



Introduction

"Parts of speech" are the basic types of words that English has. Most grammar books say that there are eight parts of speech: *nouns*, *verbs*, *adjectives*, *adverbs*, *pronouns*, *conjunctions*, *prepositions* and *interjections*. We will add one more type: *articles*.

It is important to be able to recognize and identify the different types of words in English, so that you can understand grammar explanations and use the right word form in the right place. Here is a brief explanation of what the parts of speech are:

Noun

A noun is a naming word. It names a person, place, thing, idea, living creature, quality, or action. Examples:
cowboy, theatre, box, thought, tree, kindness, arrival

Verb

A verb is a word which describes an action (doing something) or a state (being something). Examples:
walk, talk, think, believe, live, like, want

Adjective

An adjective is a word that describes a noun. It tells you something about the noun. Examples:
big, yellow, thin, amazing, beautiful, quick, important

Adverb

An adverb is a word which usually describes a verb. It tells you how something is done. It may also tell you when or where something

	happened. Examples: <i>slowly, intelligently, well, yesterday, tomorrow, here, everywhere</i>
Pronoun	A pronoun is used instead of a noun, to avoid repeating the noun. Examples: <i>I, you, he, she, it, we, they</i>
Conjunction	A conjunction joins two words, phrases or sentences together. Examples: <i>but, so, and, because, or</i>
Preposition	A preposition usually comes before a noun, pronoun or noun phrase. It joins the noun to some other part of the sentence. Examples: <i>on, in, by, with, under, through, at</i>
Interjection	An interjection is an unusual kind of word, because it often stands alone. Interjections are words which express emotion or surprise, and they are usually followed by exclamation marks. Examples: <i>Ouch!, Hello!, Hurray!, Oh no!, Ha!</i>
Article	An article is used to introduce a noun. Examples: <i>the, a, an</i>

If you are not sure about the basic parts of speech in English, or you would like some more information, try these pages:

- [The Eight Parts of Speech](#) (doesn't include articles)
- [Parts of Speech](#) (doesn't include articles)
- [The Parts of Speech](#) (doesn't include articles)

Don't forget to come back here and go on with the exercises! When you are sure that you understand the topic, you can click on "First exercise" below to

continue.

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