

# Dictionary organization

## Activity

### Parts of speech (1)

- Learning objectives:** to revise word classes, especially verbs, nouns, adjectives and adverbs; to use the dictionary more efficiently by being aware that the dictionary is a source of information about parts of speech and to practise looking up this information



#### Before you start Answers

- You may wish to look at a dictionary together, identifying where parts of speech are mentioned
- verb, (then, in any order) noun, pronoun, adjective, adverb, conjunction, preposition, interjection  
Every sentence must have a verb.
  - nouns            prose, jaw, reed, snake  
verbs            hover, read, began, cease  
adjectives      bogus, milky, kosher, weak  
adverbs        possibly, anywhere, across, nearly
  - The children should write four nouns beginning with *a*, four verbs beginning with *b*, four adjectives beginning with *c* and four adverbs beginning with *d*.



#### More to do

- Ask the children to write four sentences, each containing a noun, a verb, an adjective and an adverb from the list they compiled in question 3. (These could be nonsense sentences, as long as the words are used correctly in a grammatical sense.)
- If appropriate to the ability level, explain that the adverb definition is necessarily simplified, as adverbs do not just qualify verbs and other adverbs. For example, they also add information about adjectives: 'She was *really* helpful'.

## Activity

### Parts of speech (2)

- Learning objectives:** to revise word classes, especially pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions and interjections; to use the dictionary more efficiently by being aware that the dictionary is a source of information about parts of speech and to practise looking up this information



#### Before you start Answers

- Depending on the children's level of knowledge, you may wish to discuss the function of pronouns, conjunctions, prepositions and interjections before they tackle the activity sheet.
- a) A pronoun is a word that stands in place of a noun.  
b) A conjunction is used to link sentences or clauses.  
c) A preposition shows the relationship of one noun to another.  
d) An interjection is grammatically unconnected with the words around it.
  - pronouns            they, yours, anyone, it  
prepositions        around, from, with, through  
conjunctions        because, but, although, whether  
interjections        Ooh!, Sh!, Hi!, Ugh!
  - and 4. There are no set answers but check the children have used the parts of speech correctly.



#### More to do

- If appropriate to the ability level, explain that the pronoun definition is necessarily simplified. Discuss the concept of the noun phrase, for example 'the boy with the hat on'. Explain that a pronoun such as *him* could replace the whole phrase, not just a noun. Invent other noun phrases, put them in sentences, then replace them with pronouns.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Activity**

**Parts of speech (1)**

1. Dictionaries have eight main **parts of speech** (also sometimes called **word classes**).

Find them in your dictionary and write their names below.

_____ verb _____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Why are **verbs** the most important words?



2. The box of words below contains four **nouns**, four **verbs**, four **adjectives** and four **adverbs**. Sort them into the right columns, then check using a dictionary.

possibly	anywhere	prose	bogus
milky	hover	jaw	reed
read	began	across	snake
nearly	cease	kosher	weak

Nouns	Verbs	Adjectives	Adverbs
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

3. Using a dictionary, find:

- four **nouns** beginning with **a** \_\_\_\_\_
- four **verbs** beginning with **b** \_\_\_\_\_
- four **adjectives** beginning with **c** \_\_\_\_\_
- four **adverbs** beginning with **d** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Activity**

**Parts of speech (2)**

1. Complete the following sentences.

- a) A **pronoun** is a word that \_\_\_\_\_
- b) A **conjunction** is used to \_\_\_\_\_
- c) A **preposition** shows \_\_\_\_\_
- d) An **interjection** is \_\_\_\_\_

2. The box of words below contains four **pronouns**, four **prepositions**, four **conjunctions** and four **interjections**. Sort them into the right columns, then check using a dictionary.

because	around	Ooh!	they
yours	Sh!	but	from
although	with	Hi!	whether
anyone	Ugh!	through	it

Pronouns	Prepositions	Conjunctions	Interjections
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

3. Using the words above, write four sentences, each containing one **pronoun**, **preposition** and one **conjunction**.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Write two sentences, using speech marks, which contain an **Interjection**.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

