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Grammar the Easy Way



Parts of
Speech
Quick Guide

by Elizabeth O'Brien

Every single word belongs to one of eight word groups or **parts of speech**.

Wow! Did you hear that? Just think about that fact for a minute.

We use thousands of words, and they can all be separated into just eight groups!

Isn't that the coolest thing ever?

For your learning pleasure, here are all eight parts of speech.

You'll find a brief definition, a few examples, and sentence diagrams for each one.

I can feel you getting smarter already. Enjoy!

Nouns name people, places, things, or ideas.

- Examples: book, matches, sunlight, Maria, baby, shell
- Sentences:
 1. I saw the **movie** in the **theater**.
 2. The **fish** swam through the **water** in the **pond**.

Pronouns take the place of one or more nouns.

- Examples: I, you, me, they, who, which, yourself
- Sentences:
 1. Would **you** like to go with **me** to the beach?
 2. Betty, stop looking at **yourself** in the mirror.

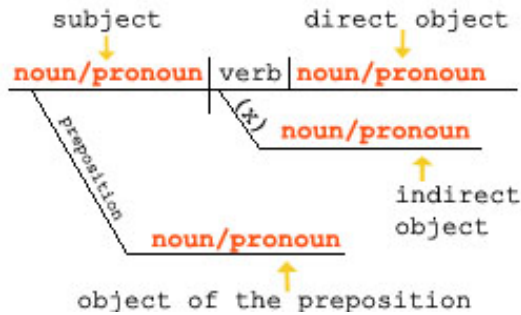
* Nouns and pronouns can perform many jobs in sentences.

These two parts of speech can do many jobs in a sentence.

They can act as subjects, direct objects, indirect objects, objects of the preposition, predicate nouns, and more!

Diagramming Nouns & Pronouns:

subject | linking verb \ predicate noun/pronoun



Verbs show action or a state of being.

- Examples: eat, find, run, walk, become, feel, seem, are
- Sentences:
 1. The baker **cut** the bread. (action verb)
 2. The bread **is** good. (linking verb)

Diagramming Verbs:

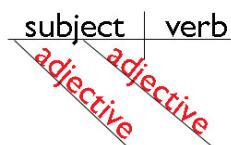


Adjectives describe nouns and pronouns.

* They tell us **Which one? What kind? How many? Whose?**

- Examples: the, orange, special, many, colorful, Charlie's
- Sentences:
 1. I would like **the fresh** muffin.
 2. **The blue** coat is **mine**.

Diagramming Adjectives:

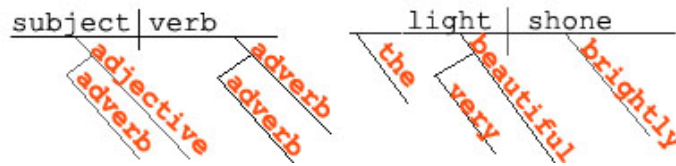


Adverbs describe - or modify - verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs.

* They tell us **How? When? Where? Why? To what extent?**

- Examples: awkwardly, girlishly, lazily, silently, stylishly, well, yesterday, very, so
- Sentences:
 1. My friend dresses **so stylishly**.
 2. **Yesterday**, we went shopping **everywhere!**

Diagramming Adverbs:

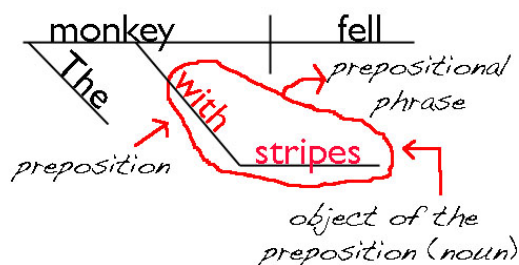


Prepositions show the relationship between a noun or a pronoun and some other word or element in the rest of the sentence.

* They are always in prepositional phrases (a **preposition** + a noun or pronoun).

- Examples: above, behind, below, from, inside, up, over
- Sentences:
 1. Will you please go on a walk **with me**?
 2. The monkey **with stripes** fell.

Diagramming Prepositions:



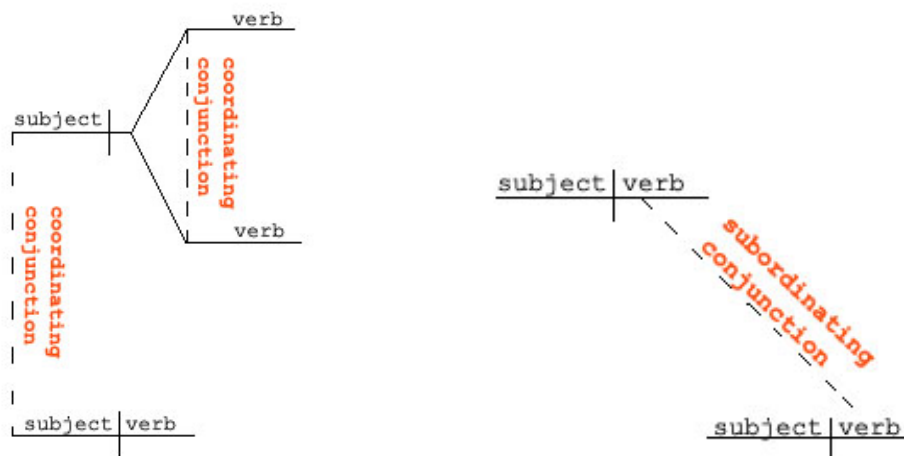
Conjunctions join two or more words, phrases, or clauses.

* Coordinating conjunctions join equals.

*Subordinating conjunctions join independent clauses with dependent clauses.

- Examples: for, and, but, after, because, before, unless, if
- Sentences:
 1. Can we go to the zoo **and** the fair? (coordinating)
 2. **Although** that would be nice, we can only go to the zoo. (subordinating)

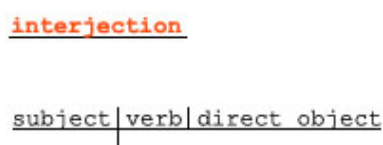
Diagramming Coordinating & Subordinating Conjunctions:



Interjections show emotion. They are not grammatically related to the rest of the sentence.

- Examples: rats, gee, darn, aww, gosh, yes, fiddlesticks
- Sentences:
 1. **Oh no**, we lost the game.
 2. **Holy cow!** This cake is delicious!

Diagramming Interjections:



Test Yourself

Can you identify each part of speech in the following sentences?
Can you diagram them?

1. Flowers grow.
2. Sydney has been playing.
3. Walter quickly ran home.
4. The green box fell.
5. The flowers in the garden are growing.

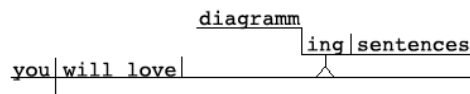
Answers:

1. <http://www.english-grammar-revolution.com/diagramming-sentences-exercises.html>
2. <http://www.english-grammar-revolution.com/diagramming-sentences-exercises.html>
3. <http://www.english-grammar-revolution.com/modifiers.html>
4. <http://www.english-grammar-revolution.com/modifiers.html>
5. <http://www.english-grammar-revolution.com/prepositional-phrase.html>



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You'll love diagramming sentences!
I'll help you.



Elizabeth

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