

Grammar Extravaganza

“Knowing the Difference”

SAVANNAH STATE UNIVERSITY'S
Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP):



*“Enhancing Student Learning by
Fostering Positive Attitudes
toward Writing”*



What are the parts of speech?

- Noun
- Pronoun
- Article
- Interjections
- Verbs
- Gerunds
- Adjective
- Adverb
- Preposition
- Conjunction

Nouns

- Nouns are words that denote people, animals, places, things, or abstract ideas.
- Nouns answer the questions “who” or “what” in a sentence.
- ❖ In recent months, a number of states have again taken the lead on measures to raise the minimum wage.

Types of Nouns

- **Common: name people, places, things, etc.**
 - Girl, city, holiday
- **Proper: name specific people, places, and things**
 - Jennifer, Atlanta, Thanksgiving
- **Abstract: name a concept instead of things one can touch or see**
 - Love, courage, integrity

Pronouns

- Pronouns take the place of and function like a noun.
 - Some examples of pronouns are:
 - I, we, us, he, she, him, her, they
- ❖ Massachusetts is moving toward a minimum of \$10 per hour. Thus, they are supporters of it.

Types of Pronouns

- **Demonstrative: indicate something or are used to demonstrate.**
 - This is how I feel about increased wages.
 - How do you feel about that policy?
- **Indefinite: used for non-specific things.**
 - Someone referred to raising the minimum wage as a family friendly policy.
 - No one has proven that it is possible to live on the current minimum wage.
- **Possessive: show possession.**
 - This is my opinion.
 - He has yet to form his opinion on the issue.

Articles

- Articles are kinds of adjectives that always give some information about a noun.
- There are only three articles: a, an, and the.

There are two types of articles:

1. Indefinite Articles: they do not refer to anything or anyone specific.

- I'm writing an essay.
- I am a student.

2. Definite articles: are used when talking about something particular.

- The book did not help.
- Did you check the library?

Interjections

- Interjections are words or phrases used to exclaim, protest, or command.
- They are often separated from other parts of a sentence using a comma or an exclamation mark.
- Interjections are mostly used to express emotion. Here are some examples:
 - “Ah, now I understand.”
 - “Eh! Really?”
 - “Oh! You’re here.”
 - “Uh...I don’t know the answer to that.”
 - “Wow! I won the lottery.”
 - “Hmm, I’m not so sure.”

Verbs

- Verbs name an action, a state of being, or an event.
- There are three types of verbs:
 1. Action: tell what the subject is doing
 - Run, hide, walk, teach, talk, learn
 2. Linking: connect the subject to a noun or an adjective
 - Is, Are, Am
 3. Helping: help the main verb express tense; they need an action verb with them.
 - Will go; Should study

Gerunds

- A gerund is verbal that ends in -ing and functions as a noun.
- Since a gerund functions as a noun, it occupies some positions in a sentence that a noun ordinarily would.

Four Types of Gerunds

- Subject:
 - Traveling might satisfy your desire for new experiences.
- Direct object:
 - They do not appreciate my singing.
- Subject complement:
 - My cat's favorite activity is sleeping.
- Object of preposition:
 - The police arrested him for speeding.

Recap

- Nouns answer the questions “who” or “what” in a sentence (common, proper, and abstract).
- Pronouns take the place of and function like a noun (I, she, he, we, our, etc.)
- Articles give some information about a noun. (a, an, the)
- Interjections exclaim, protest, or command.
- Verbs name an action, a state of being, or an event: (action (ran), linking (is), and helping (will go)).
- Gerunds are verbals that end in -ing and functions as a noun.

Practice

- Identify the noun(s), article(s), verb(s), and gerund(s) of the following sentence:
 1. Louie Gohmert, a vocal opponent of same-sex marriage, is making controversial statements on the topic.
 2. Integrity is a personality trait.

Session II

Adjectives

- Adjectives modify nouns and pronouns.
- By modifying them, they either describe, identify, or quantify the words.

❖ We live in a **red brick** house.

❖ She is **tall** for her age.

Types of adjectives

- Descriptive: these adjectives describe.
 - Follow the yellow cab.
- Possessive: similar to possessive pronouns, these adjectives indicate possession when put directly in front of a noun.
 - We sold our house.
- Numeral: these adjectives express numbers and denote how many, which one in a series, etc.
 - There are three cups on the table.

Adverbs

- Adverbs modify and further describe verbs. They may also modify adjectives.
 - Adverbs commonly end in -ly.
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- ❖ He waved wildly to get her attention.
 - ❖ The shirt he wore to the party was extremely bright.
 - ❖ We got straight to the point.

Types of adverbs

- Manner: these provide information on how something is done.
 - Jack drives carefully.
- Time: these adverbs tell when something happens.
 - He sometimes finishes work early.
- Frequency: these tell how often something happens.
 - She constantly asks for time off.
- Degree: these adverbs tell how much something is done.
 - They go to the gym often.
- Comment: these provide an opinion about a situation.
 - Fortunately, there were seats left in the theater.

Conjunctions

- Conjunctions are words that joins independent clauses, or sentences, together.
- Common conjunctions include: and, but, for, so, yet, nor, because, however

Types of Conjunctions

- Coordinating Conjunctions: they join single words, though sometimes groups of words, that join similar elements such as a subject to a subject or a sentence to a sentence.
 - Sarah and Joe are at school.
- Correlative Conjunctions: these also join sentence elements but are used in pairs.
 - Essays are not only difficult to write, but also time consuming.
- Subordinating Conjunctions: the largest class, the conjunctions connect subordinate clauses to main clauses.
 - Because the session was so long, we took two breaks.

Prepositions

- Prepositions work with nouns or pronouns to modify verbs, nouns/pronouns, and/or adjectives.
- Prepositional phrases show a spatial, temporal, or directional meaning.
- Common prepositions include: after, across, around, beyond, between, during, down, of, onto, under, within, etc.

Types of prepositions

- Prepositions of Time: used for time of different natures.
 - He was born in January of 1985.
- Prepositions of Place: used to show locale.
 - The professor wrote on the wall.
- Prepositions of Direction: describe directions.
 - Someone was coming toward him.
- Prepositions for Agent: used for something which is the cause of something else in a sentence.
 - The book was written by Oscar Wilde.

Recap

- Adjectives modify nouns and pronouns by describing, identifying, or quantifying the words.
- Adverbs modify and further describe verbs. They may also modify adjectives.
- Conjunctions are words that joins independent clauses, or sentences, together.
- Prepositions work with nouns or pronouns to modify verbs, nouns/pronouns, and/or adjectives.

Practice

- Is the underlined word an adjective or an adverb?
Why?
 - John matured tremendously fast.
- Connect the two sentences with a conjunction.
 - I like science. I like math more.
- Identify the preposition(s):
 - The dog wandered around the neighborhood.
 - Put these cookies on the tray.

Questions?