

Parts of speech

Eight hammers will break the English language down and each one has a name.

Noun	Verb	Adverb	Conjunction
Pronoun	Adjective	Preposition	Interjection

And each one has a function. But keeping them clear is a problem, unless you let football bring order out of chaos.

Nouns

Nouns are like teams with names. They name **persons**: The Irish, the Trojans. They name **places**: Cincinnati, Oklahoma. They name **things**: Ducks, Beavers, Bruins.

Pronouns

Pronouns are like substitutes. They take the place of varsity team members that have seen too much action. Some of them are: **I, you, he, she, it, we, you, they.**

Verbs

Verbs are like the linemen, the forward wall. Whenever you see them, they are working. They "crouch," "hit," "block," "tackle," "guard."

Adjectives

Adjectives are like the signals called. They limit the action to a certain kind of play, telling **which** play and **what kind of** play it will be.

Adverbs

Adverbs are like the coaches. They tell **where** to send the runner, **when** he should go, **why** to throw the ball, **how** to tackle and **how much** to run up the score.

Prepositions

Prepositions are like tackles. They knock a player down so that he is out of play. Prepositions grab nouns and knock them out of play. The object of a preposition can do nothing else in a sentence but be the object of that preposition.

Conjunctions

Conjunctions are like centers. They are at the center of the balanced line with an end, tackle, guard on each side. Conjunctions balance two like things (using **and, but, yet, or, nor, for**) or they can signal an unbalanced line (using **although, since, like, when, if, because.**)

Interjections

Interjections are like cheer leaders and crowds. They shout when the team does well. They say, "Hurrah!" "Go!" "Fight!" "Score!" "Hold that line!" "Block that kick!"