

Boost Free Lessons - Year 9 English

Lesson 1: Parts of Speech

Name: _____ Grade: _____ Date: _____

Worked Example 1

Name the part of speech of each word in bold.

The **tired** driver **carefully** parked **her** van.

1. A **noun** names a person, place or thing. An **adjective** describes a noun.
2. *Tired* describes the noun *driver*, so it is an adjective.
3. An **adverb** describes a verb, and often answers how, when or where. *Carefully* tells you how she parked.
4. A **pronoun** stands in place of a noun. *Her* replaces the driver's name.

***Tired* is an adjective, *carefully* is an adverb, and *her* is a pronoun.**

Worked Example 2

Is the verb below an action verb or a linking verb?

The soup **tasted** bitter.

She **tasted** the soup.

1. An **action** verb shows something the subject does.
2. A **linking** verb joins the subject to a word that describes it, and does not show an action.
3. In the first sentence nothing is done. *Tasted* links *soup* to *bitter*, so it is linking.
4. In the second she performs the action, so the same word is now an action verb. Test it by asking whether the word after the verb describes the subject.

The first is a linking verb, the second an action verb.

Remember: A word's part of speech depends on the **job it does** in the sentence. Adjectives describe nouns, adverbs describe verbs, pronouns replace nouns, and linking verbs join a subject to a description.



Question 1: Name the part of speech of each word in bold.

1. The **ancient** door creaked open.

2. She spoke **quietly** to the class.

3. **They** arrived before the others.

4. The dog **chased** the ball.

5. My brother **seems** nervous.

6. A **sudden** noise woke us.

7. He answered **immediately**.

8. The parcel is **ours**.



Question 2: Read the passage below, then answer the questions.

The narrow corridor smelled of paint. She walked slowly, counting the doors, and the air felt colder with every step. None of them were open.

1. Find one adjective in the passage and name the noun it describes.

2. Find one adverb and name the verb it describes.

3. Find two pronouns in the passage.

4. Find one linking verb and explain how you know.

5. Rewrite the first sentence, replacing the adjective with a stronger one.



Question 3: Answer the following questions.

1. Write a sentence containing an adjective and an adverb, and underline both.

2. Write a sentence using a linking verb.

3. Explain the difference between an action verb and a linking verb.

4. Why can the same word be a different part of speech in different sentences?





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Answers and Model Responses: Parts of Speech**Question 1**

1. Adjective
2. Adverb
3. Pronoun
4. Action verb
5. Linking verb
6. Adjective
7. Adverb
8. Pronoun

Question 2

1. Model: *narrow*, describing the noun *corridor*.
2. Model: *slowly*, describing the verb *walked*.
3. Model: *she* and *them*.
4. Model: *felt* in *the air felt colder*. Nothing is done, and *colder* describes the air.
5. Model: The cramped corridor smelled of paint.

Question 3

1. Model response: The exhausted runner finished slowly.
2. Model response: The classroom became silent.
3. An action verb shows what the subject does. A linking verb joins the subject to a word describing it, and no action takes place.
4. A word's part of speech depends on the job it does in the sentence, not on the word itself. *Tasted* can link or act, depending on what follows it.

