

THE PARTS OF SPEECH



Noun



Pronoun



Verb



Adjective

NOUN

- A noun is the name of a person, place, thing, or idea. For example, *Man... Butte College... house... happiness*

Nouns are often used with an article (*the, a, an*), but not always. Proper nouns always start with a capital letter; common nouns do not.

- Nouns can be singular or plural, concrete or abstract. Nouns show possession by adding 's.
- For example, a noun can be a subject, direct object, indirect object, subject complement, or object of a preposition.

PRONOUN

- A pronoun is a word used in place of a noun. For example, *She... we... they... It*
- A pronoun is usually substituted for a specific noun, which is called its antecedent.
- *The young girl brought me a very long letter from the teacher, and then she quickly disappeared. Oh my!*
- Pronouns are further defined by type: personal pronouns refer to specific persons or things; possessive pronouns indicate ownership; reflexive pronouns are used to emphasize another noun or pronoun; relative pronouns introduce a subordinate clause; and demonstrative pronouns identify, point to, or refer to nouns.

VERB

- The verb in a sentence expresses action or being (*Jump... Is... Write... Become*).
- There is a main verb and sometimes one or more helping verbs. ("*She can sing.*" *Sing* is the main verb; *can* is the helping verb.)
- A verb must agree with its subject in number (both are singular or both are plural). Verbs also take different forms to express tense.
- For example, *The young girl **brought** me a very long letter from the teacher, and then she quickly **disappeared**. Oh my!*

ADJECTIVE

An adjective is a word used to modify or describe a noun or a pronoun. For example,
pretty... old... blue... Smart

It usually answers the question of which one, what kind, or how many.

*The **young** girl brought me a very **long** letter from the teacher, and then she quickly disappeared. Oh my!*