

Tips: The Parts of Speech

1. **Nouns:** anything that is concrete/physical can be seen, touched, tasted, felt as well as thoughts, ideas, or emotions. (The subject of the sentence is most often a noun). If you can put an A, An, or The or a possessive pronoun (his, her, my, your) before a word you think is a noun and it makes sense, then you have a noun.
2. **Pronouns:** have to memorize 1st person (I, me, my, mine, we, our, us), 2nd person (you, your, yours), 3rd person (he, his, her, hers, him, her, it, its, they, them, their), other pronouns--who, whose, whom, what, which, this, that, these, those, and any word that ends with “self” or “selves,” and the indefinite pronouns—words that end in “one,” “body,” or “thing.”
3. **Verbs:** words that show what the subject or a noun “is, has, does, or feels.” What a noun is doing or how it is described. Must know the “Being Verbs:” is, am, are, was, were, be, being, been, the “Doing Verbs:” do, does, did, has, have, had, and should, could, would, may, might, will. Verbs often end in “ED” or “ES.”
4. **Adjectives:** must find the nouns and pronouns in the sentence and look at the words that describe them. There may be several nouns together, stacked up with the last one in the string being a noun and the rest adjectives. In order to have these, you must find the nouns in the sentence.
5. **Adverbs:** most commonly end in “LY,” describe frequency (always, never, sometimes, seldom, forever, almost, soon), and just need to remember “very,” “not,” “here,” “there,” and “too.” Start with the verbs firsts seeing if any words describe/clarify the verb, then look for the other descriptive word strings.
6. **Prepositions:** remember anywhere a mouse can go (in, to, on, over, next to, into, beyond, under, between, around, through, between, from, by, in front of). Must remember “with,” “of,” “at,” “during.”
7. **Conjunctions:** must memorize the coordinating conjunctions FANBOYS (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so)—used to connect ideas, two complete independent but connected sentences/clauses, or in a series. Subordinating conjunctions—after, although, as, because, before, besides, even though, if, since, though, unless, when, wherever (ABE IS TUV)—used to join a dependent clause with an independent clause making a complex sentence.
8. **Interjections:** show emotions with an exclamation mark! Or, interrupt and are offset by commas on either side of them.