

Maintain this document in a sheet protector and place in the **Grammar Section** of your notebook.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Core: _____

Parts of Speech Handout

NOUN: Names a person, place, thing, idea, creature, quality, emotion, and measurement. Nouns fall into three major types. A **common noun** names any person, place, thing, etc. A **proper noun** names a particular person, place, thing, etc. A **collective noun** names a group but usually acts as a single unit.

Common noun: city, author

Proper noun: Boston, Mark Twain

Collective noun: team, audience

Pronoun: A word used in place of a noun; the word that the pronoun replaces is called its **antecedent**. Pronouns are of several types:

Personal: I, me, you, he, him, she, her, it, we, us, they, them

Possessive: my, your, yours, his, her, hers, its, our, ours, their, theirs

Indefinite: anybody, anyone, anything, nobody, no one, nothing, somebody, someone, something, everybody, everyone, everything, both, few, any, some, one, another, many, most

Demonstrative: this, these, that, those

Reflexive: myself, yourself, ourselves, themselves (all "self" or "selves" words)

Relative: that, which, who, whom, whose

Interrogative: who, whose, what, which

Adjective: Describes a noun or a pronoun; adjectives precede the word they're describing unless they follow a linking verb (for example, "She seems confident"). To be certain that a word is an adjective, place it before a common noun, for example, "car" or "person." If the combination is illogical (like "an often person"), the word in question is not an adjective but another part of speech, probably an adverb.

Examples: **red** car, **sixteen** tons, **wingless** bird, **faded** color

ADVERB: Describes a verb, an adjective, or another adverb. If the adverb is describing an adjective or another adverb, it directly precedes those words. However, if an adverb is describing a verb, it may take one of several possible positions. In the following sentences, the adverb "**sometimes**" describes the verb "make" from different locations:

Sometimes, people make mistakes.

People sometimes make mistakes.

People make mistakes sometimes.

Many adverbs end in "ly" (quickly, suddenly, tactfully), but almost as many do not (often, not, too, very, seldom).

Verb: Shows the action (action verb) or state of being (linking verb) of the subject (a noun or pronoun):

They laugh. (laugh = action verb)

I think. (think = action verb)

He is dedicated. (is = linking verb)

You seem worried. (seem = linking verb)

Linking verbs are usually forms of "**be**" (is, am, are, was, were, be, being, become, seem), look, taste, feel, and sound are sometimes action verbs. **Action verbs** can show mental or emotional action, not just physical action. Verbs like "consider" and "intend" are action verbs. Verbs must agree in number with their subjects: "He laughs," not "He laugh." Verbs can combine with helping or auxiliaries (had, will, should) to form verb phrases.

INFINITIVE: To + the base form of a verb: "to be," "to tickle," "to run."

PREPOSITION: Shows relation between a noun or pronoun and other words in a sentence. Prepositions begin **prepositional phrases** which end with a noun or pronoun called the **object of the preposition**. Some of the most common prepositions are **at, by, for, from, of, to, and with**. The prepositional phrase must be at least two words long, but there can be adjectives and adverbs between the preposition and its object. There may also be multiple objects, as in the following example: "**with** Spike, Roxanne, Sally, and Bart." [Spike, Roxanne, Sally, and Bart" are all objects of the preposition "**with**."]]

CONJUNCTION: A word that connects words, phrases, and clauses. There are **three** major types of conjunctions: **coordinating, subordinating, and correlative conjunctions**. There are **seven** coordinating conjunctions: and, but, or, nor, for, so, and yet (FANBOYS). Subordinating conjunctions are numerous, but the most common are although, because, if, once, since, unless, and until. Correlative conjunctions are few and are used in pairs: both . . . and, either . . . or, neither . . . nor, whether . . . or

INTERJECTION: A word or group of words that expresses strong feeling. It may be followed by an exclamation point or comma, depending on how strong a feeling is expressed. Common interjections (Ah, Aha, Hurray, Ouch, Wow, Oops, Hey, Oh, Yeah, Ugh)

ARTICLE: There are **three** articles in the English language: **a, an, and the**. A and an are called **indefinite** articles, and the is called the **definite** article. Articles are also referred to as determiners or limiting adjectives.

SUBJECT: The main noun or pronoun in a clause or thought. Every complete thought must have a **subject** and a verb.

OBJECT: A noun or pronoun that directly (**direct object**) or indirectly (**indirect object**) receives the action of an action verb. An action verb that requires or allows an object is called a **transitive verb**. An action verb that cannot take an object is called an **intransitive verb**.

COMPLEMENT: Follows a linking verb and names or describes the subject. A complement that renames the subject is called a **predicate noun**. A complement that describes the subject is called a **predicate adjective**. In the sentence, She is a doctor, **doctor** is the complement (predicate noun) that names the subject "She." In the sentence, He is anxious, **anxious** is the complement (predicate adjective) that describes the subject "He."

PARTS OF SPEECH WITHIN A SENTENCE:

In the following sentences, each word is identified as a part of speech.

The man lifted the two children.

The = article
man = subject (noun)
lifted = verb (action)
the = article
two = adjective (describing children)
children = direct object (noun)

Biff ate two meals quickly and then felt ill.

Biff = subject (noun)
ate = verb (action)
two = adjective (describing meals)
meals = direct object (noun)
quickly = adverb (describing ate)
and = conjunction (connecting the two verbs)
then = adverb (describing felt)
felt = verb (linking)
ill = complement (predicate adjective)

She seemed sad today.

She = subject (pronoun)
seemed = verb (linking)
sad = complement (predicate adjective)
today = adverb (describing seemed)