Grammar Extravaganza

“Knowing the Difference”
What are the parts of speech?

- Noun
- Pronoun
- Article
- Interjections
- Verbs
- Gerunds
- Adjective
- Adverb
- Preposition
- Conjunction
Nouns

- Nouns are words that denote people, animals, places, things, or abstract ideas.
- Nouns answer the questions “who” or “what” in a sentence.

- In recent months, a number of states have again taken the lead on measures to raise the minimum wage.
Types of Nouns

• **Common:** name people, places, things, etc.
  – Girl, city, holiday

• **Proper:** name specific people, places, and things
  – Jennifer, Atlanta, Thanksgiving

• **Abstract:** name a concept instead of things one can touch or see
  – Love, courage, integrity
Pronouns

- Pronouns take the place of and function like a noun.
- Some examples of pronouns are: I, we, us, he, she, him, her, they

- Massachusetts is moving toward a minimum of $10 per hour. Thus, they are supporters of it.
Types of Pronouns

• **Demonstrative**: indicate something or are used to demonstrate.
  – *This* is how I feel about increased wages.
  – How do you feel about *that* policy?

• **Indefinite**: used for non-specific things.
  – *Someone* referred to raising the minimum wage as a family friendly policy.
  – *No one* has proven that it is possible to live on the current minimum wage.

• **Possessive**: show possession.
  – This is *my* opinion.
  – He has yet to form *his* opinion on the issue.
Articles

• Articles are kinds of adjectives that always give some information about a noun.
• There are only three articles: a, an, and the.

There are two types of articles:
1. Indefinite Articles: they do not refer to anything or anyone specific.
   • I’m writing an essay.
   • I am a student.
2. Definite articles: are used when talking about something particular.
   • The book did not help.
   • Did you check the library?
Interjections

• Interjections are words or phrases used to exclaim, protest, or command.
• They are often separated from other parts of a sentence using a comma or an exclamation mark.

• Interjections are mostly used to express emotion. Here are some examples:
  • “Ah, now I understand.”
  • “Eh! Really?”
  • “Oh! You’re here.”
  • “Uh...I don’t know the answer to that.”
  • “Wow! I won the lottery.”
  • “Hmm, I’m not so sure.”
Verbs

• Verbs name an action, a state of being, or an event.
• There are three types of verbs:

1. Action: tell what the subject is doing
   - Run, hide, walk, teach, talk, learn

2. Linking: connect the subject to a noun or an adjective
   - Is, Are, Am

3. Helping: help the main verb express tense; they need an action verb with them.
   - Will go; Should study
Gerunds

• A gerund is verbal that ends in -ing and functions as a noun.
• Since a gerund functions as a noun, it occupies some positions in a sentence that a noun ordinarily would.
Four Types of Gerunds

• Subject:
  – **Traveling** might satisfy your desire for new experiences.

• Direct object:
  – They do not appreciate my **singing**.

• Subject complement:
  – My cat's favorite activity is **sleeping**.

• Object of preposition:
  – The police arrested him for **speeding**.
Recap

• Nouns answer the questions “who” or “what” in a sentence (common, proper, and abstract).
• Pronouns take the place of and function like a noun (I, she, he, we, our, etc.)
• Articles give some information about a noun. (a, an, the)
• Interjections exclaim, protest, or command.
• Verbs name an action, a state of being, or an event: (action (ran), linking (is), and helping (will go)).
• Gerunds are verbals that end in -ing and functions as a noun.
Practice

• Identify the noun(s), article(s), verb(s), and gerund(s) of the following sentence:
  1. Louie Gohmert, a vocal opponent of same-sex marriage, is making controversial statements on the topic.
  2. Integrity is a personality trait.
Session II
Adjectives

- Adjectives modify nouns and pronouns.
- By modifying them, they either describe, identify, or quantify the words.

- We live in a red brick house.
- She is tall for her age.
Types of adjectives

• Descriptive: these adjectives describe.
  – Follow the yellow cab.

• Possessive: similar to possessive pronouns, these adjectives indicate possession when put directly in front of a noun.
  – We sold our house.

• Numeral: these adjectives express numbers and denote how many, which one in a series, etc.
  – There are three cups on the table.
Adverbs

• Adverbs modify and further describe verbs. They may also modify adjectives.
• Adverbs commonly end in –ly.

- He waved wildly to get her attention.
- The shirt he wore to the party was extremely bright.
- We got straight to the point.
Types of adverbs

• Manner: these provide information on how something is done.
  – Jack drives carefully.
• Time: these adverbs tell when something happens.
  – He sometimes finishes work early.
• Frequency: these tell how often something happens.
  – She constantly asks for time off.
• Degree: these adverbs tell how much something is done.
  – They go to the gym often.
• Comment: these provide an opinion about a situation.
  – Fortunately, there were seats left in the theater.
Conjunctions

- Conjunctions are words that joins independent clauses, or sentences, together.
- Common conjunctions include: and, but, for, so, yet, nor, because, however
Types of Conjunctions

• Coordinating Conjunctions: they join single words, though sometimes groups of words, that join similar elements such as a subject to a subject or a sentence to a sentence.
  – Sarah and Joe are at school.

• Correlative Conjunctions: these also join sentence elements but are used in pairs.
  – Essays are not only difficult to write, but also time consuming.

• Subordinating Conjunctions: the largest class, the conjunctions connect subordinate clauses to main clauses.
  – Because the session was so long, we took two breaks.
Prepositions

• Prepositions work with nouns or pronouns to modify verbs, nouns/pronouns, and/or adjectives.

• Prepositional phrases show a spatial, temporal, or directional meaning.

• Common prepositions include: after, across, around, beyond, between, during, down, of, onto, under, within, etc.
Types of prepositions

• Prepositions of Time: used for time of different natures.
  – He was born in January of 1985.

• Prepositions of Place: used to show locale.
  – The professor wrote on the wall.

• Prepositions of Direction: describe directions.
  – Someone was coming toward him.

• Prepositions for Agent: used for something which is the cause of something else in a sentence.
  – The book was written by Oscar Wilde.
Recap

• Adjectives modify nouns and pronouns by describing, identifying, or quantifying the words.
• Adverbs modify and further describe verbs. They may also modify adjectives.
• Conjunctions are words that joins independent clauses, or sentences, together.
• Prepositions work with nouns or pronouns to modify verbs, nouns/pronouns, and/or adjectives.
Practice

• Is the underlined word an adjective or an adverb? Why?
  • John matured **tremendously** fast.

• Connect the two sentences with a conjunction.
  – I like science. I like math more.

• Identify the preposition(s):
  – The dog wandered around the neighborhood.
  – Put these cookies on the tray.
Questions?