

GCSE English Language

The 8 Parts of Speech



These are the '8 parts of speech' found in English Language. They indicate how the word functions in meaning, as well as grammatically within the sentence.

Adjective

An adjective modifies or describes a noun or pronoun (e.g. small, long, orange, Claire's, beautiful, sour)

Adverb

An adverb modifies or describes a verb, an adjective, or another adverb (how the action occurred e.g. quickly, slowly, loudly, late)

Conjunction

A conjunction joins words, phrases, or clauses (e.g. and, or, yet, because, therefore, moreover, since, until, but)

Interjection

An interjection is a word used to express emotion and is often followed by an exclamation mark (e.g. wow! Oh my! Bravo!)

Noun

A noun is the name of a person, place, thing, or idea (e.g. rock, dog, Paul, gravity, birthday)

Pronoun

A pronoun is a word used in place of a noun, so they replace the name of a person, place or thing (e.g. he, she, it, we, they, him, her, this, that, I)

Preposition

A preposition is a word placed before a noun or pronoun to form a phrase modifying another word in the sentence (e.g. describes relationships such as on, over, for, beside)

Verb

A verb expresses action (e.g. run, jump or read) or a state of being (e.g. is or was)

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How familiar are you with the '8 Parts of Speech'? Complete this quiz, check the ones you got right and most importantly – spend time revising the ones you didn't!

1. What part of speech describes a verb, adjective, or adverb and answers when? where? how? and to what extent?
 - a) Verb
 - b) Adverb
 - c) Adjective
 - d) Preposition
 - e) Noun
2. What part of speech connects words or groups of words? Examples are for, and, nor, but, or, yet, and so?
 - a) Interjection
 - b) Adverb
 - c) Conjunction
 - d) Preposition
 - e) Pronoun
3. What part of speech describes a noun or pronoun and answers the questions which one(s)? How many/much? Or what kind(s)?
 - a) Verb
 - b) Adverb
 - c) Adjective
 - d) Preposition
 - e) Noun
4. Which part of speech expresses a mild or sudden burst of emotion? Examples are wow! or no.?
 - a) Noun
 - b) Adverb
 - c) Interjection
 - d) Preposition
 - e) Adjective
5. Which word must be able to be switched with the word "because" for it to be conjunction? (otherwise, it's a preposition)
 - a) But
 - b) Or
 - c) Because
 - d) For
 - e) Yet
6. Which part of speech is the underlined word in the following sentence? Adverb or Proposition? The boys went inside to eat dinner.
 - a) Adverb
 - b) Preposition

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7. A mild interjection is followed by what kind of punctuation?
a) Semicolon b) Exclamation Point
c) Comma d) Full Stop
e) Colon
8. How many prepositional phrases are in the following sentence? During the month of May, we went on a trip with our friends to Canada
a) 2 b) 3
c) 4 d) 5
e) 6
9. What are the four questions that adverbs can answer?
a) Who? Where? When? Why?
b) When? Where? How? Why?
c) When? Where? What? To what extent?
d) When? Where? How? To what extent?
10. What are three questions that adjectives can answer?
a) Who? What? When? Where?
b) Who? What Kind? To what extent?
c) Which one? What kind? How many?
d) Which one? How many? Why?
11. How many adjectives are in the following sentence, including articles? The red car roared around the sharp corner and hit an old oak tree.
a) 4 b) 5
c) 6 d) 7
e) 8

Answers: Q1 = Adverb (B). Q2 = Conjunction (C). Q3 = Adjective (C). Q4 = Interjection (C). Q5 = For (D). Q6 = Adverb (A). Q7 = Comma (C). Q8 = 5 (D). Q9 = To what extent? When? Where? How? (D). Q10 = Which one? What kind? How many? (C). Q11 = 7 (D)