

Grammar: Word Classes

Short Notes

Adjectives

Adjective is a word describing nouns. It is a word used to express the quality, quantity and number in a sentence. Adjectives generally qualify the nouns. Depending on the nature of adjectives, they can be categorized into various types described below:

- **Adjective of quality:** it is an adjective used to express the quality of a person or thing. For example – honest, large, tall, beautiful, ugly, good, bad, high, low, nice, etc.
- **Adjective of quantity:** These adjectives that state the quantity of nouns. They are called quantitative adjectives. For example – some, little, enough, much, whole, etc.
- **Adjective of Possession:** These are the adjectives that show the ownership or possession. These are pronouns initially. But as their role is to describe the nouns, they also called possessive adjectives. For example – my, our, his, her, their, your, its, etc.
- **Adjective of Number:** These are the adjectives that state the number of person, place or thing. They are also called numeral adjectives. Numerals are further classified as cardinal numerals and ordinal numerals.
Cardinals: One, Two, Three, Four, Five, etc.
Ordinals: First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, etc.
- **Adjectives of Interrogation:** These are the adjectives that are used to ask questions. They are also called interrogative adjectives. For example – What, Whose, Which, etc.
- **Demonstrative Adjectives:** These are words used to demonstrate a person or thing about whom we are speaking. For example – This, That, These, Those.
- **Distributive Adjectives:** These are the words used to refer to each and every person or thing. For example – each, every, either, neither, any, both, etc.

Adverbs

Adverbs as the words class are the modifiers. They modify a verb, an adjective, an adverb or the whole sentence. They modify the verbs in relation to various aspects. Sometimes, they tell the manner, place and frequency, etc.

Adverb of Manner

She sings beautifully.

He was badly wounded.

Foolishly, he had decided to give a pitch battle.

They lived happily.

I can easily find a way.

Adverb of Place

They are here.

Pramod lives somewhere near Latur.

Corruption is seen everywhere there days.

There is a river here.

I want to go there.

Adverb of Time

Anita was late for the party.

He was a minister then.

It is a cold day today.

Adverb of Frequency

Seema always stands first in the class.

A barking dog seldom bites.

Generally people love to listen to the stories of ancient heroes.

Adverb of Degree

This is a fully grown plant.

He is quite intelligent.

His action was fairly good.

Adverb of Reason

Since I could not go, my brother came to see me.

It was dirty. Therefore, I washed it twice.

He said sorry because he was wrong.

I'm a coward. So I prefer to stay at home.

Adverb of Certainty

India will definitely win. Page 6 of 23

Today is perhaps the last day of my service.

Ramesh was obviously dismissed from job.

Modal Auxiliary Verbs

Helping verbs which are not used as main verbs, unlike primary auxiliary verbs, modal auxiliary verbs (also called modals) do help the main verbs in determining the aspect mood and the tense. Modal auxiliaries have special function of conveying specific meanings. Modal auxiliaries are also categorized as modal and semi-modals or marginal modals. They are:

Modals: shall, will, should, would, can, could, may, might, must,

Semi-Modals: ought to, need to, dare to and used to