**Parts of Speech**

In English words are generally divided into **eight different classes or Parts of Speech** according to the work they do in a sentence. These eight words are: nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions, and interjections.

**1. Nouns –** Name a person, place, thing or idea and can be common or proper. Proper nouns are always capitalized and name specific things. A common noun is lady, but a proper noun is Mrs. Johnson. A common noun is store, but a proper noun is Dick’s Sporting Goods. Nouns are marked with a single underline.

Example: The tall man on television was dressed in a nice suit.

Example: My family attends church at Olive Baptist Church every Sunday.

**2.Pronouns -** Take the place of a noun. “Jessica went to the store so SHE could buy some ice cream.” The pronoun “she” took the place of saying Jessica’s name again. Some pronouns can be used as the subject of a sentence, but others are used as object pronouns or possessive pronouns. They are marked by writing *pron*. on top of the word.

Subject pronouns – I, you, he, she, it, we, they

Object pronouns – me, him, her, us, them, it, you

Possessive pronouns –our, ours, mine, my, his, her, hers, their, theirs, your, yours, its

Examples: They traveled to California for their summer vacation. (“They” is a subject pronoun since “they” is the subject of the sentence; “their” is a possessive pronoun showing ownership of the vacation.)

She gave him the biggest slice of apple pie. (“She” is a subject pronoun; “him” is an object pronoun since it’s not the subject, and it receives the action. [She gave it to whom? She gave it to him.])

**3.Verbs –** Every sentence must have a verb! Verbs can show action, or they can be a linking verb. Action verbs show some kind of action – skipped, hop, throw, watched, took, etc. Verbs can be happening now (present tense), already happened (past tense), or they will happen (future tense). Depending on the verb tense, a helping verb may be needed. If you have a sentence {I am planning a party for my sister.} “am” is a helping verb used with the main action verb “planning.” Your complete verb is “am planning.” The helping verbs are listed below.

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

The other type of verb is a linking verb. Linking verbs – am, is, are, was, were, be, being, been (all of these can be helping verbs also) Other linking verbs are - feel, smell, taste, sound, look, seems, becomes. Linking verbs can sometimes be harder to find in a sentence. Examples: The tall man on television was shopping for a nice suit. {“was” is used as a helping verb.}

*pron*

She mixed and rolled the dough for the sugar cookies. {“mixed” and “rolled” are action verbs}

My father is a teacher at the college on Spring Street. {“is” is a linking verb. The linking verb “is” links the noun teacher to the subject father.}

**4.Adjectives -** Describes a noun or pronoun only. The pink house – since this makes sense, “pink” is an adjective and describes the noun house Adjectives answer the questions which one? what kind? how many? how much? whose? Adjectives are marked by writing *adj*. on top of the word.

Examples: The tall man on television was shopping for a nice suit.

The small black cat played with a tiny red string. (“small” and “black” describe the noun cat; “tiny” and “red” describe string)

**5.Adverbs -** An adverb can modify/ describe a verb, adjective, or another adverb. Adverbs tell when? where? how? how often? and to what extent?

Many adverbs deal with time (today, soon, sometimes). Many adverbs end in LY. “Not”, We quickly ran in the hardware store and bought blue paint for our house.

Examples: She quietly put the puzzle pieces in place. (“quietly” tells how she put)

The delicious soup was very hot. (“very” tells how hot OR to what extent hot)

During the hurricane, their house was severely damaged by the wind. (“severely” tells how damaged)

**6.** **Prepositions:** prepositions link words in a sentence and show position or direction.

E.g. the keys are on the table.

**7.** **Conjunctions:** connects ideas or joins words, phrases, or clauses.

*E.g. Fred finished his math and science exercises.*

They join two grammatical units in a sentence. The c.c. could be joining two prepositional phrases, two verbs, two subject nouns, etc. They are marked by writing a c.c. above the word. The coordination conjunctions are: and, but, or, nor, for, yet,

The lady loved her cat, but she also liked dogs.

**Interjections** – The interjection shows emotion or feeling and is marked with an exclamation point above the word.

Example: Ouch! You hurt my foot. Well, I’m not sure.

Practice the sentences on the following page using all the marks you have learned.