

BUILDING BLOCKS OF LANGUAGE

NOUN

Used as a **subject** of a clause **object** of a verb or a preposition. (**NAME** of person, place, etc.)

*The **girl** kissed the **boy** on the **cheek**.*

(**girl**=subject) (**boy**=object of verb) (**cheek**=object of preposition)

PRONOUN

Replaces a noun in a sentence, so the function is the same as a noun.

*She kissed **him** on the **cheek**.* (**She**=subject) (**him**= obj. of the verb) (**cheek**= obj. of prep)

PERSONAL PRONOUNS		Possessive	Possessive	Reflexive	Indefinite	Demonstrative	
Subj.	Object	Adjectives	Pronouns	Pronouns	Pronouns	Pronouns	
I	me	my	mine	myself	all, any	few, many,	this
you	you	your	yours	yourself	another	most	that
he	him	his	his	himself	anybody	neither	these
she	her	her	hers	herself	anyone	nobody	those
it	it	it	its	itself	both, each	none	
we	us	our	ours	ourselves	either	several	somebody
you	you	your,yours	yourselves	everybody	some	who, whom	<u>Relative Pronouns</u>
they	them	their	theirs	themselves	everyone	that, which	

VERBS

A word that expresses action or otherwise helps to make a statement.

*John **runs** in the park every morning.* (**runs**=action verb)

*John **is**, **seems**, **looks**, **appears**, **feels** sleepy this afternoon.* (**is**, **seems**, **looks**, **appears**, **feels** = linking verb)

FOUR FORMS OF A VERB

REGULAR VERB

IRREGULAR VERB

		Simple form	WORK	SEE
		Past form	WORKED	SAW
To be used as verbs, participles MUST HAVE these helping verbs	HAVE	Past Participle	WORKED	SEEN
	BE	Present Participle	WORKING	SEEING

TYPES OF VERBS: LV= Does nothing. Links the subject & complement The student **was** bored.

LINKING VERBS: appear, be, become, feel, grow, look, remain, seem, smell, sound, stay, taste

VI = intransitive verb (has no direct object) The bride cried. (no direct object)

VT= transitive verb (has a direct object) The bride cried real tears. (direct object)

ACTIVE VOICE:: Ann **cooked** the meal. (The subject is active, does the action)

PASSIVE VOICE: The meal **was cooked** by Ann. (The subject is passive, does nothing)

ADJECTIVE

Describes/modifies a noun

*The **young** girl cried when his mother left in the **blue** car.* (**young**, **blue**= describe girl, car)

ADVERB

Describes/modifies a verb. Answers the questions WHY, WHEN, HOW, WHERE

*The man ran **quickly**.* (**quickly**=describes ran. HOW did he run?)

Describes/modifies an adjective

*The **really** beautiful woman smiled at me.* (**really**=HOW beautiful?)

Describes/modifies another adverb

*The woman talked **very** distinctly.* (**very**=HOW distinctly?)

Describes/modifies a whole sentence.

***Fortunately**, this class is over.* (**Fortunately**=describes the whole sentence)

PREPOSITION Shows the relationship of a noun/pronoun to some other word in the sentence

*The book is **on** the table.*(**on**=tells WHERE)*I'll read the book **in** the morning.*(**in**=tells WHEN)

about	around	beside	except	of, off, on	under
above	at	between	from, for	on top of	underneath
across	because of	beyond, by	in, into	out of	until
after	before	despite	in front of	over	up, upon
against	behind	down	in spite of	since	with
along	below	due to	like, near	through	within
among	beneath	during	next to	to,toward	without

ARTICLES Use before nouns. **A/AN** = use before indefinite nouns
THE = use before definite nouns
AN=Use before vowel sounds: an apple, an egg, an hour, an umbrella,
A =Use before consonant sounds: a ball, a house, a university, a yawn

CONJUNCTIONS Join words or groups of words together.
Coordinating Conjunctions: and / but / or / nor / for / yet / so = *FANBOYS*
Correlative Conjunctions: either...or / neither....nor/whether...or/both...and not only...but (also)
Subordinating Conjunctions:
 after because since unless wherever
 although before so that until whether
 as if than when while
 as long as in order that though whenever

INTERJECTION A word that expresses emotion and has no grammatical relation to other words in the sentence. **Examples:** Oh! Hurry! Ouch! Wow! Cool!

THE STRUCTURE OF A SENTENCE

SUBJECT The part of the sentence about which something is being said.
Faculty and students planned a new class schedule.
The dinner on the terrace looked magazine-perfect.

PREDICATE The part of the sentence which says something about the subject; the verb plus everything that comes after it. A simple predicate is the VERB.
*Faculty and students **planned a new class schedule.***
*The dinner on the terrace **looked magazine-perfect.***

COMPLEMENT A way to COMPLETE the verb.

WITH NOTHING: *Carl is reading. / After dinner, Anne sleeps.*

WITH A PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE: *After dinner, Anne slept **under a blue blanket.***
*After dinner, Anne slept **on the floor in the sun.***

DIRECT OBJECT: **Receives the action of the verb**
*I took **Kate** to the carnival. / Carrie has written **her essay.***

TESTS FOR A DIRECT OBJECT:

1. The object must be a NOUN or PRONOUN.
2. It comes after an ACTION VERB.
3. Answers WHO, WHAT of the verb.
4. Can NEVER be a PREP. PHRASE.

INDIRECT OBJECT: **Doesn't exist w/o a direct object. Tells the PERSON for whom the action of the verb is done.**

*I gave **Kate** a miniature carnival for her dolls.*
*Carrie sent **Jill** her essay.*

OBJECTIVE COMPLEMENT: **An additional complement following the object. Only a few verbs meaning "make/consider" take an OC:** elect, appoint, name, choose,

consider, make

*You made her **jealous.** / They elected Bill Clinton **President of the USA.***

SUBJECT COMPLEMENT: **Refer to describe, explain, identify the subject.**
ALWAYS follows a LINKING VERB

Predicate Adjective: *Life in Italy was **glorious.** / Tom was always **happy.***

Predicate Nominative: *New York is **my favorite city.** / Fred is **Dave's nephew.***

SENTENCE PATTERNS:

S + VT + DO	Charles squeezed the toothpaste tube.
S + VT + IO + DO	Charles gave Katie the empty tube.
S + VT + DO + OC (A)	Charles made Katie furious.
S + VT + DO + OC (N)	Katie considered him a lunatic.
S + LV + PA	Charles was wounded.
S + LV + PN	Katie became the consoling wife.
S + VI + PP	They fell into each other's arms.

CLAUSES

VERBALS

VERBALS: Verb forms that are made from verbs but perform the function of NOUNS, ADJECTIVES, or ADVERBS. Verbals are NOT used as verbs in a sentence.

1. Cannot take the place of a sentence verb.
2. A group of words containing a verbal but no sentence verb is a fragment.
3. The three verbal forms: **gerund, infinitive, participle**

GERUND: A verb form (present participle) ending in *-ing* that is used as a NOUN

It functions as a subject, a complement, an object of a preposition, or an appositive.

Gerund as subject	<i>Planning the work required hours of time.</i>
Gerund as a direct object	<i>Sandra hates planning for the future.</i>
Gerund as obj of preposition	<i>The president thanked Tom for planning the party.</i>
Gerund as an appositive	<i>Sid's forte, planning weddings, took talent.</i>

INFINITIVE: A verb form (simple form) preceded by TO = TO SING, TO SLEEP

It is used as a noun, an adjective or an adverb.

Infinitive as a noun (S)	<i>To attack without provocation is cowardly.</i>
Infinitive as direct object	<i>Sam likes to attack bullies.</i>
Infinitive as an adjective	<i>Sam saw groups of people to attack.</i>
Infinitive as an adverb	<i>Sam rode fast to escape.</i>

PARTICIPLE: A verb form (present/past participle) that is used as an adjective.

Pres.part. as adjective	<i>The baby, crying non-stop, couldn't sleep.</i>
Past participle as adjective	<i>The broken dish sat on the table.</i>
Past participle as adjective	<i>The faded coat needed mending.</i>

PHRASES

PHRASE: A group of related words not containing a verb and its subject.
A phrase is used as a single part of speech.

PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE: A group of words beginning with a preposition and ending with a noun or pronoun. Function = ADJECTIVE or ADVERB.

PP/Adjective *The plan **of the house** is simple.*

PP/Adverb *Sue practices **before school**. (WHEN)*

*Sue practices **in her studio**. (WHERE) Sue practices **for weeks**. (TO WHAT EXTENT)*

*Sue practices **for her own good**. (WHY) Sue practices **with diligence**. (HOW)*

GERUND PHRASE: A gerund and any complement or modifiers = NOUN

GP used as a subject ***Being late for school** is his worst habit.*

GP used as obj. of a preposition *She worked at **getting good grades**.*

GP used as a direct object *Ralph considered **getting a new car**.*

INFINITIVE PHRASE: An infinitive and any complement or modifiers

Functions as a NOUN, and ADJECTIVE or ADVERB

INF as S + PN ***To live within a budget** is to suffer.*

INF as a direct object *Kelly wants **To marry an Italian**.*

INF as ADVERB modifying the verb *Millie left **to avoid the traffic**.*

INF as a predicate adjective *His wife seems **to be very pleasant**.*

PARTICIPIAL PHRASE: A participle and any complement or modifiers = ADJECTIVE

***Disappointed by his test score**, Roger tore the paper into pieces.*

***Having written the letter**, Julie put it in an envelope to mail.*

*The boy **crossing the boulevard** stole some candy from the store.*

APPOSITIVE PHRASE: An appositive is a word or phrase that explains, identifies, or renames the word it follows. It may be a **noun phrase**, a **gerund phrase**, or an **infinitive phrase**.

*Noun phrase The book, **a long novel about politics**, is boring*

*Gerund phrase Jane knew a way out of her difficulty: **telling the truth**.*

*Infinitive phrase His goal, **to make a million dollars**, was too ambitious.*

ESSENTIAL *The Victorian poets **Tennyson and Browning** were superb writers.*

NON-ESSENTIAL *Tennyson and Browning, **two Victorian poets**, were superb writers.*