

# Homework Help

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## Grades 1 and up: Parts of Speech

**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.

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