

Grammar Practice

Name: _____

Articles - The articles are **a, an, the**. Articles are marked with a checkmark on top, and they indicate a noun is coming. They are special adjectives, but are marked with a checkmark. Note that every noun will NOT have an article in front of it, though many do.

Nouns - Name a person, place, thing or idea and can be common or proper. Proper nouns are always capitalized and name specific things. A common noun is lady, but a proper noun is Mrs. Johnson. A common noun is store, but a proper noun is Dick's Sporting Goods. Nouns are marked with a single underline.

Example: The tall [✓]man on television was dressed in a nice [✓]suit.

Example: My family attends church at Olive Baptist Church every Sunday.

* Practice. Checkmark the articles and underline the nouns.

After the violent storm, many of the houses in the city were damaged.

The entire class started watching the last game of the season.

We met Aunt Jan for dinner at the new restaurant on Thursday.

Pronouns - Take the place of a noun. "Jessica went to the store so *SHE* could buy some ice cream." The pronoun "she" took the place of saying Jessica's name again. Some pronouns can be used as the subject of a sentence, but others are used as object pronouns or possessive pronouns. They are marked by writing *pron.* on top of the word.

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

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

Possessive pronouns -our, ours, mine, my, his, her, hers, their, theirs, your, yours, its

Examples: They ^{*pron*}traveled to California for their summer ^{*pron*}vacation. ("They" is a subject pronoun since "they" is the subject of the sentence; "their" is a possessive pronoun showing ownership of the vacation.)

pron *pron* ✓

She gave him the biggest slice of apple pie. ("She" is a subject pronoun; "him" is an object pronoun since it's not the subject, and it receives the action. [She gave it to whom? She gave it to him.])

* Practice: Checkmark the articles. Underline the nouns once. Underline the verbs twice. Write *pron.* over the pronouns.

We ate a delicious meal after the ballgame on Saturday.

During the hurricane, their house was severely damaged by the wind.

He made her a special bracelet from seashells.

Their house was painted a light gray color.

Verbs - Every sentence must have a verb! Verbs can show action, or they can be a linking verb. Action verbs show some kind of action - skipped, hop, throw, baked, watched, took, etc. Verbs can be happening now (present tense), already happened (past tense), or they will happen (future tense). Depending on the verb tense, a helping verb may be needed. If you have a sentence {I am planning a party for my sister.} "am" is a helping verb used with the main action verb "planning." Your complete verb is "am planning." The helping verbs are listed below.

Helping verbs - am, is, are, was, were, be, being, been, have, has, had, do, does, did, may, might, must, can, could, shall, will, should, would

The other type of verb is a linking verb. Note that some of the linking verbs are also helping verbs. Linking verbs do not show action, but are used to link the subject with a descriptive word coming after the verb.

Linking verbs - am, is, are, was, were, be, being, been (all of these can be helping verbs also) Other linking verbs are - feel, smell, taste, sound, look, seems, becomes. Linking verbs can sometimes be harder to find in a sentence. Double underline verbs.

Examples: The tall man on television was shopping for a nice suit. {"was" is used as a helping verb.}

pron
She mixed and rolled the dough for the sugar cookies. {"mixed" and "rolled" are action verbs}

My father is a teacher at the college on Spring Street. {"is" is a linking verb. The linking verb "is" links the noun teacher to the subject father.}

* Practice: Checkmark the articles. Underline the nouns once. Write *pron.* over the pronouns. Underline the verbs twice.

The strong man cut the tree into smaller pieces.

The steaks for dinner were delicious.

Many young boys practiced basketball for the game on Saturday.

Several people tried the blackberry jam on their toast.

They are shopping for a new house in our neighborhood.

David is very sick from the flu.

Adjectives - Describes a noun or pronoun only. Many times you can do an "adjective test" to see if your word is an adjective. The "adjective test" is to say the word between an article and a noun. See the examples below.

the pink house - since this makes sense, "pink" is an adjective and describes the noun house

the quickly store - since this does NOT make sense, "quickly" is NOT an adjective

Adjectives answer the questions which one? what kind? how many? how much? whose?
Adjectives are marked by writing *adj.* on top of the word.

Examples: The ^{✓ *adj.*} tall man on television was shopping for a ^{✓ *adj.*} nice suit. ("tall" describes the man and it comes between an article and noun, passing the adjective test; "nice" describes the suit, and it also passes the adjective test)

The ^{✓ *adj.*} small ^{✓ *adj.*} black cat played with a ^{✓ *adj.*} tiny ^{✓ *adj.*} red string. ("small" and "black" describe the noun cat; "tiny" and "red" describe string)

* Practice: Checkmark the articles. Underline the nouns once. Underline the verbs twice. Write *pron.* over the pronouns. Write *adj.* over the adjectives.

My sweet grandmother taught us many useful lessons.

One television channel showed a long commercial about a new shampoo.

She used the blue paint for her bedroom walls and shelves.

The green shrubs and trees needed rain.

Adverbs - An adverb can modify/ describe a verb, adjective, or another adverb.
Adverbs tell when? where? how? how often? and to what extent?

Many adverbs deal with time (today, soon, sometimes). Many adverbs end in LY. "Not", "never", and "always" are always adverbs. Often adverbs can move around in sentences and still make sense. For example:

We quickly ran in the hardware store and bought blue paint for our house.

OR

We ran into the hardware store and quickly bought blue paint for our house.

Quickly is an adverb that tells how they ran, and you can move it around in the sentence.
Adverbs are marked with *adv.*

Example sentences:

pron *adv* ✓ *adj*
She quietly put the puzzle pieces in place. ("quietly" tells how she put)

✓ *adj* *adv* *adj*
The delicious soup was very hot. ("very" tells how hot OR to what extent hot)

✓ *pron* *adv* *adj* ✓
During the hurricane, their house was severely damaged by the wind. ("severely" tells how damaged)

* Practice: Checkmark the articles. Underline the nouns once. Underline the verbs twice. Write *pron.* over the pronouns. Write *adj.* over the adjectives. Write *adv.* over the adverbs.

One sunny day several students thoughtfully bought my dinner.

The angry pig ran wildly around the muddy pit.

Aren't we planning a vacation for the month of May?

We sometimes fill the jar with cookies or brownies.

It's a very thrilling time of year for a ballgame.

I've never taken a written driving course on the computer.

Prepositions - These are words that add additional information to sentences. They always start a prepositional phrase. A prepositional phrase is not necessary to the sentence, but it adds additional information. The phrase always ends with a noun or

pronoun called the object of the preposition (OP). Prepositions are marked by writing *prep.* over the word.

A list of the major prepositions is below.

aboard, about, above, across, after, against, along, among, around, at
before, behind, below, beneath, beside, between, beyond, but, by
down, during, except, for, from, in, inside, into, like, near, of, off, on, out, outside, over
past, since, through, throughout, to, toward, under, underneath, until, up, upon
with, within, without

Examples:

(With a [✓] *adj* grateful heart), we ^{pron} opened [✓] *adj* the new school [✓] *adj* supplies.

Grandmother ^{prep} lives (around the [✓] corner) (from the ^{prep} [✓] library.)

[✓] The man (^{prep} from China) ^{prep} visited (^{prep} for [✓] *adj* several weeks.)

* Practice: Checkmark the articles. Underline the nouns once. Underline the verbs twice. Write *pron.* over the pronouns. Write *adj.* over the adjectives. Write *adv.* over the adverbs. Write *prep.* over the prepositions, and put parentheses around the prepositional phrases.

The obedient student walked quietly down the hallway.

Dad was too tired and couldn't play with me.

We had mashed potatoes with gravy and hot rolls with butter.

Along the path we picked up a dozen small pebbles.

Coordinating Conjunctions – They join two grammatical units in a sentence. The c.c. could be joining two prepositional phrases, two verbs, two subject nouns, etc. They are marked by writing a c.c. above the word. The coordination conjunctions are: and, but, or, nor, for, yet, and semicolon (;).

A c.c. can join two prepositional phrases. The [✓]boy ^{prep}ran (over the [✓]hill) and (through the ^{c.c.} ^{prep} woods.)

A c.c. can join two subject nouns. ^{c.c.} Peter and James ^{prep} were disciples (of Jesus.)

A c.c. can also join two smaller sentences to form a compound sentence.

[✓] The ^{pron} lady ^{c.c.} loved ^{pron} her cat, but she also ^{adv} liked dogs.

* Practice: Checkmark the articles. Underline the nouns once. Underline the verbs twice. Write *pron.* over the pronouns. Write *adj.* over the adjectives. Write *adv.* over the adverbs. Write *prep.* over the prepositions, and put parentheses around the prepositional phrases. Put a *c.c.* over any coordinating conjunctions.

We had mashed potatoes with gravy and hot rolls with butter.

The green shrubs and trees needed rain.

The first day of school was great; I will return tomorrow.

Interjections - The interjection shows emotion or feeling and is marked with an exclamation point above the word.

Example: [!] Ouch! ^{pron} You ^{pron} hurt my foot. [!] ^{pron} ^{adv} ^{adj} Well, I'm not sure.

Practice the sentences on the following page using all the marks you have learned.

The torn books were taken to the repair shop.

Many students are involved in clubs after school, and they must practice.

Yes! I enjoyed our short vacation to the mountains.

After the test, I worked on my science project.

For many years, the Navaho Indians lived in Arizona and New Mexico.

The corn casserole was too hot and burned my tongue.

Hard work often leads to a successful future.

The beach is a great place for a picnic.

Computers are useful, but they can also be frustrating.

The young soldier practiced for three weeks at Fort Hood.

Amelia traveled to Switzerland for her vacation.

Alexander and Andrew trained for the marathon and ran on Thursday.

Soap and toothpaste are two necessary things for everyone.