# Parts of Speech

[What is a Part of Speech?](https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/part-of-speech-what.htm)

We can categorize English words into **9 basic types** called "parts of speech" or "word classes". It's quite important to recognize parts of speech. This helps you to analyze sentences and understand them. It also helps you to construct good sentences.

## Parts of Speech Table

This is a summary of the 9 parts of speech\*. You can find more detail if you click on each part of speech.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **part of speech** | **function or "job"** | **example words** | **example sentences** |
| [**Verb**](https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/verbs.htm) | action or state | (to) be, have, do, like, work, sing, can, must | **YouTube is** a web site. I **like** ELL Class |
| [**Noun**](https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/nouns.htm) | thing or person | pen, dog, work, music, town, London, teacher, John | This is my **dog**. He lives in my **house**. We live in **London**. |
| [**Adjective**](https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/adjectives.htm) | describes a noun | good, big, red, well, interesting | My dogs are **big**. I like **big** dogs. |
| [**Determiner**](https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/determiners.htm) | limits or "determines" a noun | a/an, the, 2, some, many | I have **two** dogs and **some** rabbits. |
| [**Adverb**](https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/adverbs.htm) | describes a verb, adjective or adverb | quickly, silently, well, badly, very, really | My dog eats **quickly**. When he is **very** hungry, he eats **really** quickly. |
| [**Pronoun**](https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/pronouns.htm) | replaces a noun | I, you, he, she, some | Tara is Indian. **She** is beautiful. |
| [**Preposition**](https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/prepositions.htm) | links a noun to another word | to, at, after, on, but | We went **to** school **on** Monday. |
| [**Conjunction**](https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/conjunctions.htm) | joins clauses or sentences or words | and, but, when | I like dogs **and** I like cats. I like cats **and** dogs. I like dogs **but** I don't like cats. |
| [**Interjection**](https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/interjections.htm) | short exclamation, sometimes inserted into a sentence | oh!, ouch!, hi!, well | **Ouch**! That hurts! **Hi**! How are you? **Well**, I don't know. |

\* Some grammar sources traditionally categorize English into **8** parts of speech. Others say **10**. We will use the more recent categorization of **9** parts of speech. Examples of other categorizations are:

* Verbs may be treated as two different parts of speech:
  + **lexical Verbs** (*work, like, run*)
  + **auxiliary Verbs** (*be, have, must*)
* **Determiners** may be treated as adjectives, instead of being a separate part of speech.

## Parts of Speech Examples

Here are some examples of sentences made with different English parts of speech:

|  |
| --- |
| **verb** |
| Stop! |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **noun** | **verb** |
| John | works. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **noun** | **verb** | **verb** |
| John | is | working. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **pronoun** | **verb** | **noun** |
| She | loves | animals. |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **noun** | **verb** | **noun** | **adverb** |
| Tara | speaks | English | well. |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **noun** | **verb** | **adjective** | **noun** |
| Tara | speaks | good | English. |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **pronoun** | **verb** | **preposition** | **determiner** | **noun** | **adverb** |
| She | ran | to | the | station | quickly. |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **pron.** | **verb** | **adj.** | **noun** | **conjunction** | **pron.** | **verb** | **pron.** |
| She | likes | big | snakes | but | I | hate | them. |

Here is a sentence that contains every part of speech:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **interjection** | **pron.** | **conj.** | **det.** | **adj.** | **noun** | **verb** | **prep.** | **noun** | **adverb** |
| Well, | she | and | my | young | John | walk | to | school | slowly. |