

THE ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTER

PARTS OF SPEECH

NOUN - names a person, place, thing, or idea. Nouns can be subjects or objects.

Object Subject Object Object
Before going to Alaska, Jason had no concept of snow.

PRONOUN - takes the place of a noun. Pronouns can be subjects or objects.

Subject Object
He had only seen it on television or in movies.

VERB - expresses an action, a state of being, or the condition of the subject as well as the time of action (past, present, future). There are action, linking, and helping verbs.

Helping Action Action Linking
Jason had jumped into the snow before anyone told him it was cold.

ADJECTIVE - modifies (describes or limits) nouns or pronouns. Generally, adjectives answer the questions of which, what kind, and how many.

Adjective Adjective Possessive Adjective Adjective Adjective
The cold, wet snow covered Jason's green pants and hiking boots.

ADVERB - modifies a verb, adjective, or other adverb. Generally, adverbs answer the questions of how, when, where, or to what extent.

Adverb Adverb
Lisa gleefully shoved snow far down Jason's collar.

PREPOSITION - connects a noun or pronoun to the rest of the sentence. Most prepositions indicate position in time or space.

Preposition Preposition Preposition Preposition
In fun, Jason threw snowballs at his friends who were sliding down the hill on a sled.

CONJUNCTION - joins words, phrases, or clauses.

Conjunction Conjunction
Jason and his friends had a snowball fight, but no one was hurt.

INTERJECTION - a word used to show strong emotion, such as sorrow, surprise, joy, or anger.

Interjection
Wow! Playing in the snow sure is fun," exclaimed Jason.