

Parts of Speech Definitions

Noun – the name of a person, place or thing or idea

Example – The **cat** was playing with the **ball**.

Pronoun – a word that replaces one or more nouns

Example – **He** left **us** there.

Verb – a word that expresses action or state of being – always has a subject

Action verbs tell what action a subject is performing.

Example – I always **read** before I **go** to bed.

Linking verbs link the subject to another word in the sentence. The other word either renames or describes the subject. The most common linking verbs are forms of the verb “to be”: be, am, is, was, are, were

Example – Greg **is** my friend.

Adjectives – a word that modifies a noun or a pronoun. Adjectives usually answer one of the following questions: “What kind? Which one(s)?

How many? How much?

Example – Meredith has **beautiful** eyes.

Adverb – a word that modifies a verb, adjective or other adverbs. An adverb answers the questions: When? How? or To what extent?

An **intensifying** adverb makes the verb or adjective stronger.

Example – Tamara **quickly** ran to help those who were in trouble.

Example – I was **really** scared that night.

A **minimizing** adverb makes the verb or adjective weaker.

Example – I was **simply** trying to help her.

An **editing** adverb indicates that there is missing information.

Example – I finished packing. **Later**, I went to the airport.

Articles – Definite articles main job is to indicate the presence of a definite noun – a specific thing.

Example – We got into **the** car that was parked outside.

Indefinite articles main job is to indicate the presence of any number of nouns – one of many.

Example – We are considering **a** study. She is **a** good friend.

Parts of Speech

Sentence Example - He swerved quickly but the car hit two pedestrians on the sidewalk. A man helped them until an ambulance arrived. The driver was really upset.

Nouns – name persons, places and things
car, pedestrians, sidewalk, man, ambulance, driver

Pronouns – substitute for nouns
He, them

Verbs – express action or state of being
swerved, hit, helped, arrived, was

Adjectives – describe nouns and pronouns
two, upset

Adverbs – describe or modify the meaning of verbs, adjectives or other adverbs
quickly, really

Conjunctions – connects words, phrases and clauses
but

Prepositions – establish a relationship between a noun and the rest of the sentence
on, until

Articles – help define nouns
the, a, an