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Grammar the Easy Way



Parts of
Speech
Quick Guide

by Elizabeth O'Brien

Every single word belongs to one of eight word groups or **parts of speech**.

Wow! Did you hear that? Just think about that fact for a minute.

We use thousands of words, and they can all be separated into just eight groups! Isn't that the coolest thing ever?

For your learning pleasure, here are all eight parts of speech.

You'll find a brief definition, a few examples, and a sentence diagram for each one.

I can feel you getting smarter already. Enjoy!

1. Nouns name people, places, things, or ideas.

- Examples: book, matches, sunlight, Maria, baby, shell
 - I saw the **movie** in the **theater**.
 - The **fish** swam through the **water** in the **pond**.

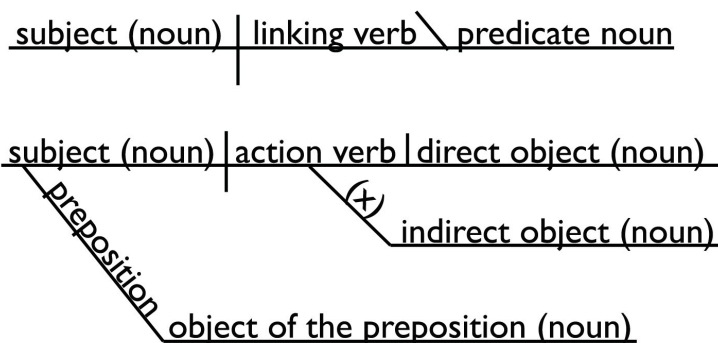
2. Pronouns take the place of one or more nouns.

- Examples: I, you, me, they, who, which, yourself
 - Would **you** like to go with **me** to the beach?
 - Betty, stop looking at **yourself** in the mirror.

* Nouns and pronouns can perform many jobs in sentences.

They can act as subjects, direct objects, indirect objects, objects of the preposition, predicate nouns, and more!

Diagramming Nouns & Pronouns:



3. Verbs

 show actions or states of being.

- Examples: eat, find, run, walk, become, feel, seem, are
 - The baker **cut** the bread. (action verb)
 - The bread **is** good. (linking verb)

Diagramming Verbs:

subject | action verb

subject | action verb | direct object

subject | linking verb \ predicate noun
predicate adjective

4. Adjectives

 describe nouns and pronouns.

* They tell us **Which one? What kind? How many? Whose?**

- Examples: the, orange, special, many, colorful, Charlie's
 - I would like **the fresh** muffin.
 - **The blue** coat is hanging in **the front** closet.

Diagramming Adjectives:

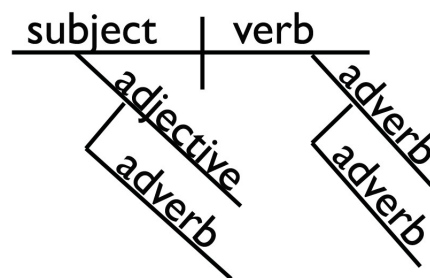
subject | verb
adjective
adjective

5. Adverbs describe - or modify - verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs.

* They tell us **How? When? Where? Why? To what extent?**

- Examples: awkwardly, girlishly, lazily, silently, stylishly, well, yesterday, very, so
 - My friend dresses **so stylishly**.
 - **Yesterday**, we went shopping **everywhere!**

Diagramming Adverbs:

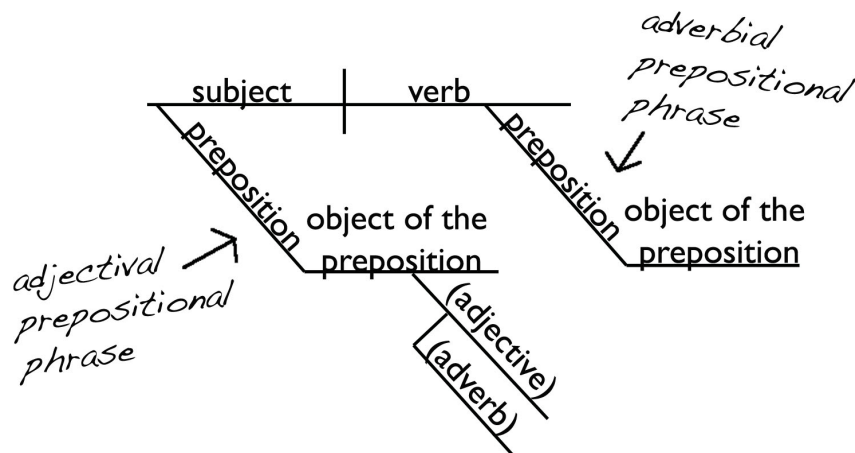


6. Prepositions show the relationship between a noun or a pronoun and some other word or element in the rest of the sentence.

* They are always in prepositional phrases (a **preposition** + a noun or pronoun). Prepositional phrases act as adjectives or adverbs.

- Examples: above, behind, below, from, inside, up, over
 - Will you please go on a walk **with me**?
 - The monkey **with stripes** is cute.

Diagramming Prepositions:



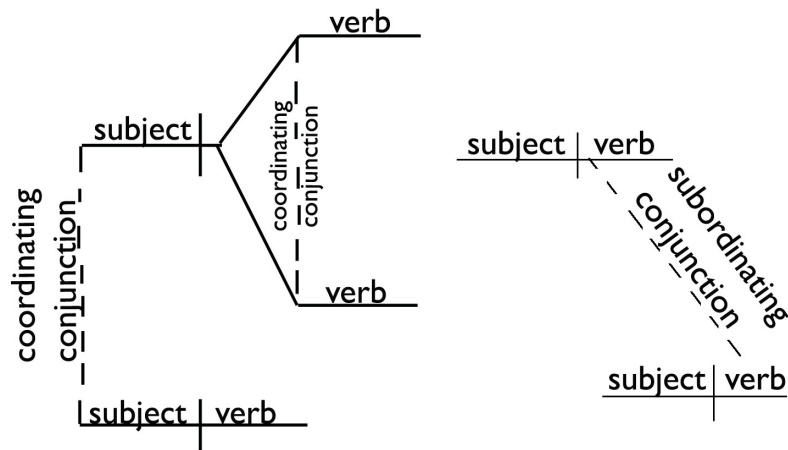
7. Conjunctions join two or more words, phrases, or clauses.

* Coordinating conjunctions join things that are equal. (Examples: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so)

*Subordinating conjunctions join independent clauses with dependent clauses. (Examples: after, although, because, if, when, whenever...)

- Can we go to the zoo **and** the fair? (coordinating)
- **Although** that would be nice, we can only go to the zoo. (subordinating)

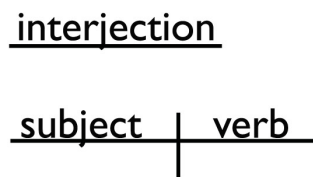
Diagramming Coordinating & Subordinating Conjunctions:



8. Interjections show emotion. They are not grammatically related to the rest of the sentence.

- Examples: rats, gee, darn, aww, gosh, yes, fiddlesticks
- **Oh no**, we lost the game.
- **Holy cow!** This cake is delicious!

Diagramming Interjections:



Test Yourself

Can you identify each part of speech in the following sentences?
Can you diagram them?

1. Flowers grow.
2. Sydney has been playing.
3. Walter ran very quickly.
4. The green box fell.
5. The flowers in the garden are growing.

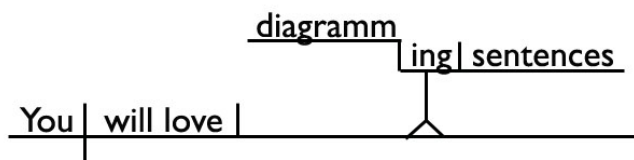
Answers:

1. www.English-Grammar-Revolution.com/diagramming-sentences-exercises.html
2. www.English-Grammar-Revolution.com/diagramming-sentences-exercises.html
3. www.English-Grammar-Revolution.com/modifiers.html
4. www.English-Grammar-Revolution.com/modifiers.html
5. www.English-Grammar-Revolution.com/prepositional-phrase.html



Learn More Grammar the Easy Way!

You'll love diagramming sentences! Don't worry. I'll help you. :)



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