



Everyday Grammar and Punctuation Parts of Speech



What does my child need to know?

Parts of Speech

Grammatical Term	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Verb						
Noun						
Adjective						
Adverb						
Pronoun						
Preposition						
Co-ordinating conjunction						
Subordinating conjunction						
Determiner						
Possessive determiner						

Parts of Speech

Words in the English language can be classified into **parts of speech** according to the function they perform in the sentence.

Verb – this expresses an action. It is a ‘doing word’. (to run, to eat, to play)

Verb tense – this tells us about time ...when the action happened.

Past tense – He remembered the book.

Future tense – Next year I will go to Polesworth High School.

Present tense – I live in Wood End.

Imperative verbs – give commands e.g. *add* the hot water, *chop* the cucumber.

Noun – a thing or item. A person, place or idea. (London, Mr Coleman, happiness, table)

- **Concrete nouns** are things you can touch or observe with your senses e.g. table, chair, town, bicycle, person
- **Abstract nouns** are ideas or concepts e.g. sadness, joy, honesty, truth
- **Proper nouns** are the names of specific things. The names of particular places, things and people are the most common examples of proper nouns: James, Staffordshire, Monday, Christmas, January.
- **Common nouns** are just ordinary things, e.g. dog, city, month, boy, day, country

Adjective – tells you about a noun...describing words.

- The **wooden** table
- The sky was **blue**
- The **hairy** monkey

Adverb – describes how a verb is done – when, where or how it happens; they often but not always end in the suffix ‘ly’.

- She ran **quickly**.
- Matthew ate **greedily**.
- We will go **soon**.

Pronoun – a word that stands in for a noun (I, he, she, it, you, us, them)

‘**Bethany** ran for the bus,’ can be replaced with ‘**She** ran for the bus.’

Preposition – a word to do with place or position (to, under, behind, outside, in)

Conjunction – a word that connects together words, sentences, phrases or clauses.

There are two types of conjunction; **co-ordinating** which links two similar ideas together and **subordinating** which introduces the subordinate clause.

Coordinating conjunctions can be remembered using the acronym FANBOYS (**F**or, **a**nd, **n**or, **b**ut, **o**r, **y**et, **s**o)

Subordinating conjunctions start the clause that will provide further information about the main clause. (because, since, while, when, although, if, as)

Interjection – a part of a sentence that stands alone and expresses a strong emotion or reaction – **Ouch! Hello! Wow! What? Excuse me!**

Determiner – a determiner is a word that introduces a noun such as... a, an, the, this, that, every, many, some, these)

The determiner **the** is known as the definite article and the determiner **a/an** as the indefinite article. This is because **the** talks about a specific noun whereas **a/an** talks about any noun.

Possessive determiners – words like *my, our, your, his, her, its and their* are known as possessive determiners. They come before nouns and are sometimes known as possessive pronouns.

- **My** leg hurts.
- Andrew swapped **his** bike.
- Take **your** children to the zoo.