

# Parts of a sentence



Nearly all sentences need nouns and verbs in them in order to make sense of the statement. Additional words are used to add interest and information to the sentence.

A **noun** is a *naming* word.

**Common nouns** are the general names for things e.g. cat, dog, table, chair, man, woman and child

**Proper nouns** are the names of people, places and things. They all start with a capital letter e.g. Paul, Sarah, Leeds or Rover.

**Collective nouns** name groups of things e.g. flock, herd and swarm.

An **adjective** *describes* a noun.

Adjectives help create pictures the mind, helping us to imagine the situation better and making sentences more interesting e.g. the tall man, the noisy dog, the yellow flowers.

A **pronoun** can be used *in place of a noun*. This prevents words such as people's names from being repeated and making the sentences dull. He, she, I, it, they, we and you are all pronouns.

A **verb** is an *action* word.

Verbs tell you what the person or thing in the sentence is doing. Walking, talking, ate and listened are all verbs.

Verbs change tense to show us when the things happen: past, present and future. Examples are: I ate, I am eating, I shall eat or I was, I am, I will be.

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An **adverb** describes a verb.

For example: the boy ran quickly, the dog barked noisily.

Adverbs such as quite, very, totally and completely can also be used with adjectives e.g. the dog was very muddy, the girl is very beautiful.

**Prepositions** tell us about place, time or movement. They include words such as in, at, of, by, to, between, for, into, up and down.

They can also be used to connect two words e.g. interested in football, afraid of the dark.

We use **connectives** to join two short sentences and make one, longer, more interesting or more informative sentence. They include words such as and, but, because, although, or, until and so.

Joanna<sub>(proper noun)</sub> quickly<sub>(adverb)</sub> followed<sub>(verb)</sub> the dirty<sub>(adjective)</sub> dog<sub>(noun)</sub> into<sub>(preposition)</sub> the house<sub>(noun)</sub> because<sub>(connective)</sub> she<sub>(pronoun)</sub> did not want<sub>(verb)</sub> him<sub>(pronoun)</sub> to leave<sub>(verb)</sub> mud<sub>(noun)</sub> on<sub>(preposition)</sub> the clean<sub>(adjective)</sub> floor<sub>(noun)</sub>.

Joanna quickly followed the dirty dog into the house because she did not want him to leave mud on the clean floor.