



Grammar Voyage

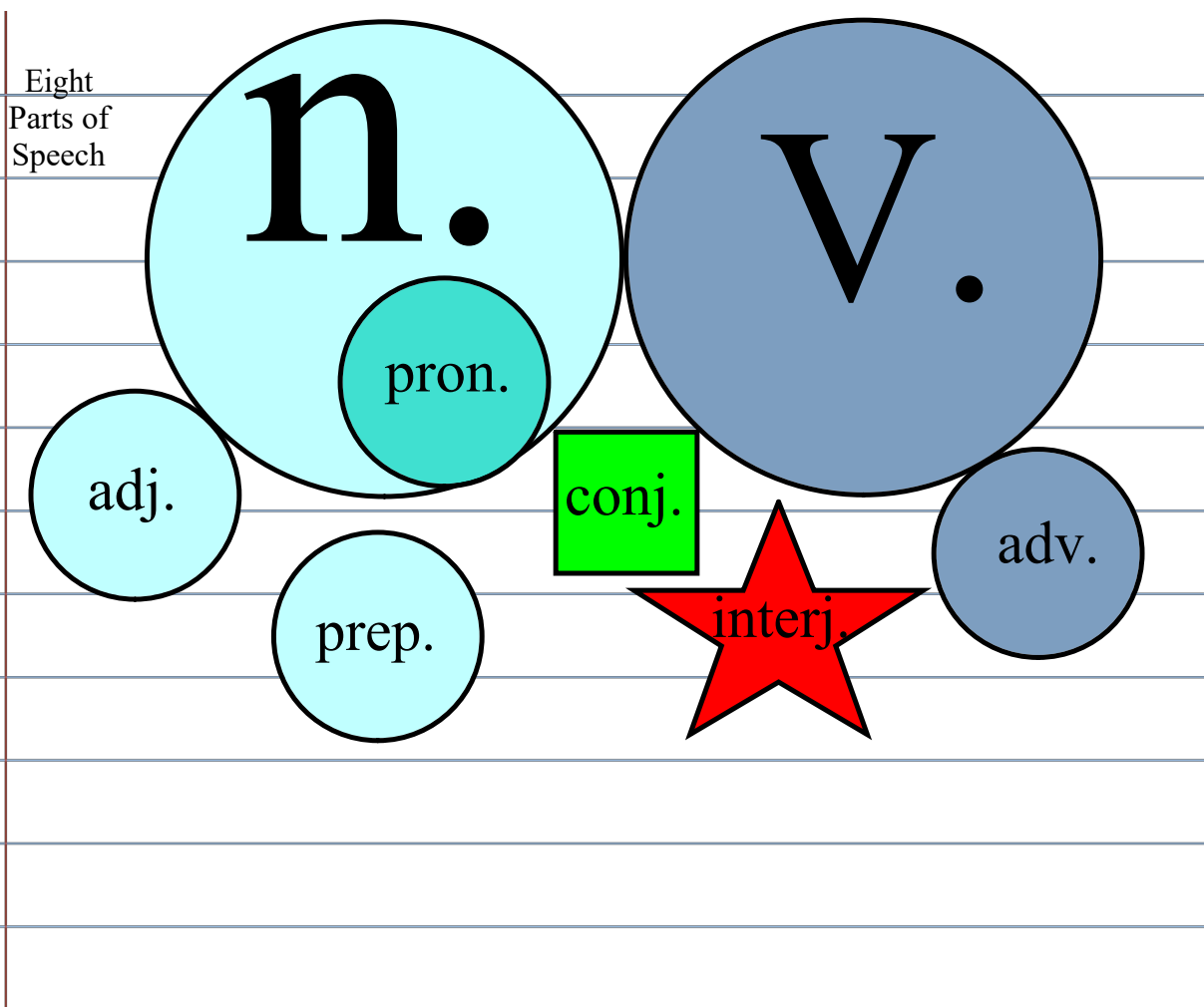
Michael Clay Thompson

Date

Grammar is a way of thinking about language.

There are four levels of analysis.

1. Parts of speech: there are 8 kinds of words
2. Parts of the sentence : the parts of ideas
3. Phrases: little groups of words
4. Clauses: making simple or complicated ideas with subjects and predicates



Parts of Speech - Level One

Noun

The word noun comes from the Latin *nomen*, meaning name.

Proper Nouns - Names of specific people, places, and things

Proper Nouns such as
Madagascar, Timmy, and
William Reeves Elementary School
are capitalized

Capitalize - nationalities, ethnic groups, and countries(may be used as proper adjectives)

common nouns - name everyday people, places things, and ideas
like fuel, school, fish, dish, and boy are not capitalized.

Parts of Speech nouns continued

A noun naming one thing like rail, rake, toy, house, or girl is

singular.

A noun naming more than one thing like sails, dogs, trucks, or songs is

Plural. To make most nouns plural, add *s*

To words that end in *s*, *x*, *ch*, or *sh* add *es* - examples - bushes, churches, boxes, classes

Parts of Speech nouns continued

Possessive nouns show ownership. Possessions are things that you own.

For singular possessive nouns you add an apostrophe s - 's

the dog belonging to the girl - the girl's dog
the book belonging to the boy - the boy's book

For plural possessive nouns you add an apostrophe after the - s'

the restroom belonging to all the boys in the school - the boys' restroom

Some nouns already end in s - the rules above still apply

Mrs. Watts's classroom - singular possessive - the classroom belonging to one Mrs. Watts
The Watts' house - plural possessive - the house belonging to 4 Watts family members

Parts of Speech

Pronoun

Pronouns are quick words, speedy shortcuts we use to replace nouns.

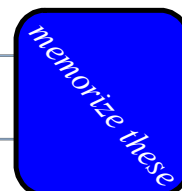
Subject Pronouns - These are pronouns that can be the subject of a sentence.

I he she it we you they

Object Pronouns - These pronouns are not the subject.

me you him her it us them

A subject is a subject and an object is an object.



Parts of Speech pronouns continued

We use demonstrative pronouns to demonstrate.

this that these those

This is a good book.

We use possessive pronouns. to show possession:

mine yours his hers its ours theirs

The ship is *mine*.

Notice
its
there is no apostrophe -
We only use an apostrophe for
the contraction it's for it is.

We use interrogative pronouns to interrogate:

who whose whom which what

Who packed the lunches?

antecedent - ante - before cede - go
An antecedent is the noun that goes before the pronoun.

Parts of Speech

Adjective

Adjectives modify nouns and pronouns. To modify a thing is to adjust it or change it.

Think about a tree
now imagine
a family tree
a Christmas tree
a palm tree
a pine tree

There are small adjectives called articles.

article adjectives - a an the

Parts of Speech

Verb

When you say something about a noun or pronoun, we use a special word called a verb.
Every sentence has a verb.

Action Verb - most verbs show action

Linking Verb - a linking verb is like *IS*. It says the subject *IS* something.

am was have
is were has
are will had

Some linking verbs sound like action verbs
smells tastes looks

Parts of Speech Verbs continued

Verb Tense

The one kind of word that is in every sentence, the verb, changes form to reflect time.

Present Tense

Past Tense

Future Tense

hoists

hoisted

will hoist

Subjects and verbs must agree and reflect the nouns' number.

The boat is at anchor in the cove.

The boats are at anchor in the cove.

Parts of Speech

Adverb

An adverb is a word that modifies a verb, or an adjective, or another adverb.

Many adverbs end in LY.
loudly, noisily, hungrily, tremulously, suddenly

Other adverbs don't end in LY
high, well, aside, again, aloud, away

Parts of Speech

Conjunction

con - together

conjunct - join

A conjunction joins two words or two groups of words together.

There are seven coordinating conjunctions: **FANBOYS**

and but or nor for so yet

There are a lot of subordinating conjunctions:

if as since when because after...

Correlative conjunctions are paired conjunctions that evenly link words, phrases, or clauses:

both, and; either, or; not only, but also...

Parts of Speech

Preposition

pre - before *pos* - put

Prepositions begin little groups of words that show relationships between two nouns in a sentence and express the way things in the world relate to each other.

Space - The smokestack is *above* the cabin.

Time - The bell clanged *after* the foghorn.

Direction - The steamer moved *toward* the dock.

The preposition is always at the beginning of the little phrase the noun or pronoun at the end of the prepositional phrase is called the object of the preposition.

Parts of Speech

Interjection

inter - between *ject* - throw

An interjection word is an emotion word that is thrown into a sentence.

Some interjections:

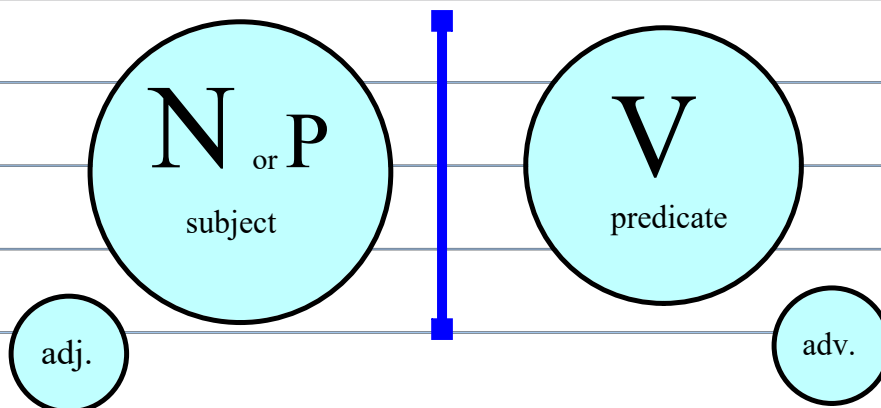
wow yikes oh gosh yes no hey

Points to Ponder about Parts of Speech

1. A Typical Pattern - Preposition followed by an adjective or two, and then a noun
2. We use all parts of speech frequently because there are only eight kinds of words. The sentence is always about something, the subject, and always has a verb.
3. If you are uncertain about what part of speech a word is, narrow it down by thinking logically, and then use a dictionary.
4. Even teachers have to stop and think sometimes.
5. The main point is that the parts of speech make a simple system:
nouns replaced by pronouns and modified by adjectives,
verbs modified by adverbs,
conjunctions joining, prepositions relating,
and interjections emoting.

The Parts of the Sentence - Level Two

Every sentence has two parts :
what it is about, called the subject and
what we say about the subject is called the predicate.



Subject	Predicate
The cruise ship	steered the tugboat carefully.
The pelican	sat on top of the mast.
She	worked out the problem.
Stacey	moved the boat into the harbor.
The rusty freighter	is still reliable.
(complete subject)	(complete predicate)
The noun or pronoun that the sentence is about is the simple subject.	Notice that the verb is always in the predicate. We call the verb the simple predicate.

The verb decides the parts of sentence.

If the verb is ACTION, then it might act on a direct object.

The direct object is a noun or object pronoun that receives the action of the action verb.

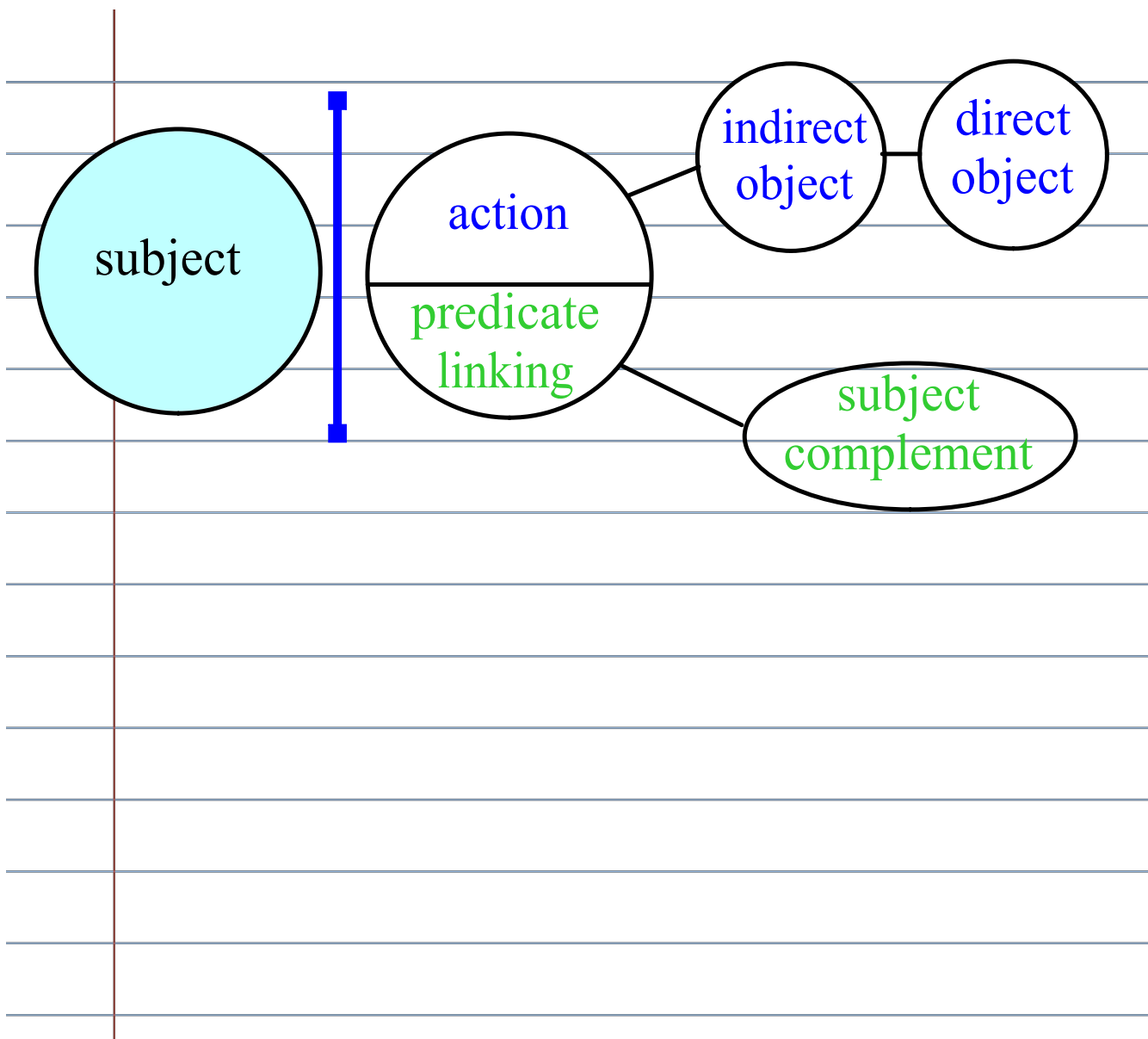
The boat slowly crossed the inlet.
n. AVP. D.O.

If you have a direct object, you might have an indirect object.
Look for the indirect object between the action verb and the direct object.

The captain gave the sailor a direct order.
n. AVP I.O. D.O.

If the verb is LINKING, then look for a subject complement.

Robert is captain.
LVP S.C.



Phrases - Level Three

Phrase

A phrase is a group of words, but it acts like one word.

There are three kinds of phrases.

Prepositional Phrases

Prepositional phrases always begin with prepositions, and they act like modifiers (like adjectives or adverbs).

Appositive Phrase

Appositive phrases are interrupting definitions.

Using commas, they are put (pos) beside (apo) what they define.

Roberto, **the new sailor**, came on board earlier.

Phrases continued

Verbal Phrases

Verbals are verby forms that aren't used as verbs.

There are three kinds:

gerunds, participles, and infinitives

Gerunds

gerunds: nouns made out of -ing verbs.

Sailing is fun.

Participles

participles: adjectives made out of verbs.

Sailing well, the rusty ship headed for the island.

Completely **broken**, the mast fell over into the sea.

Infinitives

infinitives: a noun or modifier made from the *to* verb form.

To sail is fun.(noun)

The man **to see** is Howard.(adj.)

He lived **to sail**.(adv.)

NOTE: *We think of an infinitive as one word.*

Clauses - Level Four

Clause

Each group of words with a subject and a predicate in it is called a clause.

Simple Sentence

The **sailor coiled** the rope.

subj. pred.

(one independent clause)

Compound Sentence

The **sailor coiled** the rope neatly, and **he moved** the anchor.

subj. pred.

subj. pred.

(two independent clauses joined by a comma and a coordinating conjunction)

Clauses continued

Dependent Clauses

A clause that does not make sense by itself is called a dependent clause.

Complex Sentence

When one independent clause is joined with a dependent clause by a **subordinating conjunction**, (if, as, since, when, because, etc.) the sentence is complex.

The **captain laughed** **when** the **sailor fell** overboard.
subj. pred. conj. subj. pred.

When the sailor fell overboard, the captain laughed.
dependent clause

Sentence Structure Elements

coordinating conjunctions: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so (fanboys)

subordinating conjunctions: if, as, since, when, because, ...

simple sentence:

one independent clause

The liner steamed into port.

compound sentence:

two (or more) independent clauses

The liner steamed into port, and the launch sped out to meet it.

The liner steamed into port; the launch sped out to meet it.

complex sentence:

one independent clause, one dependent

The liner steamed into port as the launch sped out to meet it.

As the launch sped out to meet it, the liner steamed into port.

compound-complex sentence:

has a compound AND a complex clause structure

A freighter arrived, and the tug hurried as the freighter entered port.

Sentence Structure Elements continued

If **I** stands for independent clause,
and **D** stands for dependent clause,
and **cc** stands for coordinating conjunction,
then we can show sentence structure this way:

simple: **I**
compound: **II**
complex: **ID or D,I**
compound complex: **IID, DII, etc**

punctuating compound sentences:

I,cc i
I;i

punctuating complex sentences:

D,i
Id

Sentence Structure Elements continued

compound sentence:

The harbor was quiet, **and** no ship moved. (I,cc i)

The harbor was quiet; no ship moved. (I; i)

complex sentence:

When the harbor was finally quiet, the captain went to his cabin. (D, i)

The captain went to his cabin when the harbor was finally quiet. (I, d)

compound complex:

When the ship embarked, the crowd dispersed, **and** the band stopped playing. (D, i , cc i)

Sentence Purposes

There are four sentence purposes:

declarative - declares or states - **The ship eased in.**

imperative - imperious, commanding - **Signal the freighter now.**

interrogative - interrogating, questioning - **Has the boat arrived?**

exclamatory - exclaiming - **The boat is late!**

What have we learned?

Parts of speech: the eight kinds of words

Noun: the name of a person, place, or thing: sidewalk, tower, Stacey

Pronoun: a quick word that takes the place of a noun

Subject pronouns: I, you, he, she, it, we, you, they

Object pronouns: me, you, him, her, it, us, them

Possessive pronouns: mine, yours, his, hers, its, ours, yours, theirs

(remember it's is the contraction for it is - It's true; the dog found its bone.)

Pronoun rule: a subject is a subject and an object is an object

Adjective: modifies a noun or pronoun - red, tall, smart, fast

Possessive adjectives: my, your, his, her, its, our, your, their

Verb: shows action or linking - jumped, is

Adverb: modifies a verb, adjective, or adverb - quickly, happily, noisily

Conjunction: joins two words or two groups of words

Coordinating conjunctions: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so (**fanboys**)

Subordinating conjunctions: if, as, since, when, because (used in **dependent clauses**)

Prepositions: shows the relationship between its object and another word in the sentence:
in, on, under, before

Interjection: shows emotion: wow, yes, yikes

What have we learned? continued

Parts of a Sentence: the sentences has two sides - a predicate about a subject

Subject: the noun or pronoun that the sentence is about

Predicate: the simple predicate is the verb

Agreement: the subject and predicate MUST agree in number (singular/plural) Boat is - boats are

Direct object: the noun or pronoun that receives the action of an action verb.

The captain congratulated *him*.

Indirect object: the noun or object pronoun that is located between the action verb and the direct object, and that is indirectly affected by the action. The captain gave *him* an award.

Subject complement: the noun, subject pronoun, or adjective linked to the subject by a linking verb

The boats on the warf are *tugboats*. It was *he*. The weather outside was *frightful*.

Phrase: group of words without a subject and a predicate but acts as a single part of speech

Prepositional phrase: begins with a preposition and acts like a modifier - the bird *on the dock*

Object of the Preposition: noun or object pronoun that the preposition relates to something else

Appositive phrase: an interrupting definition

Verbal: a verb forms used as nouns or modifiers

Gerund: a noun made from an *-ing* verb

Participle: an adjective made from any verb form

Infinitive: a noun or modifier made from the *to* form of the verb

What have we learned? continued

Clause: a group of words with a subject and its predicate -
Each clause has its own subject and predicate

Independent clause: a clause that makes sense by itself

Dependent clause: a clause that must hang on to another clause in order to make sense

Sentence Structure

Simple sentence: made of one independent clause - I

Compound sentence: two or more independent clauses - I, cc i or I;i

Complex sentence: a dependent clause attached to and independent clause - Id or D, i

Compound-complex sentence: Iid or D, i , cc, i

Sentence purposes

Declarative: declares, makes a statement

Imperative: is imperious, like an emperor, commanding

Interrogative: interrogates, questions

Exclamatory: exclaims, uses exclamation point

