

Parts of Speech Table

Part of Speech	Function or Job	Example Words	Example Sentences
Verb	A verb is an action word that tells of the subject's action.	have, do, like, work, sing	Judy ran down the street. I enjoy taking English classes.
	Linking verbs do not show action. They identify, describe, or classify the subject.	is, are, was, were, feel, look	That was a good movie. Jane is my friend.
	Helping verbs indicate time, capability, and possibility. They are usually used as part of a two-or three- or four-part verb.	can, could have, has, had, do, does	You can plan your trip today.
			Jose should have done well on the test.
Noun	A noun names a person, place, thing, or idea. The two types of nouns are <i>common</i> and <i>proper</i> .		
	Common nouns refer to one or more of a group of common objects. They may be singular or plural, and they are not capitalized unless they are at the beginning of a sentence.	man, dog, street	This is my dog . He lives in my house . We live in the city .
	Proper nouns are particular names, denoting a person or thing different from the common group. A proper noun begins with a capital letter.	Mr. Smith, Rover, Main Street	Their business is located on Main Street. Tucker, Kelly's dog, chews on everything. Mr. Garcia owns a grocery store.

Some of the information in this handout comes from *The Bedford Handbook* by Diana Hacker and Nancy Sommers, *The St. Martin's Handbook* by Andrea A. Lunsford, and "Parts of Speech" by Trend Enterprises.

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Adjective	An adjective is used to describe or modify a noun or a pronoun. There are generally two classes of adjectives.		
	Descriptive adjectives tell more about the noun or pronoun to which they refer.	big, small, red, thin, tall, messy	Her husband is very tall . The huge rock rolled down the hill.
	Limiting adjectives restrict the meaning of the noun or pronoun, usually through a number or the use of articles.	one baseball a pair of shoes the red car	The cowboy bought a pair of boots. One owl sat in the tree.
Adverb	An adverb is used to describe or modify a verb, an adjective, or another adverb. Most words ending in "ly" are adverbs, but a great number of adverbs do not in "ly." Adverbs tell how, when, where, how much, or they qualify a verb by specifying a number or degree.	quickly, silently, well, badly, very, really	He ate the sandwich quickly. The robber came into the room silently. Sandra did very well on the test.
Pronoun	A pronoun is a word used in place of a noun, usually to avoid the confusing repetition of nouns. There are several different types of pronouns.	Pronouns as Subjects I, you, he, she, it, we, they, who	She is a lovely lady. They attended the baseball game.
		Pronouns as Objects me, you, him, her, it, us, them, whom	The girl gave him a gift. Julia is generous with me. The students took them on a tour of the campus.
		Possessive pronouns my, mine, your, yours, his, her, hers, it, its, our, ours, their, theirs, whose	That shiny, red car is mine. May I borrow your book? That is their new house.
		Relative pronouns who, which, what, that	Joe, who lives next door, is graduating next week. The dog, that is barking, is missing its owner. The novel, which is on the table, is very good.

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Preposition	A preposition shows a relationship between words in a sentence. There are prepositions of time, space, and place.	to, at after, on, over, behind, during, under, between, through, beside, beneath, up, until.	We went to school on Monday. He threw the ball over her head. He proposed to her during dinner.
Coordinating Conjunction (FANBOYS)	Coordinating conjunctions, also known as FANBOYS, are used to connect two independent clauses to make a compound sentence.	For, And, Nor, But, Or, Yet, So	I like dogs, and I like cats. Sue wanted to go to the movies, but she didn't have any money. Fred passed the class, so he went out to celebrate.
Subordinating Conjunction	Subordinating conjunctions are used to show a relationship between a dependent clause (subordinate clause) and an independent clause. Adding a dependent clause (or clauses) to an independent clause, creates a complex sentence.	when, although, while, since, after, as soon as, because, in order that, even though, unless,	As soon as I finish my homework, I will eat dinner. She was late to class because her car wouldn't start. Even though Juan thought anthropology was difficult, he passed the class.
Interjection	An interjection is a word used to express sudden or strong feeling. It usually stands alone and need not have grammatical connections with other words in a sentence.	Oh!, Ouch!, Hi!, well	Ouch! That hurts! Hi! How are you? Well, I don't know.