



ELA 9 Parts of Speech Study Guide

1. Nouns – a word that names a person, place, thing, or idea

- Nouns are often preceded by *a*, *an*, and *the*.
- **HINT:** Can you put “his” in front of it?

- **Proper noun** – the **specific** name of a particular person, place, thing, or idea. These will ALWAYS be capitalized!
Ex: Tangerine, Jane Smith, Cary Junior High

- **Common noun** – refers to any one of a **general** group of persons, places, or things

Common nouns	Proper nouns
boy	Jim Carrey
baker	William Bennett
country	Mexico
team	Phoenix Suns
town	San Francisco
magazine	Newsweek

- **Concrete noun** – names a person, place or thing. These can be sensed by your five senses; they can be seen, touched, felt, tasted, heard, or smelled.
- **Abstract noun** – represents a feeling, idea, or quality. These can NOT be sensed by your five senses; they can not be seen, touched, felt, tasted, heard, or smelled.

Concrete Nouns	Abstract Nouns
apple, room, book,	joy, friendship,
ball, music, ice,	hope, truth,
telephone,	peace, beauty
Mississippi, school	imagination, joy

- **Collective noun-** refers to things or people as a unit.
Ex: team, class, herd, flock, school (of fish), group, family

Practice:

1. The boy wrote in his notebook.
2. Melissa loves Brayden and Dylan.
3. She has a fear of snakes.
4. My students have great imaginations.
5. I love eating at restaurants like Chilis and Fridays.
6. The class enjoyed watching the football team practice outside.

3. Prepositions – a word or phrase that relates a noun/pronoun to another word in a sentence

2. Pronouns – a word used to replace one or more nouns

- **Personal pronoun** – refers to the one speaking (1st person), the one spoken to (2nd person), or the one spoken about (3rd person)

	Personal Pronouns	
	Singular	Plural
First Person	I, me	we, us
Second Person	you	you
Third Person	he, him, she, it	they, them

- **Possessive pronoun** - a word that **shows possession** and defines who owns a particular object

	Possessive	
	Singular	Plural
First Person	my, mine	our, ours
Second Person	your, yours	your, yours
Third Person	his, her, hers, its	their, theirs

- **Reflexive pronoun** – a word that refers back to the subject of the clause or sentence
Ex: myself, himself, herself, itself, yourself, ourselves, yourselves, and themselves

- **Demonstrative pronoun** – points out a person, place, thing, or an idea
Ex: this, that, these, those

Ex: This is my book. This book is mine. Or That is your car. That car is yours
demonstrative pronoun demonstrative adjective demonstrative pronoun demonstrative adjective

- **Interrogative pronoun** – used at the beginning of a question
Ex: what, which, who, whom, whose

- **Antecedent** – the word that a pronoun replaces
Example: Joann placed her coat in the closet with the others.
antecedent pronoun

Practice:

1. Please do the work by yourself.
2. This is a hard assignment.
3. Who is going to the basketball game?
4. Please give the book to me.
5. I did this all by myself!
6. What class do you like the most?

- **HINT:** Common prepositional phrase color patterns: (green, orange, red) or (green, pink)

Types:

- **One-word Prepositions- consists of one word**

Examples in sentences: The deer ran across the road. We stopped at the store down the street.

Common One-word Prepositions

about	beside	inside	throughout
above	besides	into	to (<i>unless a verb comes after it</i>)
across	between	like	toward
after	beyond	near	under
against	but (meaning except)	of	underneath
along	by	off	until
among	concerning	on	unto
around	despite	onto	up
as	down	out	upon
at	during	outside	with
before	except	over	within
behind	for	past	without
below	from	since	
beneath	in	through	

- **Phrasal Prepositions- consists of more than one word**

Example in a sentence: Water flowed in front of the rocks.

Common Phrasal Prepositions

according to	from between	in place of	on top of
along with	in accordance with	in regard to	out of
as for	in addition to	in spite of	next to
except for	in case of	instead of	with reference to
from among	in front of	on account of	with regard to

Practice:

1. Michael put his notebook in his locker.
2. Miss Tamason likes working at the Cary Jr. High.
3. Please give the book to him.
4. He went to the movies and sat next to his friends.

- A **prepositional phrase** is formed by the preposition, its object, and any words that describe the object. The **object of the preposition** is the noun/pronoun in the prepositional phrase.

Ex: **Preposition** *Object of Preposition*

(**On** hot summer *days*,) that swimming pool is our favorite place.

Practice:

1. They live near a very busy intersection.
2. Would you please sit on the bench with Tonya and me?
3. Give this book about Italy to him.
4. Early in the day, the sun shines through the windows.

4. Verbs – a word that expresses action or state of being

- **HINT:** Can you add “ing” to it?
- **HINT:** Can you put “he,” “she,” or “they,” in front of it?
- **Action verb** – a verb that expresses physical or mental action.
 - **Often ends in “ing”, “s”, or “ed,”**
Ex: Nick was talking to me.
She believes your story.
I bowled a great game tonight.
- **Linking verb (State of being)** – instead of showing what the subject is doing, this verb shows the subject in a state of being. It links the subject to some other word in the sentence that describes, identifies, or gives more information about it.
Ex: John was sick for two days. John is hungry.
 - **CHANT for linking verbs:** is, am, were, was, are, be, being, been
- **Helping verb-** helps the main verb tell what happens or what exists

SENTENCE: Maybe Mr. Do should have a will.

Helping Verbs					
may	be	do	should	have	will
might	being	does	could	had	can
must	been	did	would	has	shall
	am				
	are				
	is				
	was				
	were				
	(also linking verbs)				

- **Main verb vs. helping verb**
Ex: He might swim at the meet tomorrow. *Might* is the helping verb and *swim* is the main verb.
- **Reminder:** Sometimes there is another word which separates the helping verb from the main verb. One common example is "not."
Ex: The boy couldn't find his socks. The helping verb is *could* and the main verb is *find*.
- **Reminder:** A sentence may contain up to three helping verbs.
Ex: The dog must have been chasing the cat. The helping verbs are: *must*, *have*, and *been*; the main verb is *chasing*.

Practice:

1. She kept talking while the others were working.
2. Brayden had fun playing with his hot wheels.
3. I don't want to grade papers this weekend.

5. Adjectives – a word that modifies or describes a noun or pronoun

- Adjectives usually come before the noun or pronoun they modify (purple dress).
 - **HINT:** Can you put “very” in front of it?
 - **HINT:** Answers the questions: *What kind? Which one? How many? How much?*
- The articles ***the, a*** and ***an*** are always adjectives. These come before nouns in a sentence.
 - **Adjectives tell WHAT KIND**
Size, shape, color
Ex: colorful pictures, violent storm, the red pen
Example Sentence: We stayed in a small mountain cabin.
 - **Adjectives that tell HOW MANY**
Ex: several statues, three pens, few pages, many people
Example Sentence: We have lived in six homes.
 - **Adjectives that tell HOW MUCH**
Ex: a lot, tons, few
Example Sentence: They had some time to spare.
 - **Adjectives that tell WHICH ONE**
Ex: a dog, an ape, the cat, this book, that hat, these men, those toys.
Example Sentence: I live in the blue house.
 - **Demonstrative adjectives** – when the words this, that, these, and those are used to modify nouns, they are considered demonstrative adjectives instead of pronouns.
- Ex: This is my book. This book is mine. Or That is your car. That car is yours.
- | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| demonstrative
pronoun | demonstrative
adjective | demonstrative
pronoun | demonstrative
adjective |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
- *Notice where the noun is in the sentence. If the noun is directly after this, that, these, or those, then it is a demonstrative adjective.
- **Adjectives that COMPARE**
 - These adjectives end in **–er, –ier, –est, or –iest.**
- Ex: larger hat, angrier than you, biggest car, tiniest pen
Other Examples: better grade, best movie, more candy, most ribbons, little patience, less energy, least water

Practice:

1. He likes to eat warm marshmallows with gooey chocolate and crunchy graham crackers.
2. Nick is taller than me.
3. This class is the best!
4. I can't wait to buy a blue jersey at the football game.
5. I have lived in Cary for 18 years.
6. Miss Tamason is the smartest teacher in the school!

6. Adverbs – a word that modifies or describes a verb, adjective, or another adverb

- Most adverbs end in –ly. Ex: smoothly, silently, really

- **HINT:** Answers the questions: When? Where? How? How often? How much? To what extent?

Ex: How: played carefully, quickly ran, softly tiptoed

When: then she sat, shopped tonight, before speaking, we will go later

Where: stood there, walked forward, talked here

How often: read frequently, walked occasionally

What degree: completely convinced, extremely agitated

Adverbs that tell *HOW*

1. The dolphin floated gracefully in the water.
2. The painter climbed the ladder quickly.
3. Jorge finished the race strong.

Adverbs that tell *WHEN*

1. Please begin immediately!
2. Tara will go first.
3. Sometimes I eat ice-cream for dinner

Adverbs that tell *WHERE*

1. Turn left at the stop sign.
2. Hang your jacket there.
3. The bedrooms are upstairs

Adverbs that tell *HOW MUCH, HOW LITTLE, HOW OFTEN, and to WHAT DEGREE*

Adverbs that answer questions about **adjectives and other adverbs**

Some Adverbs of Degree

almost	entirely	nearly	so
frequently	extremely	occasionally	too
awfully	completely	always	very

The adverb of degree comes BEFORE the adverb or adjective.

Example

How cold? It is very cold here. (The adverb *very* tells about the adjective cold)

How fast? I work extremely fast. (The adverb *extremely* tells about the adverb fast).

Practice:

1. He has an extremely bad headache.
2. I am almost ready to leave.
3. That coat is too big for James.
4. I am not entirely certain of the answer.
5. Your kitten is so energetic!

7. Conjunctions – a word that connects parts of a sentence

- **Coordinate conjunctions**

Ex: and, but, or, so

- **Subordinate are glue words.**
Ex: if, since, because, although, whereas, even though, as soon as, unless
- **Correlative conjunctions** are pairs of conjunctions.
Ex: either...or; neither...nor; not only...but also.

Practice:

1. I like to read and watch TV.
2. Not only do I love football, but I also like basketball.
3. Since I was little, I always wanted to see the Grand Canyon.
4. Brian Urlacher isn't the best football player, but he does make many tackles.

8. Interjections— a word or phrase that expresses emotion

- **HINT:** Does the sentence still make sense without the word?
- **HINT:** Is there a comma after the word? Does the sentence end with an exclamation point?
- An **interjection** is usually followed by an exclamation point or a comma and has no grammatical relationship to the rest of the sentence.
Ex: Wow! That is a beautiful car!
Yes, I did get an A on the test!

Common Interjections:

- Well,
- Please,
- Yes,
- Hey,

Practice:

1. Yuck! That was gross!
2. No, I don't think you have homework tonight.
3. Hi! My name is Melissa.
4. Wow, you did a great job on that test!