

GRAMMAR CRAM

Things you may need to know for
the ESL 154 Certification Test

THE 8 PARTS OF SPEECH IN ENGLISH

Noun: names a person, place or thing (common, proper, concrete, abstract, collective)

Pronoun: takes the place of a noun (subjective, objective, relative, indefinite, possessive)

Verb: shows action or state of being (main/principal, linking, helping, modal, infinitive, participle)

Adjective: describes/clarifies a noun (size, shape, color, age, origin, material, which one...)

Adverb: describes a verb (how, when, where, why, to what degree)

Preposition: shows relationship between words in a sentence (*anywhere the cat can go*)

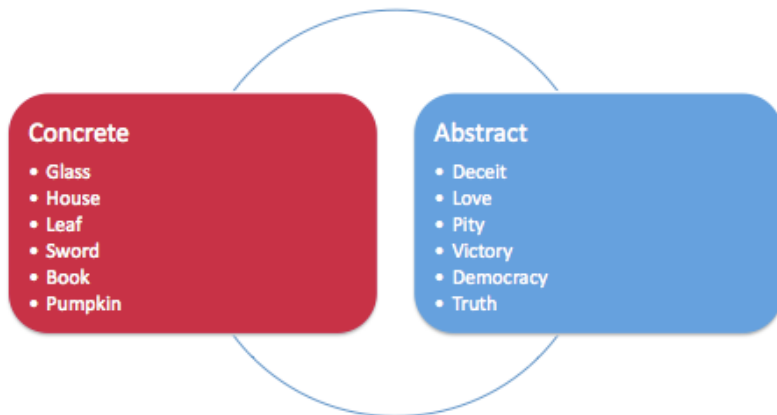
Conjunction: connects words, phrases, clauses (coordinate, subordinate, correlative)

Interjection: Shows strong emotion or exclamation

TYPES OF NOUNS

Proper Nouns	Common Nouns
Havaianas	slippers
Coconut	tree
Jolibee	fastfood
Acer	computer
Robert	man/boy
Maria	woman/girl

Collective Nouns - Persons	
an army of soldiers	a gang of thieves
a bevy of ladies	a horde of savages
a band of musicians	a host of angels
a band of robbers	a line of kings/rulers
a board of directors	a mob of rioters
a body of men	a group of dancers
a bunch of crooks	a group of singers
a caravan of gypsies	a pack of thieves
a choir of singers	a party of friends
a class of pupils	a patrol of policemen
a class of students	a posse of policemen
a company of actors	a regiment of soldiers
a company of soldiers	a staff of employees
a congregation of worshippers	a staff of servants
a crew of sailors	a staff of teachers
a crowd of spectators	a team of players
a crowd of people	a tribe of natives
a dynasty of kings	a troop of scouts
a gang of crooks	a troupe of artistes
a gang of laborers	a troupe of dancers
a gang of prisoners	a troupe of performers
a gang of robbers	a party of friends



ENGLISH VERB TENSES

Simple Present:

I eat tacos.

Simple Past:

We ate quesadillas.

Simple Future:

You will eat your veggies.

Present Continuous/Present Progressive:

He is eating a carrot.

Past Continuous/Past Progressive:

She was eating grapes.

Future Continuous/Future Progressive:

We will be eating gumbo.

Present Perfect:

They have never eaten crawfish.

Past Perfect:

I had eaten lunch already.

Future Perfect:

You will have eaten dinner by the time we get to your house.

Present Perfect Continuous:

I have been eating grits all my life.

PHRASAL VERBS

She picked up the computer carefully.

I filled out the registration form.

He finally gave in to her request.

Please let off the gas.

I hope your dog pulls through.



Pronoun Chart

	Subject Pronouns	Object Pronouns	Possessive Adjectives	Possessive Pronouns	Reflexive Pronouns
1 st person	I	me	my	mine	myself
2 nd person	you	you	your	yours	yourself
3 rd person (male)	he	him	his	his	himself
3 rd person (female)	she	her	her	hers	herself
3 rd person	it	it	its	(not used)	itself
1 st person (plural)	we	us	our	ours	ourselves
2 nd person (plural)	you	you	your	yours	yourselves
3 rd person (plural)	they	them	their	theirs	themselves

INDEFINITE PRONOUNS

SINGULAR	PLURAL	Singular or Plural
Ends in <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ one○ thing○ body	Both <ul style="list-style-type: none">FewManyOthersSeveral	All <ul style="list-style-type: none">AnyMoreMostNoneSome
someone, somebody, everybody, anything, anybody, nobody...		

RELATIVE PRONOUNS

A relative pronoun is used to connect a clause or phrase to a noun or pronoun.

Here is a list of the most common relative pronouns:

that, what, whatever, which, whichever, who, whoever, whom, whomever, , whose

Here are some examples of sentences that have relative pronouns:

Spaghetti, **which** many of us enjoy, can be messy.

This is the book **that** everyone is talking about.

She wrote to the person **whom** she had met last month.

I have a friend **whose** cat is annoying.

People **who** are clever can always find a way.

THE SIMPLEST DEFINITION OF AN ADJECTIVE IS: A WORD THAT DESCRIBES OR CLARIFIES A NOUN

It is a big table. (size)

It is a round table. (shape)

It is an old table. (age)

It is a brown table. (color)

It is an American table. (origin)

It is a wooden table. (material)

It is a lovely table. (opinion)

It is a coffee table. (purpose)

It is that table. (which one)



AN ADVERB IS A WORD THAT DESCRIBES OR MODIFIES A VERB, ADJECTIVE OR ANOTHER ADVERB.

Adverbs tell more about the action.

Jim runs **quickly**.

Sara entered **carefully**.

The girls play **happily**.

Adverbs can also describe adjectives or other adverbs.

Your sister is **very pretty**. (very describes the adjective **pretty**)

He runs **very quickly**. (very describes the adverb **quickly**)



COLLECTIVE NOUN/VERB AGREEMENT

Collective noun agreement

sing.

plur.

Incorrect: Lara's *company* will have *their* annual picnic next week.

sing.

sing.

Correct: Lara's *company* will have *its* annual picnic next week.

INDEFINITE PRONOUN AGREEMENT

Indefinite pronoun agreement

sing.

plur.

Incorrect: *Everyone* should do what *they* can to help.

sing.

sing.

Correct: *Everyone* should do what *he or she* can to help.

sing.

plur.

Incorrect: *Someone* left *their* backpack in the library.

sing.

sing.

Correct: *Someone* left *his or her* backpack in the library.

CLAUSES

Independent Clauses	Dependent/Subordinate Clauses
<p data-bbox="341 482 1251 634">Definition: Contains (or implies) a subject (noun or noun phrase) and a predicate (verb or verb phrase)</p> <p data-bbox="341 705 563 748">Examples:</p> <p data-bbox="614 758 983 858">You help. (subject and verb)</p> <p data-bbox="341 868 1263 1019">You help me. (subject <i>you</i> and verb phrase <i>help me</i> = verb + direct object)</p> <p data-bbox="397 1029 1205 1129">Help! (implies underlying clause <i>you help me</i>)</p>	<p data-bbox="1302 482 2211 634">Definition: Contains a subject and predicate but begins with a subordinating conjunction*, making its meaning incomplete</p> <p data-bbox="1302 705 1523 748">Examples:</p> <p data-bbox="1467 758 2048 962">until you reach the highway because it's time to go although he left last night etc.</p>

CONJUNCTIONS

Conjunction	Definition	Example Sentence
although/even though	It doesn't matter or make a difference	Although/Even though I have the money, I won't buy the shoes.
and	In addition; extra; plus	I enjoy tea and cookies when I eat a snack.
because	The reason is...	I got wet because I forgot my umbrella.
but	To introduce an opposing idea	I'd like to buy those shoes, but I don't have the money.
despite	It doesn't matter or make a difference (precedes gerund)	Despite having the money, I didn't buy the shoes.
however	To introduce an opposing idea (begins a new sentence)	I want those shoes. However , I don't have the money.
so	As a result or consequence	I don't have the money, so I won't buy them.
unless	If the situation is not (that)...	Unless you have the money, you shouldn't buy them.
yet	But; to introduce an opposing or alternative idea	I'd like to buy the shoes, yet to be honest, I don't need them.