Parts of speech are the building blocks of sentences. Learning about them can help you become a better reader and writer.

The main parts of speech in English are:

**Nouns:** words for people, places, things, and ideas
⇒ **Key questions:** Who? Whom? What?
⇒ **In sentences:** subjects, objects

- The host welcomed his guests.
  - host = subject of the sentence (answers: Who welcomed the guests?)
  - guests = object of the verb welcomes (answers: Whom did the host welcome?)

**Verbs:** words that describe actions or experiences
⇒ **Key questions:** What happens/happened/will happen? What does the subject do or feel or experience?
⇒ **In sentences:** come after the subject, start the predicate (verb plus anything that follows it)

- The library welcomes families.
- Andrea felt happy.

**Adjectives:** words that describe nouns
⇒ Key questions: What kind? What’s it like? What size? What material? What color?
⇒ In sentences: describe the subjects and objects

- Andrea felt happy.
- The giant dinosaur ate leaves.

**Adverbs:** words or groups of words that describe the action or situation in a sentence
⇒ Key questions: When? Where? How? In what way?
⇒ In sentences: show when/where/how what the action or experience takes place

- The giant dinosaur quickly ate some leaves.
- Andrea often feels happy.

**Prepositions:** words that describe relationships like location, direction
⇒ In sentences: show how two words or ideas are connected

- Marcos went to the store with his sister.
- The classroom is next to the office.