

PARTS OF SPEECH

There are eight (8) essential parts in the English speech:

- Noun
- Pronoun
- Verb
- Adjective
- Adverb
- Preposition
- Conjunction
- Interjections

What is a noun?

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

Nouns can do a lot of things in a sentence. They can perform various functions in a sentence. And we can mention:

Subject: MOHAMED eats an apple.

Direct object: KHALED teaches grammar.

Indirect object: KHALED teaches his friends grammar.

Object of preposition: he lost his keys at the park.

Types of nouns:

There are several types of nouns:

Common: they name general, nonspecific persons, places, things, ideas.

Eg: writer, city,

Proper: they name specific people, city, places or ideas. They always start with a capital letter.

Eg: Mohamed, Batna.

Abstract: these name something that you cannot perceive with your senses.

Eg: happiness, freedom.

Concrete: these are the opposite of abstract nouns. They name things that physically exist and be perceived with the five senses.

Eg: chocolate, cat, car

Countable: these are names that can be counted; they use both the singular and the plural form.

Eg: clock/clocks, watch/watches

Uncountable: these are the opposite of the countable nouns; they use only the singular form

Eg: milk, rice, water

Compound: these are made up of two or more smaller words.

Eg: haircut

Collective: these are singular that refer to a group of things as one whole.

Eg: class, audience.

Singular: these refer to one person, place, thing.

Eg: box, road, ball

Plural: these refer to more than one thing.

Eg: boxes, faces, roads, balls.

Possessive nouns: these refer to ownership.

Eg: the student's book, dad's car.

PRONOUNS

What is a pronoun?

It is a word that replaces the noun. It can do all of the things that nouns can do; subject, direct object, indirect object, object of the preposition and more.

Eg: Barak Obama is one of the presidents of the USA.

He is one of the presidents of the USA.

Types of pronouns: there are different types of pronouns

Personal pronouns: I, you, we, they, he, she, it./ me, you, us, them, him, her, it.

Relative pronouns: that, which, who, whom, whose, whichever, whomever, whoever.

Demonstrative pronouns: this, that, these, those.

Indefinite/ reflexive pronouns: (check the photo)

Interrogative pronouns: what, who, which, whom, whose.

Possessive pronouns: check the lecture before.

Object pronouns: check the lecture.

VERBS

Verbs are words that describe an action or talk about something that happens. They take many different forms depending on their subjects, the time they refer to and other ideas we want to express.

Eg: Thomas hides his food from his friends.

Janet cleans her room.

There are three categories of verbs that one should know:

Helping verbs (auxiliary verbs): these verbs are just present in the sentence to help the main verb or to tell us more about its tense. The main verb will be either an action verb or a linking verb.

Here are some examples of helping verbs: to be- to have- to do- should- would- may- might- can-could- must- shall-will.

Action verbs: this category of verbs indicates the action in the sentence. Keep in mind that action does not necessarily mean movement

Eg: JOHN thought about buying a cat.

Here are other examples of action verbs: clean- cut-drive-eat- fly-go-live- read-run-stop.

Linking verbs: these verbs link the subject of the sentence with either a noun or an adjective.

Linking verbs are:

To be: am- is- are- was-were- been-being.

Other linking verbs: appear- seem- grow- become- feel- look- remain- taste- smell- stay- sound-turn.

Transitive and Intransitive Verbs—What’s the Difference?

A verb can be described as *transitive* or *intransitive* based on whether it requires an object to express a complete thought or not. A **transitive verb** is one that only makes sense if it exerts its action on an object. An **intransitive verb** will make sense without one. Some verbs may be used both ways.

How to Identify a Transitive Verb

Transitive verbs are not just verbs that can take an object; they demand objects. Without an object to affect, the sentence that a **transitive verb** inhabits will not seem complete.

Eg: Please bring coffee.

In this sentence, the verb *bring* is transitive; its object is *coffee*, the thing that is being brought. Without an object of some kind, this verb cannot function.

How to Identify an Intransitive Verb

An **intransitive verb** is the opposite of a **transitive verb**: it does not require an object to act upon.

Eg: They jumped.

The dog ran.

She sang.

A light was shining.

THE ADJECTIVE

Definition: the adjective is a word that describes a noun or a pronoun.

Eg: John is **handsome**.

I am **happy**.

ADJECTIVE FORMATION

Some **adjectives** can be identified by their endings. Typical adjective endings include:

1. **-able/-ible** understandable, capable, readable, incredible

2. **-al** mathematical, functional, influential, chemical
3. **-ful** beautiful, bashful, helpful, harmful
4. **-ic** artistic, manic, rustic, terrific
5. **-ive** submissive, intuitive, inventive, attractive
6. **-less** sleeveless, hopeless, groundless, restless
7. **-ous** gorgeous, dangerous, adventurous, fabulous

The Royal Order of Adjectives:

The Order of Adjectives in English

When two or more adjectives are required to describe something, there is an established order for the adjectives. The order is generally as follows:

- opinion
- size
- age
- shape
- colour
- origin
- material
- purpose

The following example with eight adjectives is ordered correctly:

A lovely, large, antique, round, black, Spanish, wooden, mixing bowl ✓
(These adjectives are modifying the noun *bowl*.)

What is an Adverb?

An [adverb](#) is a part of speech that provides greater description to a [verb](#), [adjective](#), or another adverb.

Here are some examples:

He runs **quickly**.

He runs **very quickly**.

She is **very beautiful**.

Forming the Adverb:

Most adverbs are formed by adding -ly to the end of the related adjective.

<i>slow</i>	<i>slowly</i>
<i>clever</i>	<i>cleverly</i>
<i>annual</i>	<i>annually</i>

Exceptionally, words which end in -ble drop off the -e before -ly is added. So do the words true and due.

<i>sensible</i>	<i>sensibly</i>
<i>suitable</i>	<i>suitably</i>
<i>true</i>	<i>truly</i>
<i>due</i>	<i>duly</i>

Adjectives that end in -y change to -i before adding -ly, unless, like sly or dry, they have only one syllable.

<i>happy</i>	<i>happily</i>
<i>greedy</i>	<i>greedily</i>
<i>sly</i>	<i>slyly</i>

Common Errors with Adverbs and Adjectives

Since adverbs and adjectives both modify other words, people often mistakenly use an adjective when they should use an adverb and vice versa. For example, the following sentence is incorrect:

- He behaved very **bad** on the field trip.

This is incorrect because "**bad**" is an adjective being used to describe "behaved," which is a verb. It should read:

- He behaved **very badly** on the field trip.

On the other hand, this would be correct:

- His behavior was **bad** on the field trip.

Types of Adverbs:

An *adverb of manner* will explain how an action is carried out. Very often adverbs of manner are adjectives with -ly added to the end, but this is certainly not always the case. In fact, some adverbs of manner will have the same spelling as the adjective form.

Some examples of adverbs of manner include:

1. Slowly
2. Rapidly
3. Badly
4. Sweetly
5. Warmly
6. Sadly

Examples:

- She passed the exam **easily**.
- They walk **quickly** to catch the train.
- The dinner party went **badly**.
- John answered the question **correctly**.

Notice how the adjectives are formed by adding -ly to the adjectives *bad*, *correct* and *quick*, although there is a slight spelling change when forming an adverb with the adjective *easy*.

As mentioned, some adverbs of manner take the same spelling as the adjective and never add an -ly to the end:

- The boys had worked **hard**.
- Julia dances **well**.

Adverbs of place

An *adverb of place*, sometimes called spatial adverbs, will help explain where an action happens. Adverbs of place will be associated with the action of the verb in a sentence, providing context for direction, distance and position: southeast, everywhere, up, left, close by, back, inside, around. These terms don't usually end in -ly.

Adverbs of place examples in the following sentences are in bold for easy identification.

Directions

- New York is located **north** of Philadelphia.
- They traveled **down** the mountainside.
- First, I looked **here**, and then I looked **there**, but I can't find them **anywhere**.

Notice that *here* and *there* are often used at the beginning of a sentence to express emphasis or in exclamation.

- **Here** comes the sun.
- **There** is love in the air.
- **Here** you are!

Many times, adverbs of place can be used as prepositions as well. The difference is, when the phrase is used as an adverb, it is modifying a verb; when it is used as a preposition, it is always followed by a noun.

- New York is located **north** of Philadelphia -> New York is *on the map*.
- They travelled **down** river -> They travelled *in the first compartment*.
- That puppy was walking **around** by itself-> We put a collar *around its neck*.

Distance

- Jane is moving **far away**.
- Carly is sitting **close** to me.

Position

- The treasure lies **underneath** the box.
- The cat is sleeping **on** the bed.
- Why are you standing **in** the middle of the dancefloor?

In addition, some adverbs of position will refer to a direction of movement. These often end in -ward or -wards.

- Oscar travelled **onward** to Los Angeles.
- Hannah looked **upwards** to the heavens.
- Molly, move **forward** to the front of the queue, please.

Adverbs of Frequency

Adverbs of frequency are used to express time or how often something occurs. Adverbs of frequency can be split into two main groups. The first, adverbs of indefinite frequency, are terms that have an unclear meaning as to how long or *how often* something occurs: *usually, always, normally*. These adverbs will usually be placed after the main verb or between the auxiliary verb and infinitive.

Adverbs of frequency examples in the following sentences are in bold for easy identification.

- The adverb is **usually** placed before the main verb.
- I can **normally** make the shot.
- I will **always** love

Adverbs of definite frequency will usually be placed at the end of the sentence.

- We get paid **hourly**.
- I come here
- The situation seems to change **monthly**.
- The newspaper is bought **daily**.

Adverbs of Time

Adverbs of time, while seemingly similar to adverbs of frequency, tell us *when* something happens. Adverbs of time are usually placed at the end of a sentence.

Adverbs of time examples in the following sentences are in bold for easy identification.

- Harvey forgot his lunch **yesterday** and again **today**.
- I have to go **now**.
- We first met Julie **last year**.

While it's almost always correct to have the adverb of time at the end of the sentence, you can place it at the start of the sentence to put a different emphasis on the time if it is important to the context.

- **Last year** was the worst year of my life.
- **Tomorrow** our fate will be sealed.
- **Yesterday** my troubles seemed so far away.

Adverbs of Purpose

Adverbs of purpose, sometimes called adverbs of reason, help to describe *why* something happened. They can come in the form of individual words – *so, since, thus, because* – but also clauses – *so that, in order to*. Notice in the examples that the adverbs of purpose are used to connect sentences that wouldn't make sense if they were formed alone.

Adverbs of purpose examples in the following sentences are in bold for easy identification.

- I was sick, **thus** didn't go to work today.
- I started jogging **so that** I wouldn't be late.
- **Because** I was late, I jogged a little faster.
- **Since** it's your birthday, I will buy you a gift.

Positions of Adverbs

The *positions of adverbs* are not a fixed or set thing. As you have seen, adverbs can appear in different position in a sentence. However, there are some rules that help us decide where an adverb should be positioned. The rules will be different depending on whether the adverb is acting to modify an adjective or another adverb, a verb or what type of adverb it is.

Positional adverb examples in the following sentences are in bold for easy identification.

Adverb position with adjectives and other adverbs

These adverbs will usually be placed before the adjective or adverb being modified:

- We gave them a **really** tough match. The adverb *really* modifies the adjective *tough*.
- It was **quite** windy that night. The adverb *quite* modifies the adjective *windy*.
- We don't go to the movies **terribly often**. The adverb *terribly* modifies the adverb *often*.

Adverb position with verbs

This can be a bit trickier because, it will depend on the type of adverb – place, position, time etc. – and there are many exceptions to the rules. However, a basic set of guidelines is shown below:

Adverbs of manner or place are usually positioned at the end of the sentence:

- She *laughed* **timidly**.
- I *stroked* the cat **gently**.
- Janine *lived* **here**.
- There is money **everywhere**.

As mentioned, if the adverb is of *definite time* it will be placed at the end of the sentence.

- I did it **yesterday**.
- We can discuss it **tomorrow**.
- Let's go to Paris **next week**.

However, if it is an *indefinite period of time*, it will go between the subject and main verb.

- We **often** go to Paris in the springtime.
- Debbie **regularly** swims here.
- Bobby and Audrey **always** loved fishing by the lake.

Order of Adverbs

Adverb order is so important it has clear rules. It's already mentioned that some adverbs will act to modify another, but how do you decide the structure of a sentence with several adverbs?

Thankfully, there is a simple set of rules to follow, called the order of adverbs. Handily, the order of adverbs, sometimes also called the royal order of adverbs, can help us determine sentence structure too. In short, the adverbs get preference (are placed first) in the following order:

1. Adverbs of manner.
2. Adverbs of place.

3. Adverbs of frequency.
4. Adverbs of time.
5. Adverbs of purpose.

Consider this sentence:

I run (verb) *quickly* (manner) *down the road* (place) *every morning* (frequency) *before school* (time) *because* (purpose) I might miss the bus.

While it is good to remember the order of adverbs, there is always flexibility with language, and we have already mentioned that adverbs of time and frequency can be placed at the start of a sentence to change the emphasis. So, bottom line: think of the order of adverbs as more of a guideline than a rule that can't be broken.