

PARTS OF SPEECH

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Different words serve different purposes. These differences make the words different *parts of speech*.

There are eight main parts of speech in English:

<i>noun</i>	names a person or people, a thing or things, a place or places, an idea or ideas	The <i>teacher</i> and her <i>students</i> took two <i>cars</i> and a <i>van</i> to the <i>zoo</i> in <i>New York</i> .
<i>pronoun</i>	replaces a noun	<i>She</i> and <i>they</i> took <i>them</i> to see <i>it</i> .
<i>verb</i>	shows action or links a subject to its complement	Mary <i>read</i> and John <i>looked</i> surprised.
<i>adjective</i>	modifies or describes a noun or pronoun	The <i>beautiful</i> girl read the <i>short</i> novel.
<i>adverb</i>	modifies or describes a verb, an adjective or another adverb	He does <i>not</i> drive <i>very well</i> .
<i>preposition</i>	joins a noun or pronoun to other words in a sentence	After we ate, we climbed <i>up</i> the hill <i>for</i> the fireworks.
<i>conjunction</i>	connects ideas	Jesse <i>and</i> Jim never cheat <i>or</i> steal, <i>but</i> they do drink <i>and</i> drive.
<i>interjection</i>	expresses emotion or excitement	Wow! You sure are a good dancer.

Can you label each word in this sentence with the correct part of speech?

_____!
 Rats! We work very fast, but Jane still asks for more green widgets.

Now write your own sentences using all the parts of speech.
 Have fun!

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[LEARN MORE](#)

Don't forget: students can always ask tutors or their teachers for an explanation of anything that's not clear.

Check the index of your textbook to see what information you can find there.

Some online resources:

[The Parts of Speech](#)

[Parts of Speech](#)

[Part of Speech Quiz](#)