

Word Classes

Nouns

Name 'things', objects, people or places.

Common nouns = general
woman, town, table, anger, success, hunger

Proper nouns = specific/unique
Susan, London, Tesco, Easter, Friday, July

Pronouns

Replace nouns (or noun phrases) to avoid repetition.

Ben looked at the huge sandwich and then
Ben ate the huge sandwich. X

Ben looked at the huge sandwich and then
he ate it. ✓

Verbs

- Action words.
- Show what someone or something:
 - is It is hot today. I was tired.
 - has Jess has a dog. I had a headache.
 - or does Ben runs home. She ate her dinner.

Prepositions

Tell you when or where something is taking place in relation to something else.

In the morning, the cat usually hides under the table.

Note: words like before and after can act as prepositions or as conjunctions

I finished my dinner before Ben. (preposition)

I finished my dinner before I went to bed. (conjunction)

Prepositions link phrases to clauses.

Conjunctions link clauses to clauses.

Adverbs

Often modify (give extra meaning to) verbs

Jack always snores loudly.

I tiptoed upstairs.

Can also modify adjectives...

That match was really exciting!

Other adverbs...

Rather suddenly, the cat pounced.

Or entire clauses

Fortunately, it didn't rain at my BBQ.

Adjectives

Describe nouns/pronouns.

James read a terrible book.

He was horrible.

Conjunctions

Link clauses together. 2 types:

Co-ordinating conjunctions (FANBOYS)

Link 2 main clauses together.

I love cake but it makes me feel sick.

Subordinating conjunctions

Introduce a subordinate clause.

I like cake because it is sweet.

Note: co-ordinating conjunctions also link words and phrases

The fierce dog and the stubborn cat fought as James and Jack looked on.

Determiners

- Come before nouns.
- Tell you which 'thing' is being talked about.

her dogs

both dogs

many dogs

those big dogs

the energetic, agile dogs

Note: the following are determiners and pronouns at the same time:

my, your, his, her, its, our, their

Subject & Object

- Most sentences are structured subject, verb, object.
- The subject is the focus of a sentence.

Subjects and objects can be nouns, noun phrases or pronouns

My brother shouted at your brother.
S V O

Charlie was chasing the fluffy sheep.
S V O

A man in blue overalls fixed the door to the kitchen.
S V O

He fixed it.

Sentence Construction

Phrase

- A group of words that is missing a subject, a verb or both.
- Phrases are used to build clauses.

the large cat (noun phrase)

rather unfortunately (adverb phrase)

beside the canal (preposition phrase)

Clause

A group of words that contain a subject and a verb.

The dog

barked

main

because it was

hungry.

subordinate

Main Clauses

Make sense on their own; they are complete thoughts.

I love pizza.

I love pizza but Ben prefers pasta.

I love pizza although I rarely have it.

A main clause on its own is called a single-clause sentence.

Noun Phrase

A group of words that work together and contain a noun.

the cat

the large cat

the large cat in the tree

Last 2 = expanded noun phrases

Subordinate Clauses

- Do not make sense on their own; they need a main clause.
- Often start with a subordinated conjunction.

I love pizza although I rarely have it.

After I had eaten, I went to lie down.

Relative Clauses

- Special type of subordinate clause.
- Add extra information about a noun.
- Start with a relative pronoun (who, which, that, where, whose).

My brother was born in the hospital where my dad works.

The table, which is made of oak, is now black with age. (parenthesis)

Multi-Clause Sentences

Contain multiple (more than one) clauses. 2 types:

Co-ordinated multi-clause sentences

- Contain at least 2 main clauses linked together by a co-ordinating conjunction.
- Both main clauses are equal - they each make sense on their own.

I love cake but it makes me feel sick.

Subordinated multi-clause sentences

Contain a main clause and at least 1 subordinate clause.

I love pizza although I rarely have it.

The dog, which was fat, barked because it was hungry.

Adverbial

- Any word, phrase or clause that does the job of an adverb (modifier).
- Tells you how, when or where something occurs.

Anything underlined below is functioning as an adverbial:

Jack snores loudly. (adverb - how does he snore?)

Rather suddenly, the cat pounced. (adverb phrase - how did it pounce?)

The bus arrived at my house. (preposition phrase - where did it arrive?)

Last week, Emma played football. (noun phrase - when did she play?)

She slept after she had made lunch. (subordinate clause - when did she sleep?)

Functions of Sentences

Questions ?

- When someone is asking something.
- **Think:** does it require a response?

Which is your favourite? ✓

Is this your favourite? ✓

This is your favourite, isn't it? ✓

Ask John if vanilla is his favourite. X

Exclamations . or !

- Show anger/joy/humour.
- Start with what or how.

What a lovely day!

How fantastic!

Statements . or !

- Simply tell you something.
- **Think:** if it's not one of the other 3, it's a S.

I've finished my homework.

You must eat your greens.

Times tables are important.

Commands . or !

- Boss you around (imperative verb).
- **Think:** instructions or drill sergeant.

Before you go out, cut the grass. ✓

When you get home, put the oven on. ✓

You will need to wash up after dinner. X