

Unit 1: The Parts of Speech

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Noun**—a person, place, thing, or idea

|         |         |           |         |
|---------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Person: | boy     | Kate      | mom     |
| Place:  | house   | Minnesota | ocean   |
| Thing:  | car     | desk      | phone   |
| Idea:   | freedom | prejudice | sadness |

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**Pronoun**—a word that takes the place of a noun.

Instead of... Kate – she car – it

A few other pronouns: he, they, I, you, we, them, who, everyone, anybody, that, many, both, few

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**Adjective**—describes a noun or pronoun

Answers the questions *what kind, which one, how many, and how much*

Articles are a sub category of adjectives and include the following three words: *a, an, the*

*old* car (what kind) *that* car (which one) *two* cars (how many)

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**Verb**—action, condition, or state of being

Action (things you can do)—think, run, jump, climb, eat, grow

Linking (or helping)—am, is, are, was, were

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**Adverbs**—describe verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs

Answers the questions *how, when, where, and to what extent*

Many words ending in “ly” are adverbs: quickly, smoothly, truly

A few other adverbs: yesterday, ever, rather, quite, earlier

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**Prepositions**—show the relationship between a noun or pronoun and another word in the sentence. They begin a prepositional phrase, which has a noun or pronoun after it, called the object.

Think of the box (things you have do to a box).

Some prepositions: over, under, on, from, of, at, through, in, next to, against, like

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**Conjunctions**—connecting words. Connect ideas and/or sentence parts. FANBOYS (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so)

A few other conjunctions are found at the beginning of a sentence: however, while, since, because -----

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**Interjections**—show emotion. Usually the first word(s) and are set off from the rest of the sentence by a comma (,) or exclamation point (!). A few interjections: wow, bam, gee, ha, aha, ouch

**HINT:** many people mix up pronouns and adjectives—think about how it is being used in the sentence!

Many girls went to the dance. (many is an adjective describing how many girls)  
Many went to the dance. (many is a pronoun, replacing the noun girls)

**HINT:** many people mix up adverbs and prepositions—think about how the word is used in the sentence!

I looked down. (down is an adverb describing where I looked)  
I looked down the river. (down is a preposition, starting the phrase down the river)

**HINT:** many people mix up adverbs and nouns—think about how the word is used in the sentence!

The test is tomorrow. (tomorrow is an adverb answering when the test is)  
Tomorrow will be beautiful! (tomorrow is a noun!)

# Noun

**A noun is a word that names a person, place, thing or idea.**

**George! Jupiter! Ice cream! Courage! Books! Bottles! Godzilla!** All of these words are **nouns**, words that identify the who's, where's, and what's in language. Nouns name people, places, and things. Read the sentence that follows:

**George** and **Godzilla** walked to **Papa John's** to order a large pepperoni **pizza**.

**George** is a person. **Papa John's** is a place. **Pizza** is a thing. **Godzilla** likes to think he's a person, is as big as a place, but qualifies as another thing.

|                 |             |            |          |
|-----------------|-------------|------------|----------|
| <b>Persons:</b> | John        | hunter     | audience |
| <b>Places:</b>  | theater     | Minnesota  | park     |
| <b>Things:</b>  | car         | television | hat      |
| <b>Ideas:</b>   | inspiration | joy        | freedom  |

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## **Common or Proper Nouns:**

A **common noun** is a general name for a person, place, thing, or idea. They are usually not capitalized unless they are at the beginning of a sentence.

A **proper noun** is the name of a particular person, place, thing, or idea. They are capitalized.

**Common:** actor, planet, month

**Proper:** Adam Sandler, Venus, November

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## **Concrete or Abstract Nouns:**

A **concrete noun** names a person, place, or thing that can be seen, heard, smelled touched, or tasted.

An **abstract noun** names an idea, quality or state.

|                  |       |         |             |              |
|------------------|-------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| <b>Concrete:</b> | bell  | skunk   | sand        | apple        |
| <b>Abstract:</b> | pride | sadness | uncertainty | independence |

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## **Singular or Plural Nouns:**

A **singular noun** names only one person, place, thing, or idea.

A **plural noun** names more than one person, place, thing, or idea.

|                  |        |      |          |
|------------------|--------|------|----------|
| <b>Singular:</b> | city   | foot | monster  |
| <b>Plural:</b>   | cities | feet | monsters |

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### Collective Nouns:

A collective noun names a group of people or things.

**Example:**      herd                      media                      pack

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### Compound Nouns:

A compound noun is a single noun that is formed by combining two or more words

**Example:**      footprint              doghouse              backpack

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### Possessive Nouns:

A possessive noun shows ownership or relationship.

**Example:**      hiker's boots                      Karen's car

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## VERBS

Express an action, condition, or state of being

**Types:**      **Action Verbs:** May be physical or mental (knocked / wanted)

**Linking Verbs:** Do not express an action—they link sentence parts together.

                 --Forms of to be: was, were, am, are, is, be, been, being (these stand alone)

                 --Express Condition: look, smell, feel, sound, taste, grow, appear, become, seem, remain

- Some verbs can be action or linking.

| Action                            | Linking                 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| We <i>felt</i> the seat cushions. | They <i>felt</i> dry.   |
| We <i>tasted</i> the popcorn.     | It <i>tasted</i> salty. |

**Helpful Hint:** If you can substitute =, *is*, *are*, *was*, or *were* for a verb, you know it is a linking verb.

### Linking Verb Sing

(Sing it to the tune of "London Bridge is Falling Down")

am, are, is, was, were, (and) be, forms of be, forms of  
be, taste, smell, sound, seem, look, feel, say become,  
grow, appear, remain.

## Helping Verbs

**Helping verbs** (also called auxiliary verbs) are combined with other verbs to form **verb phrases**. A verb phrase may contain one or more helping verb with an action verb. Some helping verbs don't even have an action verb with them—they indicate that an action is directed at the subject.

*am, is, are, was, were, be, being, been, have, has, had, do, does, did, can, could, shall, should, will, would, may, might, must*

*Examples:*

Sandra has a pair of Conga drums at home. (*helping verb acts as the main verb*) She

has practiced her drumming all summer. (*helping verb plus action verb*)

# Adjectives

An adjective modifies or limits the meaning of a noun or pronoun.

An adjective tells *what kind, which one, how many, Or how much.*

| What Kind            | Which One          | How Many             | How Much           |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| <b>famous</b> song   | <b>this</b> song   | <b>one</b> dollar    | <b>some</b> music  |
| <b>squeaky</b> noise | <b>that</b> way    | <b>three</b> tenors  | <b>more</b> room   |
| <b>green</b> light   | <b>these</b> words | <b>several</b> years | <b>less</b> energy |

Articles: The most common adjectives are the articles *a, an,* and *the.*

**Proper Adjectives:** These are formed from proper nouns.

They are capitalized and often end in *-n, -an, -ian, -ese,* and *-ish.*

Examples: *American* artists perform in international countries.

*Japanese* crowds fill Yokohama Stadium.

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## More ADJECTIVES...

Remember:

- \* Adjectives modify nouns and pronouns.
- \* Adjectives answer the questions *what kind, which one, how many, or how much.*
- \* Don't forget that articles (*a, an, the*) are always adjectives.
- \* The words *my, our, his, her,* and *their* are possessive pronouns, NOT adjectives!

# Adverbs

*An adverb modifies a verb, an adjective, or another adverb.*

Examples: We **instantly** recognized Beethoven's Fifth Symphony.

The famous notes rang out **quite clearly**.

The orchestra waited until the auditorium grew **completely** quiet.

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Where                 | The student orchestra stopped <b>here</b> during a national tour. |
| <b>When</b>           | Will they be returning <b>soon</b> ?                              |
| <b>How</b>            | Everyone played <b>magnificently</b> .                            |
| <b>To what extent</b> | The auditorium was <b>completely</b> full.                        |

\* Many adverbs are formed by adding -ly to adjectives. Sometimes the spelling changes because of this addition.

frequent + ly = **frequently** extreme + ly = **extremely** true + ly =

**truly** possible + ly = **possibly**

## *Other Commonly used Adverbs*

|                  |                  |             |                 |                |                 |
|------------------|------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| <b>afterward</b> | <b>fast</b>      | <b>low</b>  | <b>often</b>    | <b>today</b>   | <b>already</b>  |
| <b>forth</b>     | <b>more</b>      | <b>slow</b> | <b>tomorrow</b> | <b>also</b>    | <b>hard</b>     |
| <b>near</b>      | <b>sometimes</b> | <b>too</b>  | <b>back</b>     | <b>instead</b> | <b>next</b>     |
| <b>still</b>     | <b>yet</b>       | <b>even</b> | <b>late</b>     | <b>hot</b>     | <b>straight</b> |
| <b>far</b>       | <b>now</b>       | <b>long</b> | <b>then</b>     |                |                 |

An **intensifier** is an adverb that defines the degree of an adjective or another verb. Intensifiers always precede the adjectives or adverbs they are modifying.

Example: We were **rather** surprised that classical music is **still** popular.

## *Commonly used Intensifiers*

|                  |               |                 |             |              |             |
|------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| <b>extremely</b> | <b>most</b>   | <b>quite</b>    | <b>so</b>   | <b>truly</b> | <b>just</b> |
| <b>nearly</b>    | <b>rather</b> | <b>somewhat</b> | <b>very</b> | <b>more</b>  | <b>only</b> |
| <b>really</b>    | <b>too</b>    |                 |             |              |             |

## More ADVERBS...

Remember:

- \* Adverbs modify verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs.
- \* Adverbs answer the questions *where*, *when*, *how*, and *to what extent*.
- \* If a word is modifying/describing a noun or pronoun, it is an adjective, NOT an adverb!

## Pronouns (Personal and Possessive)

A pronoun is a word used in place of a noun or another pronoun.

The word that a pronoun stands for is called its antecedent. Ray said he hates getting up early for school.

Possessive Pronouns show ownership: Kara drove her car.

\*\*\*Look at the chart below too see all the personal and possessive pronouns. (Possessive are in parenthesis)

|               | Singular                                    | Plural                     |
|---------------|---|----------------------------|
| First Person  | I, me (my, mine)                            | We, us (our, ours)         |
| Second Person | You (your, yours)                           | You (your, yours)          |
| Third Person  | He, him, she, her, it (his, her, hers, its) | They, them (their, theirs) |

## Other Kinds of Pronouns

**Reflexive & Intensive**—these are formed by adding *–self* or *–selves* to personal pronouns

**Reflexive** reflects action back upon the subject. **Intensive** emphasizes a noun or pronoun in the same sentence.

Myself, yourself, himself, herself, itself, ourselves, yourselves, themselves

Donna prepared herself for a long day.

**Demonstrative**—point out SPECIFIC persons, places, ideas, or things.

this, these, that, those

The people at the end of the line will get better tickets than those at the end.

**Indefinite**—do not refer to specific persons, places, ideas, or things. It usually does not have an antecedent.

Another, anybody, anyone, anything, each, everybody, everyone, everything, much, neither, nobody, no one, nothing, one, somebody, someone, something, both, few, many, several, all, any, more, most, none, some

Several of the fans waited in the rain.

**Interrogative**—ask a question

Who, whom, whose, which, what

What is your favorite song?

**Relative**—is used to introduce dependent clauses (something that can't be a sentence alone)

Who, whom, whose, which, that

The seats that the students asked for were unavailable.

## Prepositions

A word that shows the relationship between a noun or pronoun and another word in the sentence.

### Commonly Used Prepositions

|         |         |        |            |            |
|---------|---------|--------|------------|------------|
| about   | before  | during | off        | toward     |
| above   | behind  | except | on         | under      |
| across  | below   | for    | onto       | underneath |
| after   | beneath | from   | out        | until      |
| against | beside  | in     | outside    | up         |
| along   | between | inside | over       | upon       |
| among   | beyond  | into   | since      | with       |
| around  | by      | like   | through    | within     |
| as      | despite | near   | throughout | without    |
| at      | down    | of     | to         |            |

**A preposition begins a prepositional phrase.** A prepositional phrase begins with a preposition and ends with a noun or pronoun, called the object of the preposition.

Note: You can have adjectives and adverbs in prepositional phrases, but NO VERBS!

Prepositions that consist of more than one word are **compound prepositions**.

### Commonly Used Compound Prepositions

|              |                |             |               |
|--------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|
| according to | by means of    | in place of | on account of |
| aside from   | in addition to | in spite of | out of        |
| because of   | in front of    | instead of  | prior to      |

# Conjunctions

*A conjunction connects words or groups of words.*

Coordinating Conjunctions **connect words or groups of words of equal importance in a sentence.**

Examples: Sonia **and** her friends watched the new music video.

The action started out at the beach, **but** the scene changed quickly.

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| and, but, for, nor, or, so, yet |
|---------------------------------|

**Correlative Conjunctions** are word pairs that serve to join words or groups of words.

Examples: You will **not only** hear your favorite song **but also** see the band.

**Either** the music **or** the visual images will grab your attention.

|            |             |               |              |                     |
|------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|
| both...and | either...or | neither...nor | whether...or | not only...but also |
|------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|

**Subordinating Conjunctions** introduce a subordinate clause—clauses that cannot stand alone—and join them to independent clauses.

Examples: The band waited **while** *the director checked the lighting*.

**Although** *music videos are short*, they are expensive to produce.

|          |           |               |               |             |
|----------|-----------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| After    | as though | if            | so that       | when        |
| Although | because   | in order that | than          | where As    |
| before   | provided  | unless        | whereas as if | even though |
| since    | until     | while         |               |             |

**Conjunctive Adverbs** are used to express relationships between independent clauses.

Example: The invention of the transistor radio contributed to the rise of rock and roll; **similarly**, the introduction of cable television helped launch music videos.

|              |              |             |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Accordingly  | hence        | still       |
| Also         | however      | therefore   |
| Besides      | instead      | thus        |
| Consequently | nevertheless | furthermore |
| Finally      | otherwise    | similarly   |



# Interjections

**A word or phrase used to express emotion.**

Examples of interjections: *wow, gee, hey, ouch, aha, boy, and imagine.* See chart below.

A strong interjection is followed by an **exclamation point**.

Example: **Yikes!** Our paper is due tomorrow.

A mild interjection is set off by a **comma**. If the interjection is at the beginning of the sentence the comma comes after it. If it is in the middle of a sentence there will be a comma on each side of the word, and if it is at the end of the sentence, the comma will come before it. Example: **Well,** where should we start?

\* Sometimes an **ellipses (...)** can be used as well.

| interjection | meaning                                      | example                                 |
|--------------|--|---|
| ah           | expressing realization                       | "Ah, now I understand."                 |
|              | expressing resignation                       | "Ah well, it can't be helped."          |
|              | expressing surprise                          | "Ah! I've won!"                         |
| alas         | expressing grief or pity                     | "Alas, she's dead now."                 |
| dear         | expressing pity                              | "Oh dear! Does it hurt?"                |
|              | expressing surprise                          | "Dear me! That's a surprise!"           |
| er           | expressing hesitation                        | "Lima is the capital of...er...Peru."   |
| hello        | expressing greeting                          | "Hello John. How are you today?"        |
|              | expressing surprise                          | "Hello! My car's gone!"                 |
| hey          | calling attention                            | "Hey! look at that!"                    |
|              | expressing surprise, joy etc                 | "Hey! What a good idea!"                |
| hi           | expressing greeting                          | "Hi! What's new?"                       |
| hmm          | expressing hesitation, doubt or disagreement | "Hmm. I'm not so sure."                 |
| oh           | expressing surprise                          | "Oh! You're here!"                      |
|              | expressing pain                              | "Oh! I've got a toothache."             |
| ouch         | expressing pain                              | "Ouch! That hurts!"                     |
| uh           | expressing hesitation                        | "Uh...I don't know the answer to that." |
| uh-huh       | expressing agreement                         | "Shall we go?" "Uh-huh."                |
| um, umm      | expressing hesitation                        | "85 divided by 5 is...um...17."         |
|              | introducing a remark                         | "Well, what did he say?"                |