

LANGUAGE ARTS *parts of speech*

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| NOUN | A WORD THAT NAMES A PERSON, PLACE, THING, QUALITY, ACT OR FEELING. |
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Common nouns are general and do not refer to a specific person, location or object.

→ *Examples:* man, city, tonight, honesty, happiness

Proper nouns are capitalized and refer to a particular person, place or thing.

→ *Examples:* Reggie, Market Square Arena, Saturday

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| PRONOUN | A WORD THAT TAKES THE PLACE OF A NOUN. |
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Nominative Case Pronouns replace the subject of a sentence or clause.

→ *Examples:* She took the book. *He* is sitting at the desk. *We* are looking forward to visiting Chicago.

Objective Case Pronouns receive a verb's action or follow a preposition.

→ *Examples:* Please give *me* the papers. Timothy's outstanding service earned *him* the award.

Possessive Case Pronouns show ownership or possession.

→ *Examples:* The cougar escaped from *its* cage. *Their* car slid off the icy road.

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| VERB | A WORD THAT EXPRESSES ACTION OR A STATE OF BEING. IT ALSO INDICATES THE TIME OF ACTION OR STATE OF BEING. A VERB HAS DIFFERENT FORMS DEPENDING ON ITS NUMBER, PERSON, VOICE, TENSE AND MOOD. |
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Number indicates whether a verb is singular or plural.

The verb and its subject must agree in number.

→ *Examples:* One dog barked. *Two* dogs barked.

Person indicates whether the subject of the verb is 1st, 2nd or 3rd person and whether the subject is singular or plural. Verbs usually have a different form only in the *present tense*.

→ *Examples:*

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| | <i>Singular</i> | <i>Plural</i> |
| 1 st Person: | I stop. | We stop. |
| 2 nd Person: | You stop. | You stop. |
| 3 rd Person: | He/She/It stops. | They stop. |

Voice indicates whether the subject is the doer or the receiver of the action verb.

→ *Examples:* Cathy wrote the letter. (active voice)
The letter was written by Cathy. (passive voice)

Tense indicates when the action or state of being is taking place.

→ *Examples:* We *need* the information now. (present)
Reggie *shot* the ball. (past)
You *will enjoy* the school play. (future)

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| ADVERB | A WORD THAT DESCRIBES OR MODIFIES A VERB, AN ADJECTIVE OR ANOTHER ADVERB. AN ADVERB TELLS HOW, WHEN, WHERE, WHY, HOW OFTEN AND HOW MUCH. |
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→ *Examples:* The ball rolled *slowly* around the rim.
Soccer scores are reported *daily* in the newspaper.

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| ADJECTIVE | A WORD THAT DESCRIBES OR MODIFIES NOUNS AND PRONOUNS. ADJECTIVES SPECIFY COLOR, SIZE, NUMBER AND THE LIKE. |
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→ *Examples:* red, large, three, gigantic, miniature
Adjectives have three forms: **positive**, **comparative**, and **superlative**.

The **positive** form describes a noun or pronoun without comparing it to anything else.

→ *Example:* My apple pie is *good*.

The **comparative** form compares two things.

→ *Example:* Aunt Betty's apple pie is *better* than mine.

The **superlative** form compares three or more things.

→ *Example:* Mom's apple pie is the *best* of all!

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| PREPOSITION | A WORD (OR GROUP OF WORDS) THAT SHOWS HOW A NOUN OR PRONOUN RELATES TO ANOTHER WORD IN A SENTENCE. |
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→ *Examples:* The man walked *into* the gym.

The horse leaped *over* the fence.

Their team won the meet *in spite of* several players being injured.

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| CONJUNCTION | A WORD THAT CONNECTS INDIVIDUAL WORDS OR GROUPS OF WORDS. |
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Coordinating conjunctions connect a word to a word, a clause to a clause, or a phrase to a phrase. The sentence elements joined by a coordinating conjunction must be equal. Common

coordinating conjunctions are *and, but, or, nor, for, yet, so*.
Opposites or contrasting ideas joined in pairs are called **correlative conjunctions**. Common correlative conjunctions are: *either, or; neither, nor; not only, but also; both, and; whether, or*.

→ *Examples:* Rabbits and squirrels frequently invade our yard.
Neither Mary Ann *nor* Julie will be able to go with you.

Subordinating conjunctions connect and show the relationship between two clauses that are not equally important. Common subordinate conjunctions are: *until, unless, since, where, before, as, if, when, although, after, because, while, as long as, as if, though, whereas*.

→ *Examples:* *Until* you decide to study, your grades won't improve.

If I hadn't already made plans, I would have enjoyed going to the mall with you.

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| INTERJECTION | A WORD THAT IS USED IN A SENTENCE TO COMMUNICATE STRONG EMOTION OR SURPRISE. PUNCTUATION IS USED TO SEPARATE AN INTERJECTION FROM THE REST OF THE SENTENCE. |
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→ *Examples:* *Hooray!* We finally scored a touchdown.

Oh, no! I forgot the picnic basket.

Yes! Her gymnastic routine was perfect.

Ah, we finally get to stop and rest.

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