

1. What is a noun?

A noun names things. If it is a person, place, object or idea (abstract noun) it is a noun

2. What is a verb?

A verb tells us what happens or the situation in a sentence.

3. What is an adjective?

An adjective gives detail about the noun.

4. What is a pronoun?

Pronouns often 'replace' a noun or noun phrase and enable us to avoid repetition:

*I saw your father but I didn't speak to him.* (= your father)

*'We're going away for the weekend.'* *'Oh, are you? That's nice.'* (= the fact you're going away)

There are several kinds of pronoun, including:

personal pronouns *I/me, you, he/him, she/her, we/us, they/them, it*

possessive pronouns *mine, yours, his, hers, ours, theirs, its*

5. What is an adverb? Give 2 examples

Adverbs answer the questions: *How? Where? When?* (time, manner, place)

6. What is a comma splice?

The comma splice occurs when a comma is used to connect two independent clauses. In this example the two clauses make sense on their own. Connecting them with a comma is incorrect. Sophie usually gets on with everybody, she is a lovely girl.

7. What is a contraction? Give an example.

English has a number of contractions, mostly involving the elision of a vowel (which is replaced by an apostrophe in writing), as in *I'm* for "I am", and sometimes other changes as well, as in *won't* for "will not". These contractions are commonly used in speech and in informal writing, though tend to be avoided in more formal writing.

8. What is a preposition?

A preposition is a word like *at, over, by* and *with*. It is usually followed by a **noun phrase**. In the examples, the preposition and the following noun phrase are underlined:

*We got home at midnight. Did you come here by car? Are you coming with me?*

*They jumped over a fence. What's the name of this street? I fell asleep during the film.*

9. What is an article?

An Article is a word placed before a noun to show whether the noun is used in a *particular* or *general* sense. There are two articles, *a* or *an* and *the*. Whenever you see an article, you will find a noun with it.

*A* or *an* is called the indefinite article because it does not point out any particular person or thing but indicates the noun in its widest sense; therefore a man means any man whatsoever of the species or race.

*The* is called the definite article because it points out some particular person or thing; therefore, the man means some particular individual.

10. What is a phrase?

A phrase is a small group of words that adds meaning to a word. A phrase is not a sentence because it is not a complete idea.

11. What is an adverbial phrase?

An adverbial phrase is more than one word doing the same job as a single adverb.

12. What is a clause?

A clause consists of a noun or noun phrase and a verb or verb chain stuck together.

13. Define:

a) a simple sentence

Has one clause ( with a subject (noun/noun phrase/pronoun) and verb or verb chain).

b) a compound sentence

Has clauses linked by a conjunction (and but or so)

Both clauses carry equal weight

c) a complex sentence

Has 2 or more clauses linked in a way that shows the interrelationship of ideas. One clause is dependent on the other, giving a main and subordinate clause. The conjunction that links the clauses reflects this, e.g. although while when because after until before ...

14. What type of sentence is this?

*At midnight last Sunday, the teacher was screaming the Hallelujah Chorus, rather loudly, under the stairs behind the coats.*

This is still only a simple sentence as it only has one clause.

15. What is the difference between a connective and a conjunction?

A connective is a word or phrase that links clauses or sentences. Connectives can be:

- conjunctions (and, so, until)
- Connecting adverbs or adverbial phrases (moreover, however, eventually, at last)

16. What is a subordinate clause?

A group of words with a subject and a verb which cannot stand alone.

17. What is a non-finite clause?

Non-finite clauses are subordinate clauses beginning with an -ing or -ed word (incomplete verbs)

18. What is a relative clause?

**Relative clauses** add extra information to a sentence by defining a noun

*The woman, who lives next door, works in a bank.*