

ScholarSkills Definitions of the Parts of Speech

A **noun** is a naming word: nouns name persons, places, things, or ideas.

A **pronoun** takes the place of a noun.

A **verb** is an action, being, or helping word.

A **subject** is a word or group of words that answers the question: who or what verb?

The **predicate** is a word or group of words that tells us what the subject is doing or being.

An **object** is a word or group of words that answers the question: verb who or what?

An **indirect object** is a word that answers the question verb to whom or for whom?

A **subject complement** is a word or group of words that answers the question “verb who or what?” when the verb is a linking word.

When the complement is an adjective it is called a **predicate adjective**.

When the complement is a noun or pronoun it is called a **predicate nominative**.

An **adverb** is a word or group of words that answers the following questions: verb where? verb when? verb why? verb how?. Adverbs also answer “how?” and “to what extent?” about adjectives and other adverbs.

An **adjective** is a word or group of words that answers the following questions: what kind? which one? how many nouns?

A **phrase** is a group of words without a subject-verb relationship.

Prepositions are words which begin phrases that end with a noun or pronoun and act like adverbs or adjectives.

Conjunctions connect. They help us to create and understand the relationships between words and groups of words in sentences.

Coordinating conjunctions (FANBOYS—For,And,Nor,But,Or,Yet,So) connect words and help to create compound sentences.

Subordinating conjunctions create dependent clauses and complex sentences.

A **clause** is a group of words with a subject-verb relationship.

Dependent clauses are incomplete thoughts.

Independent clauses are complete sentences.

ScholarSkills Grammar and Vocabulary Pre-test

Identify any subject, verb, object, adverb, adjective, subordinating conjunction, coordinating conjunction, predicate, prepositional phrase or dependent clause that you can find in any of the groups of words below. **Each group of words may or may not contain any or all of the grammatical terms listed below it. Also if there are two clauses, please simply identify the subject and verb of the main clause.**

1. Lisa liked the boy who lived next door.

subject _____ Lisa

verb _____ liked

object _____ boy

adverb _____ next door

conjunction _____ none

dependent clause _____ who lived next door

2. The house on the hill

subject _____ house

verb _____ none

object _____ none

adverb _____ on the hill

conjunction _____ none

dependent clause _____ none

3. John is my brother and my best friend.

subject _____ John

verb _____ is

object _____ none

adverb _____ none

conjunction _____ and

dependent clause _____ none

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4. He has been here for four hours.

subject _____ He

verb _____ has been

object _____ none

adverb _____ here, for four hours

conjunction _____ none

dependent clause _____ none

5. When I came home, I showered immediately.

subject _____ I

verb _____ came, showered

object _____ none

adverb _____ home, immediately

conjunction _____ When

dependent clause _____ When I came home

6. William was planning to come yesterday, but he changed his mind.

subject _____ William, he

verb _____ was planning, changed

object _____ none

adverb _____ yesterday

dependent clause _____ none

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Part II: Vocabulary

Define the following words on a separate sheet of looseleaf paper:

Intractable: hard to manage or solve,

intermittent: happening sporadically, every now and then

seduce: to deceive someone and cause them to do wrong

recede: to move backwards

retract: to take back

circumlocution: to speak in circles to avoid being direct; not coming to the point

advent: to come to

intervene: to get involved

egregious: very wrong

coherent: makes sense