

## **Course N-04**

### **4. PARTS OF SPEECH**

There are **eight parts** of speech in the English language: noun, pronoun, verb, adjective, adverb, preposition, conjunction, and interjection. The part of speech indicates how the word functions in meaning as well as grammatically within the sentence. An individual word can function as more than one part of speech when used in different circumstances. Understanding parts of speech is essential for determining the correct definition of a word when using the dictionary.

#### **4.1. NOUN**

- **A noun is the name of a person, place, thing, or idea.**

*man... Butte College... house... happiness*

A noun is a word for a person, place, thing, or idea. Nouns are often used with an article (the, a, an), but not always. Proper nouns always start with a capital letter; common nouns do not. Nouns can be singular or plural, concrete or abstract. Nouns show possession by adding 's. Nouns can function in different roles within a sentence; for example, a noun can be a subject, direct object, indirect object, subject complement, or object of a preposition.

*The young girl brought me a very long letter from the teacher, and then she quickly disappeared.*

#### **4.2. PRONOUN**

- **A pronoun is a word used in place of a noun.**

*She... we... they... it*

A pronoun is a word used in place of a noun. A pronoun is usually substituted for a specific noun, which is called its antecedent. In the sentence above, the antecedent for the pronoun she is the girl. Pronouns are further defined by type: personal pronouns refer to specific persons or things; possessive pronouns indicate ownership; reflexive pronouns are used to emphasize another noun or pronoun; relative pronouns introduce a subordinate clause; and demonstrative pronouns identify, point to, or refer to nouns.

*The young girl brought me a very long letter from the teacher, and then she quickly disappeared.*

### 4.3. VERB

- **A verb expresses action or being.**

*jump... is... write... become*

The verb in a sentence expresses action or being. There is a main verb and sometimes one or more helping verbs. ("She can sing." Sing is the main verb; can is the helping verb.) A verb must agree with its subject in number (both are singular or both are plural). Verbs also take different forms to express tense.

*The young girl **brought** me a very long letter from the teacher, and then she quickly **disappeared**.*

### 4.4. ADJECTIVE

- **An adjective modifies or describes a noun or pronoun.**

*pretty... old... blue... smart*

An adjective is a word used to modify or describe a noun or a pronoun. It usually answers the question of which one, what kind, or how many. (Articles [a, an, the] are usually classified as adjectives.)

*The **young** girl brought me a very **long** letter from the teacher, and then she quickly disappeared.*

### 4.5. ADVERB

- **An adverb modifies or describes a verb, an adjective, or another adverb.**

*gently... extremely... carefully... well*

An adverb describes or modifies a verb, an adjective, or another adverb, but never a noun. It usually answers the questions of when, where, how, why, under what conditions, or to what degree. Adverbs often end in -ly.

*The young girl brought me a **very** long letter from the teacher, and **then** she **quickly** disappeared*

### 4.6. PREPOSITION

- **A preposition is a word placed before a noun or pronoun to form a phrase modifying another word in the sentence.**

*by... with... about... until*

(by the tree, with our friends, about the book, until tomorrow)

A preposition is a word placed before a noun or pronoun to form a phrase modifying another word in the sentence. Therefore a preposition is always part of a prepositional phrase. The prepositional phrase almost always functions as an adjective or as an adverb. The following list includes the most common prepositions:

*The young girl brought me a very long letter from the teacher, and then she quickly disappeared.*

#### 4.7. CONJUNCTION

- A conjunction joins words, phrases, or clauses.

*and... but... or... while... because*

A conjunction joins words, phrases, or clauses, and indicates the relationship between the elements joined. Coordinating conjunctions connect grammatically equal elements: and, but, or, nor, for, so, yet. Subordinating conjunctions connect clauses that are not equal: because, although, while, since, etc. There are other types of conjunctions as well.

*The young girl brought me a very long letter from the teacher, and then she quickly disappeared.*

#### 4.8. INTERJECTION

- An interjection is a word used to express emotion.

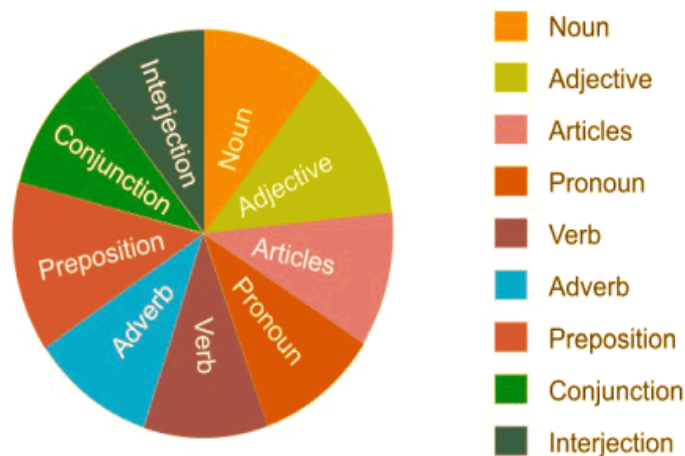
*Oh!... Wow!... Oops!*

An interjection is a word used to express emotion. It is often followed by an exclamation point.

*The young girl brought me a very long letter from the teacher, and then she quickly disappeared.*

## Parts of Speech

Words are divided into different kinds or classes called Parts of Speech  
The Parts of Speech are nine in number



## Exercises 01

Find out the correct and the most appropriate type of speech in the following parts of speech exercises;

1. Sheela went to the stationary to purchase *\*books\** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ).
2. She went to the mall *\*but\** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) did not purchase anything new.
3. I *\*liked\** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) *\*her\** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) better than anyother classmate.
4. A beautiful girl was doing her tasks *\*quickly\** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ).
5. *\*She\**( \_\_\_\_\_ ) goes for the morning walk regularly.
6. When she was *\*lying\**( \_\_\_\_\_ )in the park an insect bit her.
7. *\*You\** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) took him by holding his hand.
8. A *\*rich\** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) man purchased a *\*stunning\** ( \_\_\_\_\_ )jewellery.
9. *\*Hurrah!* \*( \_\_\_\_\_ ) I have cleared all examinations.
10. The kitten is hiding *\*under\** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) the table.
11. *\*Alas!*\* ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) He couldn't come here.
12. The body of the cupboard is made of *\*iron\**. ( \_\_\_\_\_ )
13. This is not *\*your\** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) pencil but his.
14. There is still some juice *\*in\** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) the bottle.
15. Sheetal is *\*performing\** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) her responsibilities properly.
16. The painting mader by the artist is *\*almost\**( \_\_\_\_\_ ) impeccable.
17. We shall not leave *\*unless\** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) you permit us.
18. The path is *\*to\** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) cross by.
19. The Jasmine flowers smell *\*sweet\**. ( \_\_\_\_\_ )
20. She *\*frequently\** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) goes to the temple.

## Exercise 01 / Answers

Try to solve these on your own without seeing the answers, but when you get stuck, you can always have a look at the answers.

1. Noun
2. Conjunction
3. Verb, Pronoun
4. Adverb
5. Pronoun
6. Verb
7. Pronoun
8. Adjective, adjective
9. Interjection
10. Preposition
11. Interjection

12. Noun
13. Pronoun
14. Preposition
15. Verb
16. Adverb
17. Conjunction
18. Preposition
19. Adjective
20. Adverb

## Exercise 02

An underlined word appears in each of the sentences below. You must depict or know which part of speech the phrase or the term belongs to.

1. He was having a very \*high\*
  - a. adjective
  - b. verb
  - c. pronoun
2. Today he is the \*happiest\* man in the entire universe
  - a. verb
  - b. adjective
  - c. preposition
3. They have several renowned \*friends\*.
  - a. noun
  - b. adverb
  - c. interjection
4. \*Choose\* the most liked dress for the party.
  - a. verb
  - b. pronoun
  - c. noun
5. Nina is the creative student \*in\* the classroom.
  - a. interjection
  - b. preposition
  - c. verb
6. A sports bike goes \*fast\*.
  - a. adverb
  - b. verb
  - c. adjective
7. He was fuming in anger \*but\* never said a single word.
  - a. interjection
  - b. noun
  - c. conjunction
8. There seems to be a dog \*under\* the table.
  - a. conjunction
  - b. interjection
  - c. preposition
9. These people reside in a tiny clustered village \*above\* the stream of water.
  - a. adverb
  - b. pronoun
  - c. preposition
10. She \*cut\* herself while chopping the fruits.
  - a. verb
  - b. adjective

- c. adverb
11. He was \*angry\* due to the prank.
- a. verb
  - b. adjective
  - c. pronoun
12. They have \*other\* aspects to look into as well.
- a. adverb
  - b. verb
  - c. adjective

## Exercises 02 / Answers

Try to solve these on your own without seeing the answers, but when you get stuck, you can always have a look at the answers.

1. Adjective (alters the noun here, i.e., temperature)
2. Adjective (alters the noun here, i.e., man)
3. Noun
4. Verb
5. Preposition
6. Adverb (alters the verb here, i.e.goes)
7. Conjunction (connecting the clause in this phrase)
8. Preposition
9. Preposition
10. Verb
11. Adjective
12. Adjective