

**\*\*THE ROLE OF PARTS OF SPEECH IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
TEACHING:**

**THEORY, FUNCTIONS AND PEDAGOGICAL IMPLICATIONS\*\***

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**Abstract**

This paper presents an expanded linguistic and pedagogical analysis of the English parts of speech system, examining its theoretical foundations, structural functions, and relevance in modern English language teaching (ELT). It explores traditional and contemporary classifications, morphological and syntactic characteristics, semantic functions, and communicative roles of word classes. The study further investigates how digital tools, communicative tasks, and corpus-based resources enhance learners' understanding of grammatical categories. Findings indicate that explicit and contextualized instruction of parts of speech improves learner accuracy, lexical awareness, syntactic flexibility, and discourse competence. The paper concludes with recommendations for integrating parts of speech instruction into communicative and task-based pedagogies.

**Annotatsiya**

Ushbu maqola ingliz tilidagi soʻz turkumlarining nazariy asoslari, grammatik vazifalari va ularning zamonaviy ingliz tili taʼlimidagi oʻrnini ilmiy tahlil qiladi. Soʻz turkumlarining anʼanaviy va zamonaviy tasnifi, morfologik hamda sintaktik xususiyatlari, semantik funksiyalari va nutqiy muloqotdagi roli yoritiladi. Shuningdek, raqamli texnologiyalar, korpus lingvistikasi va



kommunikativ topshiriqlar soʻz turkumlarini oʻrgatishni samarali tashkil etishdagi ahamiyati koʻrib chiqiladi. Tadqiqot natijalari shuni koʻrsatadiki, soʻz turkumlarini kontekst asosida oʻrgatish oʻquvchilarning grammatik aniqligi, lugʻaviy bilimlari, sintaktik moslashuvchanligi va diskurs malakasini sezilarli ravishda oshiradi.

#### Аннотация

В статье представлен расширенный лингвистический и педагогический анализ частей речи английского языка. Рассматриваются их теоретические основы, морфологические и синтаксические свойства, семантические функции и роль в коммуникации. Особое внимание уделяется использованию цифровых инструментов, корпусных материалов и коммуникативных заданий в обучении грамматическим категориям. Результаты исследования показывают, что контекстное и осмысленное обучение частям речи способствует развитию точности, словарной осведомлённости и дискурсивной компетентности учащихся.

Keywords: parts of speech, grammar instruction, morphology, syntax, ELT, word classes, communicative grammar

Kalit soʻzlar: soʻz turkumlari, grammatika, morfologiya, sintaksis, ingliz tili oʻqitish

Ключевые слова: части речи, грамматика, морфология, синтаксис, методика

#### 1. Introduction

Parts of speech constitute the foundational framework of English grammar, providing a systematic classification of words based on their morphological forms, syntactic functions, and semantic roles. In modern English language teaching, understanding word classes is essential for developing learners' grammatical competence, sentence formation skills, and communicative accuracy. Although



communicative approaches prioritize meaning, research shows that explicit grammatical awareness—particularly of parts of speech—supports language production, reading comprehension, and vocabulary development.

## **2. Theoretical Foundations of Parts of Speech**

The classification of English words into parts of speech is grounded in linguistic traditions dating back to Greek and Latin grammars. Contemporary linguistics integrates structural, functional, and semantic perspectives.

### **2.1 Traditional Linguistic Classification**

English traditionally identifies eight major parts of speech:

1. Nouns
2. Pronouns
3. Verbs
4. Adjectives
5. Adverbs
6. Prepositions
7. Conjunctions
8. Interjections

### **2.2 Modern and Expanded Classifications**

Modern linguists (Quirk et al., Huddleston, Carter & McCarthy) expand this list by adding:

- Determiners
- Auxiliary verbs
- Modal verbs





- Particles

- Numerals

### 2.3 Theoretical Bases

- Morphological theory examines word forms, affixes, and inflections.
- Syntactic theory studies how word classes function within phrase and clause structure.
- Semantic theory defines how word categories represent meaning relationships.
- Cognitive linguistics highlights how categorization reflects conceptual structures.
- Systemic Functional Linguistics views parts of speech as resources that organize meaning in discourse.

These theoretical foundations show that parts of speech are not only grammatical labels but dynamic categories shaping communication.

### 3. Functions of Major Parts of Speech

Each part of speech serves distinct communicative and grammatical functions.

#### Nouns

Represent people, places, objects, and abstract concepts; function as subjects, objects, or complements.

#### Verbs

Express actions, states, or processes; form the core of predicate structures; convey tense, aspect, mood, and voice.



### Adjectives & Adverbs

Modify nouns and verbs respectively; enhance precision and detail in communication.

### Pronouns

Ensure cohesion and avoid repetition.

### Prepositions

Express spatial, temporal, and logical relationships.

### Conjunctions

Link clauses and ideas, shaping coherent discourse.

### Determiners

Specify and quantify nouns, contributing to reference and coherence.

The interaction of these categories forms meaningful, syntactically valid sentences.

## 4. Teaching Parts of Speech in Modern ELT

Contemporary ELT integrates grammar not as isolated rules but as tools for communication.

### 4.1 Communicative Grammar Approach

Learners analyze parts of speech while engaging in meaningful tasks—storytelling, role-play, problem-solving—promoting natural acquisition.

### 4.2 Task-Based Learning

Tasks require learners to use nouns, verbs, modifiers, and connectors appropriately in real communication.

### 4.3 Corpus-Based Learning



Online corpora (COCA, BNC, SkELL) reveal authentic usage patterns—collocations, frequency, distribution—making grammar teaching evidence-based.

#### 4.4 Digital Tools

Apps, AI-based grammar checkers, and interactive platforms strengthen learner autonomy and personalized practice.

#### 5. Advantages of Teaching Parts of Speech

Research highlights multiple benefits:

- Improved sentence construction and grammatical accuracy
- Enhanced reading comprehension and vocabulary expansion
- Better writing skills through syntactic awareness
- Increased confidence in speaking due to structured expression
- Improved error correction and self-monitoring skills
- Ability to analyze authentic texts more effectively

Thus, parts of speech serve as a bridge between lexical and syntactic knowledge.

#### 6. Challenges and Limitations

Despite their importance, several challenges arise:

- Overemphasis on memorization without context
- Learner difficulty distinguishing overlapping categories (e.g., adverbs vs. adjectives)
- Time limitations in communicative classrooms
- Outdated assessment focusing on labeling, not usage





- Limited teacher expertise in modern grammatical theories
- Insufficient integration of corpus data in textbooks

These barriers may reduce the effectiveness of grammar instruction unless addressed systematically.

### 7. Pedagogical Recommendations

To enhance the teaching of parts of speech:

- Integrate grammar with communicative, task-based, and project-based learning
- Use authentic texts to illustrate natural usage
- Employ digital tools and corpus searches
- Encourage students to create sentences, stories, and dialogues using different word classes
- Apply formative assessment focusing on usage, not terminology
- Provide visual aids—charts, color coding, sentence diagrams
- Teach grammar inductively through discovery-based activities

Such strategies align grammar learning with real communication.

### 8. Conclusion

Parts of speech form the structural backbone of English grammar, essential for accurate, meaningful, and flexible communication. Understanding their functions enhances learners' linguistic competence, supports vocabulary growth, and strengthens overall language performance. When integrated with communicative approaches, corpus resources, and digital tools, the teaching of parts of speech becomes more engaging, effective, and reflective of real-world language use.



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