

 <p>Lecture Notes</p>	Name Of Lecturer: Augustine Momoh. Turay
	Course Title: Language Arts 1 (Main)
	Course Goal: The goal of this online teaching is to allow students have access to learning materials in order to master Concepts in Language Arts meant for their present level
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Topic: WORD CLASSES / PARTS OF SPEECH

Week : 4

Lecture No.: 4

Learning Objective: By the end of this online teaching students should be able to identify the various kinds of Nouns and be able to use them in sentences.

Week 4

Questions:

- A) Name the part of speech of each of the underlined words in the following sentences.

- During the interval, I had a word with him.
- Love is patient and kind.
- I love my children so dearly.
- Today is a very important day.
- French readers admire the clever detective stories.

Week 4

Word Classes/Parts of Speech

NOUNS

A noun is a word used to refer to a person, place, animal, thing or idea.

Persons- Uncle, John, doctor, boy, congregation etc.

Places- Universe, village, stadium, toilet, Lumley Beach etc.

Animals- Cat, rat, dog, cow, snake etc.

Things- Table, football, chair, cup etc.

Ideas- beauty, happiness, joy, love, greed etc.

KINDS OF NOUNS

PROPER AND COMMON NOUNS

A proper noun refers to a **particular** person, place or thing. A proper noun begins with a **capital letter**.

A common noun refers to a class of persons places or things. Common nouns are not capitalized, unless they begin a sentence.

Examples of common and proper nouns

	Common nouns	Proper nouns
Persons	Uncle, Sister	Paul, Mary
Places	town, country	Bo, Liberia
Things	Ship	African Rout
Idea	Religion	Christianity
Exercise1. Identify the nouns in each sentence below. Then, tell whether each		

<p>6. John likes football, <u>so</u> I bought him a new red ball.</p> <p>7. The journalist went <u>round</u> interviewing people about the elections.</p> <p>8. <u>Round</u> marbles are no longer used in elections.</p> <p>9. We played a <u>round</u> of golf.</p> <p>10. The vehicle went <u>round</u> the corner.</p> <p>B) Tabulate the following irregular verbs into the four principal parts of verbs you have studied, and supply the remaining parts. Tear, Strike, Strive, Forgo, Arise, bear, Swing, Beseech, Swear, Sting</p> <p>C) Correct the mistakes in the following sentences in relation to adjectives.</p> <p>i) She is the fattest of the twins.</p> <p>ii) Thomas held the thinnest end of the rope.</p> <p>iii) Abdul in the taller in our class.</p> <p>iv) Natu is pretty than Juliet.</p> <p>v) Thomas is more</p>	<p>noun is common or proper.</p> <p>(a) My sister Lucy, my mother and I took our dog to the animal hospital. (b) The hospital is at Wellington. (c) We took the dog on the bus. (d) The bus passed through places. (e) Our dog Destiny needed special surgery. (f) While we waited, my mother and I read a magazine.</p> <p>Compound Nouns: A compound noun consists of two or more words. Compound nouns are written as single words- football, blackboard, cupboard; others have separate words- primary school, diplomatic corps; and others are separated by hyphens- father-in-law, passer-by, wife-to-be etc.</p> <p>Collective nouns; Collective nouns name a group- class, congregation, team, crew, swarm, herd, faculty, cast etc. A collective noun may be considered either singular or plural. When a collective noun refers to a group as a whole, it is singular. When the collective noun refers to the individual members of a group, it is regarded as plural.</p> <p>Singular- The jury has reached a verdict. The team plays well. The family loves to travel.</p> <p>Plural- The jury were unable to agree. The teams stay at different hotels. The family take turn choosing places to visit.</p> <p>Exercise Identify the collective noun in each sentence below.</p> <p>(a) My class went on a trip the zoo last week. (b) The team of veterinarians sees many types of patients. (c) Yesterday, they treated a group of monkeys from the zoo. (d) Sometimes they go to farms to check the herd of cattle. (e) My family brought our cat to the animal hospital.</p> <p>Concrete and abstract nouns: A concrete noun names an object that occupies space or that can be recognized by any of the senses- stone, lightning, shout, air, salt.</p> <p>An abstract noun names an idea, a quality, or a characteristic- sadness, joy, hope, anger, love, charity, honesty.</p> <p>Singular and plural: Nouns are either singular or plural. A singular noun names one person, place, thing or idea. A plural noun names more than one. Singular: Mask, briefcase, fly, loaf, woman, chair etc. Plural: Masks, briefcases, flies, loaves, women, chairs etc.</p> <p>Forming plurals of Nouns In majority of cases, all you have to do to form the plural from a singular noun is to add 's' For example:</p>
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taller than Francis.

Singular	Plural
advertisement	advertisements
nuisance	nuisances
mortgage	mortgages
calendar	calendars
delegate	delegates
lecturer	lectures

When a singular noun ends with a consonant and 'o', it is usual to add **-es** to form the plural:

Singular	Plural
echo	echoes
cargo	cargoes
hero	heroes
motto	mottoes
potato	potatoes

But here are some exceptions:

Singular	plural
fiasco	fiascos
Photo	photos
piano	pianos
dynamo	dynamos

When a singular word ends with a vowel (or y pronounce as a vowel) and o, the usual procedure is to add s only

Singular	Plural
embryo	embryos
radio	radios
studio	studios
ratio	ratios

When a singular noun ends in y preceded by a consonant, the y is discarded and ies is added to form the plural.

Singular	Plural
agency	agencies
ally	allies
anniversary	anniversaries
beneficiary	beneficiaries
pharmacy	pharmacies

When a singular noun ends in y preceded by a vowel, the complete singular word is retained and s added:

Singular	Plural
alloy	alloys
attorney	attorneys
chimney	chimneys
trolley	trolleys
valley	valleys

When a singular noun ends in **ch** or **sh**, the plural usually ends in **es**:

Singular	Plural
branch	branches
marsh	marshes
lunch	lunches
church	churches
bunch	bunches
parish	parishes

A plural is sometimes formed by replacing **f** with **v** and adding **es**, as in:

Singular	Plural
calf	calves
hoof	Hooves (but sometimes hoofs)
knife	knives
thief	thieves
wharf	wharves
wife	wives

When there are two **f**'s at the end of a singular word, however, and in a number of other words, the original form is retained as in:

Singular	plural
bailiff	bailiffs
dwarf	dwarfs
plaintiff	plaintiffs
reef	reefs
roof	roofs
motif	motifs

Sometimes we change the final letters without adding **s**. Notice that there are alternative spellings for a number of these words. The English form is preferred nowadays.

Singular	Plural
addendum	addenda
criterion	criteria
formula	formulae
fungus	Fungi/ funguses
honorarium	honoraria
syllabus	syllabi

Some words do not have plurals; others do not have singulars; and in some cases the plural and the singular are identical. Sort the following words into these categories; then learn to spell any about which you are doubtful.

Acoustics	machinery	series
Aeronautics	mathematics	credentials

Aircraft	optics	species
Athletics	physics	dynamics
Furniture	chassis	victuals
Politics	corps	economics

The change from singular to plural is not always at the end of a noun. Primitive and compound words are alike affected. When the change is within a primitive word, the letter is not usually involved, but it is involved in compound words. The clue is extended therefore to help you to determine when to add the **s**. When the first word of the compound noun indicates the position a person holds or what he is, the **s** is added to that word. A governor-general, for instance, is a governor; consequently, the plural is governors-general. A **lieutenant-general**, on the other hand, is not a lieutenant, and so we add the **s** to the complete title-**lieutenant-generals**.

Here is another example:

A **sister-in-law** is a sister by marriage; therefore, we refer to more than one of these ladies as **sisters-in-law**.

Changes within primitive words

Singular	Plural
analysis	analyses
axis	axes
man	men
basis	bases
diagnosis	diagnoses
goose	geese
synopsis	synopses
crisis	crises

PRONOUNS

A pronoun is a word that takes the place of a noun, a group of words acting as a noun, or another pronoun.

KINDS OF PRONOUNS

Personal Pronouns: A personal refers to a specific person or thing by indicating the person speaking (first person), the person being addressed (second person), or any other person or thing being discussed (third person). Like nouns, pronouns are either singular or plural.

Personal pronouns

	Singular	plural
First person	I, me	we, us
Second person	you	you
Third person	he/him, she/her, it	they, them

Pronouns in the third person singular have three genders: he and him are masculine; she and her are feminine; and “it” is neuter (neither masculine, nor feminine).

Case: Personal pronouns have two main cases- the nominative and the objective cases.

Nominative: I, you, he, she, it, we and they.

Objective: me, you, him, her, it, us and them.

The nominative case is used when the pronoun is the subject of the sentence.

They were elected members of the cabinet.

He was chairman of the committee.

The objective case is used when the pronoun is a direct object, indirect object or an object of a preposition.

Direct object: The lawyer invited **us** to his chamber.

Indirect object: The police asked **them** several questions.

Object of the preposition: Mr. Sowa gave the book to **you**.

Reflexive Pronouns: These are pronouns that replace a co-referential noun phrase normally within the same clause. They refer to a noun or pronoun and indicate that the same person or thing is involved.

John has hurt **himself**

Mrs. Sowa intended to remind **herself** about the incident.

We consider **ourselves** honoured to be invited.

The cast **itself** chose the play.

Possessive Pronouns: These pronouns show possession or ownership. They take the place of the possessive forms of nouns. The possessive pronouns are classified into two main groups.- **Attributive and Nominal**.

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

Nominal- mine, yours, his, hers, its, ours theirs.

When the attribute forms of the possessive pronouns are used, they modify nouns or pronouns, . For example;

My bag is in the car

Where is **their** house?

Demonstrative Pronouns: A demonstrative pronoun points out specific persons, places, things or idea.

	Close proximity	distant
proximity		
Singular	this	that
Plural	these	those

Is **this** guitar yours?

Let me see **that** book.

These are the only drums left.

Bring **those** pens to me.

Interrogative and Relative Pronouns

An interrogative pronoun is used to form questions-Who? Whom? Whose? What? Which?

Who were the winners?

Whose are these?

Whom did the coach praise?

Which of these songs do you like?

What is your identification number?

Whoever, Whomever, Whosoever, Whichever, and whatever are the intensive forms of the interrogative pronouns.

Whatever do you want?

A relative pronoun is used to begin a special subject-verb group called a subordinate clause- Who, Whom, That, Whomever, Which, Whoever, What.

They praised the writer **who** won the prize.

“Roots”, **which** was filmed for television, was written by Alex Jones.

Reciprocal Pronouns: Reciprocal pronouns are somewhat similar to reflexives. The most commonly used reciprocal pronouns are **each other** and **one another**. When two antecedents are involved, “each other” is mainly used, but when more than two antecedents are involved, **one another** is often preferred.

Indefinite Pronouns: An indefinite pronoun refers to persons, places, or things in a more general way than a noun does. They are used without antecedents. Some examples of indefinite pronouns are: **all, everybody, most, no one, anybody, somebody, everyone, much, nothing, someone, anything, few, nobody, others, each, many, none, several, and something.**

VERBS

A verb is a word used to express an action or state of being. There are three main kinds of verbs; these are action verbs, linking verbs and auxiliary verbs

An action verb expresses physical actions or mental activities.

Physical actions: jump, run, eat, dance, swim, play etc.

Mental actions: think, hope, desire, imagine, wonder, expect etc.

A linking verb is a verb that connects a noun or a pronoun with words that identify or describe the noun or pronoun. The different forms of the verb “Be” are most frequently used linking verbs; e.g. **Am, can be, be, has been, would be, would have been, being, have been, shall have been, could have been, is, shall be, will have been, should have been, was, should be, may have been, were, will be and might have been.**

An auxiliary or helping verb is used together with a main verb to form the verb phrase. The most commonly used auxiliary verbs are forms of the verb “be” , “have” and “do”- **am, is, are, be, been, was, were, have, had, do, does, did, shall, should, will, would, can, could, may, might, must.**

ADJECTIVES

An adjective is a word that modifies a noun or pronoun. E.g.

Moses is a **tall** and **handsome** man.

This is the **highest** building in town.

In some cases, nouns and certain pronouns can be used as adjectives in some sentences. An adjective normally answers one of these questions: What? Which? What kind? How many? More than one adjective can be used to modify the same noun or pronoun. E.g.

One beautiful lady passed by this morning.

The **adamant** and **unruly** crowd advanced forward.

Adjectives most often occur before the nouns or pronouns they modify. E.g.

The **tall** man wore a nice suit.

The **pretty** lady bought a new dress.

COMPARISONS OF ADJECTIVES

Most adjectives have degrees of comparison. These include the **positive**, the **comparative**, and the **superlative**.

The positive degree is the most basic form of the adjective which assigns a quality to a person, a place, a thing or idea.

In the comparative, an adjective compares one person, place, thing or idea with another one.

In the superlative, an adjective compares a person, place, thing or idea with at least two others.

Positive- John is **.tall**.

Comparative- John is **taller** than Paul.

Superlative- John is the **tallest** in the group.

To form the comparative and superlative of adjectives, add **-er** for the comparative and **-est** for the superlative when the adjective has only one syllable.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Small	smaller	smallest
Thick	thicker	thickest
Pure	purier	purest
Kind	kinder	kindest
Weak	weaker	weakest
Thin	thinner	thinnest

For most two syllable adjectives, add **-er** and **-est** for the comparative and superlative respectively.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Happy	happier	happiest
Able	abler	Ablest
Sturdy	sturdier	Sturdiest
Holy	holier	holiest

However, if a two syllable adjective is awkward to pronounce when **-er** and **-est** are added, form the comparative and the superlative by using **more** and **most**.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Loyal	More loyal	Most loyal
Childish	More childish	Most childish
Patient	More patient	Most patient
Handsome	More handsome	Most handsome
practical	More practical	Most practical

All adjectives with three or more syllables take **more** for their comparative and **most** for their superlative.

Positive	comparative	superlative
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Economical	More economical	Most economical
Expensive	More expensive	Most expensive
Difficult	More difficult	Most difficult
Practical	More practical	Most practical

COMPARISON USING LESS AND LEAST

When a comparison shows less of a quality, the comparative and superlative degrees are formed by using **less** and **least** before the positive form.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Expensive	less expensive	least expensive
Developed	less developed	least developed
Ambitious	less ambitious	least ambitious

IRREGULAR ADJECTIVES

Some adjectives do not form the comparative and superlative degrees according to the rules above. The best way to learn them is to bring them under conscious control.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Good	better	best
Bad	worse	worst
Much	more	most
Little	less	least
Ill	worse	worst
Many	more	most

ADVERBS

An adverb is a word that modifies a verb, an adjective or another adverb. The most common characteristic of adverbs is that many are formed by using the -ly suffix. An adverb answers one of the following questions about the word it modifies.

How or in what manner?
When? How often?
Where? To what degree or extent?

Where as adjectives are usually noun modifiers, adverbs are usually verb modifiers.

ADVERBS MODIFYING VERBS

An adverb that modifies a verb modifies the entire verb phrase. E.g.

The boys are shouting **loudly** in the hall.

An adverb that modifies a verb does not have to appear in a single position. The adverb may appear in any of the following positions in the sentence.

The army advanced **quickly** towards the enemies.

The army **quickly** advanced towards the enemies.

Quickly, the army advanced towards the enemies.

The army advanced towards the enemies **quickly**.

An adverb may also be used to modify an adjective. In this case, an adverb usually comes just before the adjective that it modifies. E.g.

The green snake is **usually** harmless, but can be **very** dangerous.

The money is in a **sufficiently** safe place.

When an adverb modifies another adverb, such adverb usually comes before the adverb that it modifies. E.g.

The two-year old girl speaks **quite** clearly.
We cleaned the car **very** carefully before using it.

COMPARISONS OF ADVERBS

Like adjectives, some adverbs are compared to show degrees. There are also three degrees of comparison here.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Quickly	More quickly	Most quickly
Colourfully	More colourfully	Most colourfully
Efficiently	More efficiently	Most efficiently

PREPOSITIONS

A preposition is a word that is used to express the relationship between a noun or a pronoun and another word in a sentence. E.g.

The teacher put the book **on** the table.

The ball is **under** the table.

The prepositions “on” and “under” tell where the noun teacher and ball are in relation to the table. The following are examples of some frequently used prepositions. After To Across Among At Behind

Between Below Near Despite Towards During
Outside Until Inside On Underneath Inside
Within Into Without

Some prepositions are usually made of more than one word. These are called **compound** prepositions. The following are some examples of compound prepositions.

According to As well as Apart from By means of
Because of In addition to In spite of In front of
Instead of Prior to Out of On top of
On account of

CONJUNCTIONS

A conjunction is a word that connects individual words or group of words. We can always add one structure to another by conjoining two or more words with a conjunction. There are three kinds of conjunctions; these are: coordinating conjunction, correlative conjunction, and subordinating conjunction.

Coordinating conjunction

A coordinating conjunction connects words or group of words that have equal grammatical weight in the sentence. The following are some examples: **And, but, for, nor, or, and yet**. A coordinating conjunction can connect two or more nouns, pronouns, verbs, adverbs adjectives etc. E.g.

Animals and birds supply natural protein. (**and** connects two noun subjects)

She and I are interested in reading. (**and** connects two pronoun subjects)

The jock was short but funny. (**but** connects two adjectives)

Correlative Conjunctions: Correlative conjunctions consist of two or more words that work together as a set. Correlative conjunctions function like coordinating conjunctions because they connect words that perform equal

functions in sentences. The following are some examples of correlative conjunctions.

Either.....or	neither.....nor	both.....and
Whether or	not only.....but also	

Subordinating Conjunctions A subordinating conjunction connects subordinate clauses to independent clauses. Subordinate clauses cannot stand by themselves as complete sentences, unlike independent clauses which can stand by themselves. Subordinating conjunctions usually express relationships of time, manner, cause, condition, comparison, or purpose.

Time- after, as, as long as, as soon as, before, since, until, when, whenever, while.

Manner – as, as if, as though

Cause - because

Condition – although, as long as, even if, even though, if provided that, though, unless, while.

Comparison- as, than.

Purpose- in order that, so that.

INTERJECTIONS

They are words or phrases that express emotion or exclamation. An interjection has no grammatical connection to the other words. Examples:

Well such is life!

Ouch! That hurts.

Ah, that is delicious!

Sh! Be quiet.

Summary: we have so far discussed the eight word classes (the eight parts of speech) with references types, uses functions and examples.

Assignment:

1. List down the eight word classes and discuss each with examples.
2. Give five examples interjections in sentences of your choice.
3. How can u differentiate Adverbs from Adjectives?

Further Reading: Parts of Speech

1. References: Lynn M. Berk (1999) English Syntax: From Word to Discourse: Oxford University Press

Raymond Murphy (2004) English Grammar in Use (3rd Edition): Cambridge University Press