



english grammar.

section 1.

the parts of speech.

there are many words in the english language, but there are only a few different sorts or kinds of words.

art. 1. the several kinds or classes of words are called by the general name of parts of speech.

the word parts means divisions, and speech means language, so that the expression, parts of speech, means divisions of language.

Let us now examine these parts of speech, or divisions of language.

1. the noun.

what does the word noun mean?

art 2. the word noun means name.

Since the word noun means name, what is a noun?

art 3. a noun is the name of anything; as henry, boy, ohio, book, truth.

parisng

what is the first thing to be done in parisng?

art 4. the first thing to be done in parisng is, to tell what part of speech a word is.

1. the horse trots.

(horse is a noun because it is a name.)

- 2. william is playing.
- 3. mary has gone.
- 4. ann remains here.
- 5. the boy is studying.
- 8. the dog runs fast.
- 9. the cow gives milk.
- 10. the hens eat corn.
- 11 a tree has leaves.

6. the girl is talking.

7. the child is sick.

how may a noun be distinguished from the other parts of speech?

art 3. by its meaning, it being always the name of something; as, apple, man, wisdom.

proper and common nouns.

what does the word proper mean?

art 5. the word proper means peculiar, or suitable.

what is a proper noun?

art 7. a proper noun is a name peculiar to an individual; as, george, new york, the Ohio.

(the name george is peculiar to some particular person; new york, to a particular city; and Ohio, to river or state.)

how do proper nouns always commence?

art 8. proper nouns always commence with a capital letter.

what does the word common mean?

art 9. the word common means general.

what is a common noun?

art 10. a common noun is a general name, or a name common to many individuals; as, boy, man, river.

(there are many boys in the world, but the name boy is common to them all; so there are many men and rivers, but the names man and river are common to them all.)

when do proper nouns become common nouns?

art 11. proper nouns become common nouns when they are used for several persons or things; as, the jameses, the johnsons, americans, spaniards.

12. a house has doors.

13. a carriage goes on wheels.

11. the pronoun.

what does the word pronoun mean?

art 12. the word pronoun means instead of a noun, or for a noun.

it, instead of saying, 'charles is happy, because charles is good,' we say, 'charles is happy, because he is good,' what word do we use instead of the noun charles? answer he.

what shall we call he?

a pronoun, because it stands for a noun.

what is a pronoun?

art 13. a pronoun is a word that is used instead of a noun, as, 'charles is happy, because he is good.'

if i say of mary, 'she reads well,' which is the pronoun?

she is the pronoun, because it stands for the noun mary.

if i say of a dog, 'it barks,' which is the pronoun?

it is the pronoun, because it is used for the noun dog.

if i say of some children, 'they go to school,' which is the pronoun?

they is the pronoun, because it stands for the noun children.

it, in speaking to george, instead of saying, 'george must go,' i say, 'you must go,' which is the pronoun?

you is the pronoun, because it is used for the name of the person spoken to.

if you say, 'i will go,' what pronoun do you use instead of your own name? answer i.

if, in speaking of george and yourself together, you say, 'we will go,' what pronoun do you use instead of your own names? answer we.

will you now repeat the pronouns you have learned?

art 14. *i, we, you, he, she, it, they.*

III. the adjective.

what does the word adjective mean?

art 15. the word adjective means, that can add to*

what shall we call such words as *sweet, sour, large, white, all, some, two, &c.*

art 16. adjectives, because they add something to the meaning of the particular noun with which they are used and thus qualify or describe it.

what, then, is an adjective?

art 17. an adjective is a word that is used to qualify a noun or pronoun; as, *a small apple, a large man, two trees, he is good.*

what do you understand by the word *quality*, as used in this definition?

art 18. it signifies to vary the meaning, to limit, or extend.

an, a, and the.

in the phrase, '*an apple*', which is the adjective?

art 20. *an* is the adjective, because it qualifies the noun *apple*, by limiting its application to one apple.

from what is the word *an* derived?

art 21. *an* is derived from the old word *ane* (the same as *one*), by omitting the *e*, and it is, sometimes, still further changed to *a*.

in the phrase, '*the man*', which is the adjective?

art 22. *the* is the adjective, because it qualifies the noun *man*, by limiting its application to some

particular man.

from what is the word *the* derived?

art 23. *the* is derived from the word *that*. *the man* means very nearly the same as *that man*.

what other name is given to the adjectives *an, or a, and the*?

art 24. the adjectives *an, or a, and the*, are also called *articles*.

when is *an* used, and when *a*?

art 25. when *an, or a* is the proper adjective to use, if the following word commences with the sound of either of the vowels *a, e, i, o, u*, or of the diphthongs *ou* or *oi*, *an* is used; as, *an apple, an egg, an hour, &c*; if not, *a* is used; as, *a man, a house, &c.*

IV. the verb.

art 26. a verb is a word which signifies action or being; as, *i ride, you walk, we remain.*

what does the word *verb* mean?

art 27. the word *verb* means *word*.

why is this part of speech called the *word, or verb*?

art 28. because it is the most important word in the language, as there can be no complete sentence without it.

how may a verb be distinguished from other parts of speech?

art 29. by its signification of doing or being; or by its making sense with a noun or pronoun before it: as, *men eat, george rides, he sits, i am, &c.*

transitive and intransitive verbs.

what does the word transitive mean?

art. 30. the word transitive means, that can pass over.

what is ^a transitive verb?

art. 31. a transitive verb is one in which the action passes over from that which acts to something which is acted upon; as, 'thomas eats the apple,' (here the action of eating passes over from thomas to the apple.)

what does the word intransitive mean?

art. 32. the word intransitive means, not transitive.

what is an intransitive verb?

art. 33. an intransitive verb is one which represents the action as not passing over, but terminating in the actor; as, 'thomas walks,' where the action of walking affects none but thomas, that is, it terminates in him. or it expresses being; as, 'iam.'

V. the adverb.

what does the word adverb mean?

art. 34. the word adverb means to a verb.

what is an adverb?

art. 35. an adverb is a word which is used to qualify verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs; as, 'he talks wisely,' 'he is very wise,' 'he acts very wisely.'

why is this part of speech called an adverb?

art. 36. because its principal use is, to add some

idea to the verb, thus qualifying its meaning.

what is the distinction between an adjective and an adverb?

art. 37. an adjective qualifies nouns; an adverb qualifies verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs.

how are many adverbs formed?

art. 38. many adverbs are formed from adjectives, by adding *ly*; as, 'slow, slowly; rapid, rapidly; swift, swiftly; heavy, heavily; thus, a great number of adverbs end in *ly*.

VI. the preposition.

art. 39. a preposition is a word that is used to show the relation of nouns or pronouns to other words; as, 'he went with john,' 'james went for him.'

what does the word preposition mean?

art. 40. the word preposition means placed before why is the name preposition given to this part of speech?

art. 41. because it is generally placed before the noun or pronoun.

will you give a list of the principal prepositions?

art. 42. prepositions. about, above, across, after, against, along, amid, among, around, at: before, behind, below, beneath, beside, besides, between, betwixt, beyond, by: concerning: down, during: except, excepting: for, from: in, into, instead of: notwithstanding: of, off, on, over, out of: regarding, respecting, round: since: through, throughout, till, to, touching, toward: under, underneath,

unto, until, up, upon: with, within, without.
 but, save, and than are sometimes prepositions.
 near, nigh, and like are by some considered prepositions.

VII. the conjunction.

'you must go and j must go', or 'you and j must go?'

which word joins them? answer. and.

will you unite the two sentences, 'the girls came, the boys staid away?'

'the girls came, but the boys staid away?'

which is the connecting word? answer. but.

what does the word conjunction mean?

art. 43. the word conjunction means a connecting or joining together.

what are such words as and and but called?
 conjunctions.

what is a conjunction?

art. 44. a conjunction is a word that is used to connect words or sentences; as, 'he and j must go' 'george is tall, but william is taller'.

will you give a list of the principal conjunctions?

art. 45. conjunctions. and, although, also, as: because, both, but: either, except: for: if: lest: neither, nor, notwithstanding: or: provided: since, so, still: than, that, then, therefore, though: unless: wherefore, whether: yet.

VIII. the interjection.

art. 46. an interjection is a word that is used as an exclamation, to express emotion; as, 'O, virtue!' 'alas, my child!'

what does the word interjection mean?

art. 47. the word interjection means something thrown in between.

why is this parts of speech so called?

art. 48. because it is sometimes thrown in between other parts of the sentence; as, 'my friend, alas! is dead.'

will you give a list of principal interjections?

art. 49. interjections. adieu, ah, aha, alack, alas, away: fy: ha, hail, halloo, hem, hey, heyday, hest, ho, hum, hush, hurra, hurra; indeed: la, lo: O, Oh: pohaw: tush.

are other words ever used as interjections?

art. 50. other parts of speech are sometimes used as interjections; as the verbs begone, behold: the noun mercy: the adjective strange: &c.

section 11.

the parts of speech,

their properties and relations

We have examined the several parts of speech, so as to distinguish them from each other. We will now explain their properties, and some of their relations to each other.

how many and what are the parts of speech in the

english language?

eight viz

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. the noun, | 5. the adverb, |
| 2. the pronoun, | 6. the preposition, |
| 3. the adjective, | 7. the conjunction, |
| 4. the verb, | 8. the interjection, |

what is meant by a property of a part of speech?

art. 51. that which belongs to it; as, number and case to nouns; mode and tense to verbs, &c.

1. the noun.

its properties and relations.

what is a collective noun?

art. 52. when a common noun denotes a number of persons or things considered as one body, it is called a collective noun; as, nation assembly, flock.

what is a sentence?

art. 53. a sentence is a collection of words making complete sense; 'Life is short.'

what properties belong to nouns?

art. 54. person, gender, number, and case.

person

what is person as applied to nouns?

