

Eight Parts of Speech

Nouns

A noun names a person, place or thing. It answers the questions “Who?” or “What?”

Vang and his brother moved to San Jose last weekend.

Pronouns

A pronoun replaces and refers to a noun.

They moved from Redding, which is a city 100 miles north of Sacramento.

Adjectives

An adjective describes a noun or pronoun. It expresses *which one(s), what kind, or how many*.

Their new apartment is expensive.

Verbs

A verb expresses action (what the subject *does*) or being (what the subject *is*). A complete verb includes the main verb and all its helpers or modals.

Vang is glad they have found jobs with a computer company and can share transportation.

Adverbs

An adverb modifies a verb, an adjective, or another adverb. Adverbs express *where, when, how, why, and to what degree*.

Sometimes they'll ride their bikes to work if it's not too hot outside.

Prepositions

A preposition is the first word of a phrase that expresses something about *time, place, or direction*.

They usually drive in the morning to their workplace near the freeway.

Conjunctions

Conjunctions join words, phrases, or clauses.

*Both Vang and his brother cook, either in the kitchen or on the deck outside.
Vang likes to make pizza, but his brother prefers to barbecue.*

Interjections

Interjections interrupt or show surprise or another emotion.

*Well, we hope they will enjoy their new life.
Oh! I think the deck is on fire!*

Contributed by Rosemary McKeever

