**THE PARTS OF SPEECH**

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Every type of word in a sentence has a name, and these names are known as the parts of speech. This poem gives you a handy reminder of each of them:

Every name is called a **noun**,

As field and fountain, street and town.

In place of noun the **pronoun** stands,

As he and she can clap their hands.

The **adjective** describes a thing,

As magic wand and bridal ring.

The **verb** means action, something done,

To read, to write, to jump, to run.

How things are done, the **adverbs** tell,

As quickly, slowly, badly, well.

The **preposition** shows relation,

As in the street, or at the station.

**Conjunctions** join, in many ways,

Sentences, words, or phrase and phrase.

The **interjection** cries out, “Hark!

I need an exclamation mark!”

Through poetry, we learn how each

Of these make up the **parts of speech**.

The information of the following pages tells you more about these part of speech.

**NOUN**

A noun is a name for a thing, a person, or a place. Words such as bus, chair, dragon firework, hosepipe, maggot, octopus, teacher, and tree are all nouns.

**PRONOUN**

Pronouns are words that are used as stand-ins for nouns. This means that you can use them instead of nouns to really liven up your speaking or reading.

**Personal pronoun**

The words listed below are called personal pronouns.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Subject** | **Object** | **Possessive**  |
| i | me | mine |
| you | you | yours |
| he | him | his |
| she  | her | hers |
| it | it | its |
| we | us | ours |
| they | them | theirs |

**ADJECTIVES**

Sometimes a noun on its own just doesn’t give you enough detail-you may want to add information. To do this, you use a word called an adjective. Think of it as an added extra that describes the noun.

An adjective goes before the noun it is describing, like this:

a blue moon

a gorgeous girl

a grumpy teacher

the top floor

an ugly bug

**Comparison**

A comparative adjective always goes hand in hand with “than”. You should use a superlative adjective when you are comparing several things, as in:

My dessert is the smallest of the three.

Here are some more examples:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Adjective** | **Comparative** | **Superlative** |
| small | smaller | smallest |
| big | bigger | biggest |
| large | larger | largest |
| narrow | narrower | narrowest |
| pale | paler | palest |
| rich | richer | richest |
| easy | easier | easiest |

Adjectives that have more than two syllables, such as “beautiful” and “popular,” do not follow the same rule. For example, there’s no such thing as “beautifuller” and “beautifullest.” For these adjectives you should always use the words “more” and “than” to make your comparison. For example:

* Your painting is more beautiful than me.

To make superlative, you should use “most”:

* Your painting is the most beautiful of all.

This rule also works for any adjective ending in “-ous,” “-ing,” or “-ed,” such as famous, boring, or excited.

**Rule Breakers**

Finally, there are a few adjectives that break all the rules. Here are a few examples:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Adjective** | **Comparative** | **Superlative** |
| bad | worse | worst |
| good | better | best |
| little | less | least |
| fun | more fun | most fun |
| many/much | more | most |

**VERBS**

Verbs are “doing” words. Cry, do, go, have, laugh, like, run, skip, speak, splutter, tell, try, wish. They describe the actions of someone or something in a sentence. Without a verb, you don’t have a sentence:

* Jason a mountain
* Lucy her violin
* Cats mice

You need a verb for each group of words above to make them make sense.

* Jason climbed a mountain
* Lucy plays her violin
* Cats chase mice