



GoBack

Level One Definitions

Parts of Speech

Before we begin a systematic practice of one-level analysis, we must memorize the major definitions in Level One grammar. GoBack is a memorization game; the instructor asks for definitions, and when you miss one, you have to go back to the beginning! You can use these definitions for the major terms in the **parts of speech**.

- grammar:** a way of thinking about language
- list the four levels:** parts of speech, parts of sentence, phrases, clauses
- parts of speech:** the eight kinds of words in English
- noun:** the name of a person, place, or thing
- pronoun:** a word that takes the place of a noun
- subject pronouns:** pronouns used for subjects
- list the subject pronouns:** *I, you, he, she, they, it, we, you, they*
- object pronouns:** pronouns used for objects
- list the object pronouns:** *me, you, him, her, them, it, us, you, them*
- adjective:** a word that modifies a noun or pronoun
- articles:** the three adjectives *a, an, the*
- list the definite article:** the adjective *the*
- list the indefinite articles:** the adjectives *a* and *an*
- degrees of adjectives:** positive, comparative, superlative
- verb:** a word that shows action or being or links a subject to a subject complement
- adverb:** modifies a verb, adjective, or another adverb
- conjunction:** a word that joins two words or two groups of words
- list the coordinating conjunctions:** *and, but, or, nor, for, so, yet*
- list subordinating conjunctions:** *if, as, since, when, because...*
- list correlative conjunctions:** *either/or, neither/nor, not only/but also*
- preposition:** shows the relationship between its object and another word in the sentence
- interjection:** shows emotion but has no grammatical function

Parts of Speech:

Punctuation, Usage, and Grammar

Before we turn our attention to Level Two, parts of sentence, let us highlight a few of the more important punctuation, usage, and grammar rules that apply specifically to the **parts of speech**. For a comprehensive review of these rules, consult the appendix at the end of the book.

PUNCTUATION

comma (,):

after introductory interjections: No, I want no geese present.

between all items in a list: Eggbert ate eggs, eggs, eggs, eggs, and eggs.

between *coordinate* adjectives preceding a noun: Find a short, green stalk.

NOT between *cumulative* adjectives preceding a noun: Get five blue ones.

NOT between compound subjects/predicates: Sleepy and Dopey were mopey.

italics (*italics*):

words, letters, and numbers as such: the word *legion*, the letter *a*, and the number 5

foreign language words: *déjà vu*

apostrophe ('):

noun made into a possessive: Trajan's quotation

missing letter in a contraction: don't

missing numbers in a year contraction: '47

with an *s* to show possession after a singular noun: Dickens's novel

Note that singular nouns ending in *s* still add 's: Socrates's philosophy
alone to show possession after a plural noun ending in *s*: dogs' bones

in the contraction of the pronoun *it* and the verb *is*: It's a good day to diet.

NOT in the possessive pronoun *its*

hyphen (-):

compound written numbers from twenty-one to ninety-nine

fractions: a three-fourths majority

compound adjective when it precedes its noun: a well-meant lie