



CLASS IX & X
ENGLISH GRAMMAR
PART I
LESSON 2 - PARTS OF SPEECH

NOTES

When we talk we use words and sentences. Whatever we talk or speak makes our speech. Each sentence which has been used in our speech is made up of words. When we build up a sentence, we need different types or classes of words. These different types of words do different jobs to make the sentence convey a complete sense. And the grammarians have classified the words in eight categories or classes. Sometimes, they are called **Word Classes** and generally they are known as **Parts of Speech**.

The eight Parts of Speech are given with examples in bold types:

- 1. Noun:** A noun may be defined as the name of a person, place or thing.
Example: Tomba is a good **boy**.
- 2. Pronoun:** A pronoun is a word used in place of a noun to avoid repetition.
Example: Geeta has not come because **she** is ill.
- 3. Verb:** A verb is a word which describes the condition or action of a Noun. Generally, the verb describes what the person or thing is, or what it does or what happens to it.
Example: Mala **weeps** loudly.
- 4. Adjective:** An adjective is a word that adds something to the meaning of a noun or qualifies the noun. An adjective is generally put before a noun but it can also be put after a noun.
Examples: 1) He is a **clever** boy.
2) Ram is **strong**.
- 5. Adverb:** An adverb is a word which modifies or adds something to the meaning of a verb, adjective or another adverb.

Examples: 1) Read the lesson **carefully**.
2) He is a **very** successful person.
3) He runs **quite** fast.



5. **Preposition:** A preposition is a word placed before a noun or pronoun or noun-equivalent to show the relation of the noun or pronoun or noun-equivalent to some other words in the sentence.

Example: Put these flowers **in** the jar.

6. **Conjunction:** A conjunction is a word that joins together words, phrases and clauses.

Examples: 1) Anil **and** Arun are friends.

2) He is intelligent **but** he is lazy.

7. **Interjection:** An interjection is a word which expresses a sudden feeling or emotion but has no relation with the rest of the sentence. It is always followed by the exclamatory mark (!).

Example: **Hurrah!** We have defeated our rival.

The classification given above is based on the function of the words in a sentence. The assumption is that a particular word has a particular function and because of this, it is classified accordingly. However, there are some words which have different functions in different contexts. The same word may be a Noun in one sentence, an Adjective in another and an Adverb in a third and so on.

Examples: 1) I will join the game in the second **round**.

2) This is a **round** thing.

3) The top spins **round** at great speed.

(In the sentences given above, '**round**' is used as a noun, adjective and adverb respectively.)
