

GRAMMAR ROCKS! 😊

"Grammar" refers to the rules that guide how we express our language. Understanding how to apply grammar rules allows for clear, rich communication.

The 8 Basic Parts of Speech

NOUN - a person, place, thing or idea
teacher, school, rhinoceros, jealousy

Two categories of Nouns:

>**Proper** - a noun that's a name

Mr. Cooper, Skillman

ALWAYS capitalized

>**Common** - all the other nouns

vacation, respect, bicycle

Capitalized only at the beginning of a sentence

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PRONOUN - a word that takes the place of a noun

Subject Pronouns act as the subject (who or what is doing the action)

I, you (singular) he/she/it, we, you (plural) they

Object Pronouns act as the object (the receiver of the action)

me, you, him/her/it, us, you, them

Possessive Pronouns show possession

My, your, his/her/its, our, your, their

Mine, yours, his/hers/its, ours yours theirs

Other kinds, too - but this is enough for now 😊

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ADJECTIVE - a word that describes/modifies a noun or pronoun
ecstatic, slothful, purple, benevolent

Note: 'a', 'an', and 'the' are adjectives, but they are in a special group called "articles." They modify a noun or pronoun.

A lottery ticket, an elephant, the one that I want

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VERB - a word that expresses action or a state of being

Infinitive - the master form of the verb. In English, it begins with "to": to hypothesize, to slander, to daydream

>**Action verbs** show action (even if you have to imagine the action) -
To leap, to speak, to envision, to detest

>**Linking verbs** (most common): am, are, is, was, were

>**Helping verbs** are paired with other verbs:

Most commonly used helping verbs:

Has	do	shall	may	am	be
Have	does	should	might	are	being
Had	did	will	must	is	
		would	can	was	
			could	were	

The baby is jumping. She has jumped all afternoon and she may jump all night. Mother should stop this behavior, and she would stop it if she could stop it but she has had a long, hard day and must hand matters over to Father, but Father is sleeping already.

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Adverb - a word that describes/modifies a verb ("adds to a verb"), adjective, or another adverb

>Answers the questions: *Where? When? How? To what extent (how much/how many)?*

>>Modifying a verb:

She thinks fast but she speaks slowly.
V adv pron V adv

>>Modifying an adjective:

Middle schoolers are very self-conscious about their appearance.
Adv adj

>>Modifying another adverb:

Michael Jackson danced unusually well.
V adv adv

Common adverbs:

When? Today, yesterday, daily, sometimes, never, always, now

Where? Here, there, everywhere, forward, backward

How? Well, effectively, rapidly, hard, fast

To what extent? Very, somewhat, partly, too, really, a lot

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PREPOSITION - a word or words that shows the relationship between two nouns or pronouns

Common Prepositions:

above	beneath	inside	out
according to	beside	instead of	over
after	between	into	past
against	by	like	since
along(side)	during	near	through
around	except for	of	toward
at	for	off	under
behind	from	on	up
below	in	onto	with(out)

Ben is on the desk. (relationship between Ben and the desk)
n v prep n

Jennifer is next to the bookcase (relationship between J and the bookcase)

The book, written by a soccer player, was dedicated to her coach.

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CONJUNCTION - a word that CONnects two nouns or pronouns

Coordinating conjunctions - FANBOYS

for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so

NEVER BEGIN A SENTENCE WITH A FANBOYS!

Correlative conjunctions come in pairs

Either..or, neither...nor, not only...but also

Subordinating conjunctions introduce an adverb clause and are always followed by a noun or pronoun

since, if, although, as if, if, because, than, though, unless, until, when, whenever, where, wherever, while

I drink Coke because it tastes great.

V conj pron

Adverb clause - describing "drink"

While you slept, I cleaned the house and prepared the feast.

Conj pron

Adv clause - describing "cleaned and prepared"

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INTERJECTION! - a word(s) that shows strong emotion or surprise.

Must be followed by either an exclamation mark or a comma.

No way! Yay! Well, we're done with parts of speech now.

THE PHRASE - a group of words that do not contain a verb and its subject, and is used together as a single part of speech

>**Prepositional Phrase** - a group of words that begins with a preposition and (usually) ends with a noun or pronoun

I made Rice Krispie marshmallow treats for the students.
Prep n

During the loud storm, the German Shepard cowered under the table.
Prep n

**Notice that no prepositional phrase is a complete sentence! **

>>**Adjective Phrase** - a prepositional phrase that modifies a noun or pronoun

The kids in the auditorium were unruly.
n prep n (describes the kids)

The snow on the ground measured two feet deep - holiday!
n prep n (describes the snow)

>>**Adverb Phrase** - a prepositional phrase that modifies a verb, adjective, or adverb

During the school year, I awoken at 5:00 in the morning.
V prep n (describes awoken)

My grandparents emigrated to the U.S. from Armenia.
V prep n prep n (describe emigrated)



THE PARTICIPLE - a verb form used as an adjective

Present participles end in -ing (jumping, pondering)

Past participles end in -ed or -en (buried, taken)

➤ **Participial Phrase** - a group of words containing a participle and serving as an adjective

Realizing she'd forgotten her homework, Tara bounded to her locker.
participle (phrase describes "Tara," a noun)

The army, broken and defeated, retreated.
participles (phrase describes "army," a noun)

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THE CLAUSE - a group of words that contains a verb and its subject

➤ **Independent Clause** - expresses a complete thought and can stand by itself as a sentence

Since the sun was particularly strong, I squinted.

You will get lots of candy if you go trick-or-treating.

➤ **Dependent (Subordinate) Clause** - does not express a complete thought and cannot stand by itself

(Often begins with since, when, if, as, who, which, that)

Mary Badham, who played Scout in To Kill a Mockingbird, is my friend's next-door neighbor.

I like to go running when the sun has set.

>>**Adjective Clause** - a subordinate clause used as an adjective to modify a noun or pronoun

Joe Torre was a tenacious manager who worked with the Yankees. (modifies manager)

>>**Adverb Clause** - a subordinate clause that is used as an adverb to modify a verb, adjective, or adverb

If tomorrow is sunny, we'll go to the beach. (modifies "go")

Hillary Rodham Clinton conceded her presidential bid when she lost the primary. (modifies conceded)

>>>**Subordinating Conjunction** - a conjunction that introduces an adverb clause

Common Subordinating Conjunctions (some may also be used as prepositions)

after	if	until
although	since	when
as (if)	so that	whenever
as soon as	than	where
because	though	wherever
before	unless	while

Although Americans talk of the evils of prejudice, we still commit racial profiling. (modifies "commit")

I begin teaching grammar before starting Word Study.
(modifies "teaching")