

Grammatical Elements by Function

This handout was adapted from Gillis & Eberhardt (2018) – *Syntax: Knowledge to Practice*. It is designed to be used as an educator reference sheet and not as a teaching material with students.

Noun	A noun is a namer. It names the who or what.
Adjective	An adjective expands the noun: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How many?• What kind?• Which one?
Verb	A verb can tell the action: did what? A verb can link the subject to a word or phrase in the predicate: is what?
Adverb	An adverb expands the verb: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where?• When?• How?• Why?
Preposition	A preposition signals the relationship of nouns to other nouns and verbs. e.g. Books on the shelf fell during the earthquake. <i>links books and shelf links fell and earthquake</i>
Pronoun	A pronoun replaces and/or refers to nouns. Pronouns can be subjective, objective, or relative.
Conjunction	A conjunction joins words, phrases or clauses. Conjunctions can be coordinating or subordinating.
Interjection	An interjection expresses emotion.