

Introducing the Eight Parts of Speech

English grammar uses words based on eight parts of speech: the **verb**, the **noun**, the **pronoun**, the **adjective**, the **adverb**, the **preposition**, the **conjunction**, and the **interjection**. Each part of speech explains not what the word is, but how the word is used. The same word can be a noun in one sentence and a verb or adjective in the next.

The **verb** is perhaps the most important part of the sentence. A verb or compound verb states something about the subject of the sentence. The verb depicts actions, events, or states of being. (work, feel, be, have, study...)

A **noun** is a word used to name a person, animal, place, thing, or abstract concepts. A noun can function in a sentence as a subject, a direct object, an indirect object, a subject complement, an object complement, an appositive, an adjective or an adverb. (john, dog, park...)

Pronouns as a part of speech can replace a noun, another pronoun, noun phrases and perform most of the functions of a noun. (he, she, it, his, her, their...)

An **adjective** modifies a noun or a pronoun by describing, identifying, or quantifying words. Many consider articles: "the, a, an" to be adjectives. (blue, big, tall, short...)

An **adverb** can modify a verb, an adjective, another adverb, a phrase, or a complete clause by indicating manner, time, place, cause, or degree. (well, carefully, suddenly...)

A **preposition** links nouns, pronouns and phrases to other words in a sentence. (on, in, by...)

Conjunctions link words, phrases, and clauses. (and, but, or...)

An **interjection** is a part of speech used to show or express emotion or illustrate an exclamation. (ha!, he!, ahh!...)