invariable</b> (a/an is a phonetic alternance, not considered here)

Types	Examples and subtypes	What does each one do?	Which English parts of speech are variable (change their endings)?
pronoun	<b>Personal:</b> <u>we</u> walk <b>Demonstrative:</b> <u>this</u> is funny <b>Possessive:</b> <u>mine</u> is better <b>Relative:</b> Peter, <u>who</u> came to town, is my friend. <u>What</u> you say is wrong. A friend <u>that</u> harms you is your enemy.	Pronouns stand for nouns	<b>Personal pronouns</b> have <b>person</b> 1sg (I, we), 2nd (you), 3rd (he, she, it, they) and <b>number</b> (sg, pl). The sg 3rd person pronoun has <b>gender</b> : (he / she / it), and the masculine and feminine have <b>case</b> : he (Nominative) / him (Objective); she (Nominative) / her (Objective). <b>Possessive pronouns</b> vary according to <b>person</b> and <b>number</b> (of the possessor): mine / ours; they show the possessor's <b>gender</b> only in the 3rd person: The mistake is <u>hers</u> <b>Relative pronouns:</b> <u>who</u> has <b>case</b> : <u>whom</u> (Objective); <u>whose</u> (Possessive or Genitive).
verb	<b>Linking:</b> to be, to become, to seem All other verbs: <b>Predicative:</b> <sup>2</sup> <b>Transitive:</b> to write (because something, expressed or not, is written) <b>or Intransitive:</b> to live (yet many intransitive verbs may be used transitively, as in "live a noble life," and v/v)	Verbs express actions, states, or conditions.	<b>Verbs have person</b> : 1sg (I, we), 2nd (you), 3rd (he, she, it, they); <b>number</b> : singular and plural; <b>mood</b> : Indicative (statement), Imperative (command), etc. ; and <b>voice</b> : Active (she loves), Passive (she is loved)
adverb	soon, more, happily	Adverbs modify a verb, an adjective, or another adverb	Adverbs are <b>invariable</b>

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<i>preposition</i>	on, after, without, etc.	Prepositions connect a noun or a pronoun (called their "object") <sup>3</sup> with another part of the sentence. This combination is a "prepositional phrase."	Prepositions are <b>invariable</b> , but if a preposition takes a personal pronoun that has a different form for the Objective case, this pronoun must be in the Objective case: with us (rather than "with we")
<i>conjunction</i>	and, but, or ( <b>Coordinating</b> ) because, until, if ( <b>Subordinating</b> )	Conjunctions connect words or groups of words. They may join clauses or sentences either on the same level or making one dependent on the other.	Conjunctions are <b>invariable</b>

### Notes

1 If you are learning or relearning these terms from scratch, I suggest that you postpone the consideration of English pronoun subtypes, of participle, gerund, or anything else that is not immediately clear. Return to this chart for reference as the parallel Greek parts of speech are discussed in the course.

2 This is not a commonly used term. I find it useful as an umbrella to include all the verbs in the language that are not linking verbs.

3 We will not call the object of a Greek preposition its "object," to avoid confusion with the direct object of the verb.