

# Word classes in modern English and their usage in English grammar

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**Abstract:** This article defines the parts of speech in English language and gives definition of word classes in modern English. Besides, we tried to explain three criteria for determining the word class of a word and appropriate example are given for them.

**Key words:** verbs, nouns, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, pronouns, conjunctions, interjections, determiners, articles

Words can be categorized based on what they "do" in a sentence, or according to their function. The words are taught in morphology branch of linguistics. The main classes into which words are divided are- determiners, prepositions, pronouns, conjunctions, and interjections are the other five word classes. Thus, there are a total of nine-word classes (or parts of speech).

**Verbs** are words that express action or a state, such as run, work, study, be, or seem. Action words like verbs describe what happens in a statement. They can also convey the emotional condition of a sentence subject (is, was). Based on tense (present, past) and count distinction, verbs alter in form (singular or plural). For instance, sing, dance, believe, seem, complete, eat, drink, be, and become

The terms "mother," "town," "Rome," "vehicle," and "dog" are examples of **nouns**. Nouns can be an object, place, person, or idea. They can play a variety of roles in a sentence, ranging from the overall topic to the action's object. Proper nouns are capitalized when they are used as the official name of something or someone such as the Caribbean, a pirate, a ship.

**Adjectives**, such as nice, clever, and expensive, are words that characterize nouns. Nouns and pronouns are described by adjectives. They include information like which, how much, what sort, and more. Readers and listeners can use adjectives to describe something in more detail by using their senses. Examples are hot, lazy, amusing, different, gorgeous, brilliant, and smooth.

Words like "soon," "back," "ever," "badly," "away generally," and "totally" are examples of **adverbs** that modify verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs. Adverbs can describe other adverbs, verbs, and even adjectives. They describe what happened, when it happened, how it happened, why it happened, and how frequently or in what detail. Examples include: lazily, frequently, only, gently, occasionally, and quietly.

**Prepositions**, such as after, down, near, of, plus, and round, are words that are typically placed in front of a noun or pronoun to convey a relationship to another word or element. Prepositions highlight the unique, chronological, and functional relationships that exist between a noun or pronoun and the other words in a phrase. They appear at the beginning of a prepositional phrase that also contains its object. Examples include up, over, by, into, near, out of, and apart from.

Words that replace nouns include **pronouns** like "I," "you," "his," "it," "this," "that," "mine," "yours," "who," and "what." In a sentence, pronouns take the place of nouns.

They are more generalized forms of nouns that only refer to individuals. I, you, he, she, it, ours, them, who, which, anyone, and ourselves are some examples.

**Conjunctions**, such as *but, and, yet, or, because, nor, although, since, unless, while, or where*, are words that connect other words, phrases, clauses, or sentences. In a sentence, conjunctions link words, phrases, and clauses. There are conjunctions that are coordinating, subordinating, and correlative. Examples include, but, so, yet, with, and.

**Interjections**, such as *ah, hey, uh, ouch, um, and well*, have no grammatical importance. Interjections are expressions that can be used as stand alone words or as parts of sentences. These expressions frequently evoke strong feelings and reactions. Examples include: whoops, yabba, dabba do, and ah!

**Determiners** are words that begin a noun sentence. It always precedes a noun, never after, as well as any additional adjectives used to characterize the noun. For instance, *I ate the chocolate cookie for dessert or the bunny went home*. They define or describe a noun. Although articles modify nouns similarly to adjectives, they differ in that they are necessary for appropriate sentence syntax, just like determiners are required to convey a sentence's meaning, but adjectives are not. While articles and determiners also serve to modify nouns, they vary from adjectives in that they are required for appropriate sentence syntax. There are both definite and indefinite articles, which specify and identify nouns. **Articles** are - *a, an, and the*.

1. The class consists of 30 children.

The noun class is the members of the class.

2. Immigrant workers were classed as aliens.

The verb class is the action that workers perform.

3. She is a real class art.

The attributive noun class modifies the pronoun of 'she'.

There are combination of three criteria for determining the word class of a word:

1. The meaning of the word
2. The form or 'shape' of the word
3. The position or 'environment' of the word in a sentence

About the kind of meanings that words carry, we make generalizations. In reality, this method of identifying nouns in the class has historically been widely used. It has also been used to describe verbs, claiming that they signed some sort of "activity," such as cooking or driving. This strategy has certain advantages because it enables us to identify word classes by swapping out words in a phrase for ones with "similar" meanings. For instance, we can substitute different "action" words for the verb run in the statement - My son runs every Sunday:

My son runs every Sunday

My son run a second time in election on Sunday

My son run me some tests on me on Sunday.

My son runs my business every Sunday.

This replacement test means that all of these words fall under the category of "action" words or verbs.

Compare these two:

[1] *I run every Sunday*

[2] *The first run of 5 copies sold out.*

In [1], run is a verb, but in [2], it is a noun. We can see that it is a verb in [1] because it takes the inflections which are typical of verbs:

*My son runs every Sunday.*

*Chicken runs are big.*

And "run" is a noun in [2] because it takes the plural -s inflection. This debate should have made it abundantly evident that there is no direct correlation between classes of words and their meanings. Run can be used as a verb or a noun, depending on the context. In actuality, many words can be classified under multiple headings.

*She looks very pale (verb).*

*She's very proud of her looks (noun).*

Each italicized word might belong to more than one-word class. Nevertheless, depending on how they are employed, they can only belong to one-word class at a time. Therefore, it is incorrect to assert something like "run is a verb."

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