

S.S.L.C. SECOND LANGUAGE- ENGLISH- GRAMMAR SECTION

PARTS OF SPEECH

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In a language we use different words. Each word has its own role or part. In English we categorise words into eight groups. They are: **Nouns, Pronouns, Verbs, Adjectives, Adverbs, Conjunctions, Prepositions, and Interjections.**

Nouns are names. It may be the names of persons, places, animals and birds, materials, ideas, etc.

Nouns usually answer the question 'what' or 'who'.

e.g.: Rajanna, Geeta, Mysore, Basavanagudi, elephants, tigers, peacocks, wood, sky, earth, plastic, beauty, knowledge.....

Pronouns are the words used instead of nouns.

e.g.: I, we, you, he, she, it, they, mine, his, hers, yours, theirs, myself, herself, themselves,

Verbs are the words that denote actions. They are also called 'action words'.

e.g.: eat, play, love, kill, write,

Adjectives are the describers. They add meanings to nouns.

Ask the question 'what type of?' to the Noun, and we get Adjectives.

e.g.: beautiful, strong, heavy, my, his, their, deep, clean, easy, difficult,

Adverbs are the words that modify verbs. They add some more meanings to verbs.

Ask the question 'How' to the Verbs, and we get Adverbs.

e.g.: slowly, quickly, fast, melodiously, immediately, bravely, clearly

Conjunctions are the words that combine or join words and sentences.

e.g.: and, or, but, for, because, since, from, besides, as soon as, till, until, although, if,

Prepositions tell us about the relation between a word and a noun in a sentence. They describe the positions and relations.

e.g.: in, on, at, under, beneath, of, from, to, beside, by, below, above, after, before, near,

Interjections express our strong feelings of happiness, sorrow, shock, love etc.

e.g.: Alas!, Oh!, Hurrah!, My God!, Bravo!.....

Some examples:

Name the parts of speech of the underlined words:

Mt. Everest is the highest peak in the world. [Name of a peak. Noun]

Keep the notebook on the table. [Shows the place, relation between the notebook and the table. Preposition]

She was absent because she missed the bus. [Joins two sentences. Conjunction]

When she reached home it was already midnight. [Used instead of a Noun. Pronoun]

Today the sun is very hot. [Describes the sun. Adjective]

Tom is swimming. [Shows the action. Verb]

Strength is life. [Answers the question 'what?' Noun]

We should honour the winners. [Action word. Verb]

Use this PIN to withdraw money from the ATM. [Action word. Verb]

What is the secret of your beauty? [Name of a quality. Noun]

The teacher called him the real hero. [Used instead of a name. Pronoun]

It has rained all night. You need not water the garden today. [Action word. Verb]

The train moves very fast. [Adds some more meaning to the verb 'moves'. Adverb]

Gandhiji used to fast very often. [Action word. Verb]

Don't try to overtake fast vehicles. [What kind of vehicles? Describer. Adjective]

Latha Mangeshkar sang melodiously. [Answers the question 'How did she sing?' Adverb]

Mr. Rajesh is my uncle. He lives in Mumbai. [Used instead of a name. Pronoun]

After he got retired, he lived with his sons. [Joins two clauses. Conjunction]

This girl has been dancing since 10 a.m. [Shows the starting point of the action. Preposition]

The phone-call woke me up. ['What?' Noun]

My parents bought a laptop for me. [Relation between 'bought' and 'me'. Preposition]

She painted the chair with a new brush. ['What?' Noun]

We should brush our teeth every day. [Action word. Verb]

Brazil is full of green forests. [Describer. Adjective]

A mobile phone has become an essential gadget today. [Describer. Adjective]

Music brings happiness to all. ['What?' Noun]

QUESTIONS FROM OLD QUESTION PAPERS

Identify the parts of speech of the underlined word:

1. We should use eco-friendly things. [2020]

Ans: Adjective. (What type of things? Eco-friendly)

2. The temples at Hampi are magnificent. [2023]

Ans: Adjective. (What type of temples? Magnificent)

3. Nobody is satisfied with wealth, but everybody is satisfied with wisdom. [2022]

Ans: Noun. (Satisfied with what? Wisdom.)

4. The stories are told interestingly. [2023]

Ans: Adverb. (How are the stories told? Interestingly)

5. Rajappa waters his garden daily. [2023]

Ans: Adverb. [How does he water? Daily.]

Note: In the sentence 'He earns his daily food by selling firewood', the word 'daily' describes 'food'. Hence it is an adjective.

6. Meghana is a kind-hearted person. [2024]

Ans: Adjective. [What kind of person? Kind-hearted]

7. Raj is very adventurous. [2024]

Ans: Adjective. [What type of person? Adventurous]

8. We are watching an important match. [2024]

Ans: Adjective. [What type match? Important.]

9. I need some water. [Model 2025]

Ans: Adjective. [Actually this is a determiner. A quantifier.]

10. Baleshwar was a lanky boy. [model 2025]

Ans: Adjective. [What type of boy? Lanky.]

11. Workers lifted the heavy goods quickly. [2025]

Ans: Adverb. [How did they lift? Quickly.]

12. Satish was a great artist. [2025]

Ans: Adjective. [What type of artist? Great.]

13. It was a golden opportunity. [2025]

Ans: Adjective. [What type of opportunity? [Golden]

14. Ravi won two gold medals this year. [Model 2026]

Some words can function as different parts of speech. So, read the sentence twice and try to understand the meaning clearly. Then only you can identify the part of speech of those particular words.

Look at the following sentences.

I need not paint the wall. [Verb]

This paint is very dull. [Noun]

She works in a bank. [Verb]

Her work was appreciated by all. [Noun]

This dog can run very fast. [Verb]

He has made only one run. [Noun]

Don't open the fridge. [Verb]

It's an open challenge. [Adjective]

Please show me your ticket. [Verb]

Ans: Adjective. [It modifies the noun 'gold medals']

15. She buys a costly ornament. [Model 2025]

Ans: Adjective. [What type of ornament? Costly]

16. Swami slept beside granny. [Model 2026]

Ans: Preposition. [Slept where? Relationship between 'slept' and 'granny'.]

17. The bike started immediately. [Model 2026]

Ans: Adverb. [Started how? Immediately.]

18. Strength is life, weakness is death. [Prep 2026]

Ans: Noun. [What is death? Weakness]

19. I always prefer homely food. [Prep 2026]

Ans: Adjective. [What type of food? Homely]

Children liked the show very much. [Noun]

You cannot sleep in this room. [Verb]

After working all day I had a good sleep at night. [Noun]

So, when you see a sentence, read it twice and try to get the correct meaning of the underlined word and try to recognise its part of speech.