

LEARN 2

Parts of Speech

Nouns: People, places, things and concepts.

Examples: computer / school / conversation / happiness

→If you can put the word “a” or “the” before it, it’s probably a noun.

Proper Nouns: Capitalized nouns that are the official name of people, places and things.

Examples: Duke University / Ms. Taylor / State of the Union Address / First Bank

→Keep it lower-cased in subsequent references to the “the university” or “the bank.”

Pronouns: Words that substitute for nouns.

Subject pronouns: I / you / he / she / it / we / they / who

Object pronouns: me / you / him / her / it / us / them / whom

Possessive pronouns: mine / yours / his / hers / its / ours / theirs / whose

Possessive adjective pronouns: my / your / his / her / its / our / their / whose

Reflexive pronouns: myself / yourself / himself / herself / itself / ourselves / yourselves / themselves

Examples of indefinite pronouns

(not a complete list): all / anyone / each / everybody / many / some / something

Verbs: Words that convey action or indicate condition; verbs take different tenses.

Examples: begin / seems / going / settled / has thought / could have known / will take place

Adjectives: Words that describe or modify nouns and intransitive verbs.

Examples: yellow / good / sincere / manageable / annoying

Articles: Three specific adjectives: a / an / the, plus **indefinite articles** such as: these / those

Adverbs: Words that qualify or modify verbs, adjectives and other adverbs.

Examples: very / also / charmingly / often / softly / seldom

→Adverbs answer the questions “when,” “where” and “how.” Many, but not all, end in **ly**.

Prepositions: Words that link nouns to other words, defining their relationship.

Examples: to / for / from / in / of

Conjunctions: Words that connect other words or full clauses.

Examples: and / but / or / because

Interjections: Words, phrases or clauses that express strong emotion.

Examples: Oh my! / Gosh! / Hey!

→An interjection can stand alone as a sentence, or it can lead into a thought.

Many words act as different parts of speech depending on the usage. You can put **money in the bank (noun), **bank** (verb) **your savings** and open a **bank** (adjective) **account**.**