

English Grammar Terms

Noun	<p>A word that denotes a person, place, thing or idea.</p> <p>The subject of a sentence must be a noun. For example, when you say “The boy is tall,” “boy” is a noun.</p> <p>The doer of a verb is always a noun. For example, in “The red house fell,” “house” is a noun.</p> <p>The object of a verb is also a noun. So in the example, “Zayd hit Amr,” both “Zayd” and “Amr” are nouns. “Zayd” is the doer of the verb and “Amr” is the object.</p> <p>Anything that possesses something, or is owned by something must also be a noun. So, in the example “door of the house” both “door” and “house” are nouns.</p>
Pronoun	<p>A word that stands in the place of a noun.</p> <p>Examples: he, she, they, you, I, we, it</p>
Adjective	<p>A word that describes a noun.</p> <p>Examples: tall, short, big, small, red, blue, important, exciting, traditional, beautiful, etc.</p>
Verb	<p>A word that conveys an action. This could be an action that was done in the past (i.e. a perfect verb, such as “helped”), an action that is currently being done or will be done (i.e. an imperfect verb, such as “helps”), or an action that is being requested of someone to do (i.e. a command verb, such as “Help!”).</p>
Adverb	<p>A word that describes a verb, adjective or adverb.</p> <p>Examples: quickly, slowly, very, loudly, extremely, incredibly</p>
Preposition	<p>Words that do not refer to actions or objects, but to something in relation to actions or objects.</p> <p>Examples: in, of, for, to, with, until, throughout</p> <p>In “I sat on the chair,” the preposition is “on” In “He traveled from Basra to Kufa,” the prepositions are “from” and “to”.</p>
Conjunction	<p>A word that connects two words, sentences or phrases together.</p> <p>Examples: and, but, for, nor, so, or</p>

Active verb	<p>A verb that is connected to the doer</p> <p>Example: I ate. He wrote. Zayd hit.</p>
Passive verb	<p>A verb that is connected to the object (i.e. the one upon whom the action is being done)</p> <p>Example: The apple was eaten. The book was written. Amr was hit.</p>
Perfect verb	<p>A word that describes an action that has been completed. Also known as the past tense verb.</p> <p>Examples: wrote, helped, sat, stood, came, sold, heard, opened</p>
Imperfect verb	<p>A word that describes an action that has not yet been completed. Also known as the present or future tense verb.</p> <p>Examples: write, help, sit, stand, come, sell, hear, open</p>
Transitive verb	<p>A verb that takes a direct object.</p> <p>Examples: eat, drink, read, write, sell, see, open, help, hear</p>
Intransitive verb	<p>A verb that does not take a direct object.</p> <p>Examples: sit, stand, come, go, run, die, sleep</p>
Person	<p>A category in grammar that describes who the pronoun or doer of the verb is.</p> <p>A first person pronoun is talking about the speaker themselves. In English, this would be "I" or "we". In our conjugation tables, these are conjugation #13 and 14.</p> <p>A second person pronoun is talking about the person that the speaker is talking to. In English, this would be "you". In our conjugation tables, these are conjugation #7-12.</p> <p>A third person pronoun is talking about someone other than the speaker or the one that the speaker is talking to. The third person pronoun talks about someone else. In English, this would be "he", "she" or "they". In our conjugation tables, these are conjugation #1-6.</p>
Plurality	<p>Indicates on the number of a noun.</p> <p>Example: "cat" vs. "cats" "person" vs. "people" "he" vs. "they"</p>

Subject	<p>This is the topic of the sentence (i.e. what/who the sentence is talking about).</p> <p>The English term “subject” can have two different translations in Arabic. In a verbal sentence like, “Zayd hit Amr,” the subject is Zayd. He’s the doer of the verb, which is the فَاعِل in a verbal sentence (جُمْلَةٌ فِعْلِيَّةٌ)</p> <p>In a nominal sentence like, “The boy is tall,” the subject is the boy. He is the one that’s being talked about in this sentence, which makes him the مُبْتَدَأ in a nominal sentence (جُمْلَةٌ اِسْمِيَّةٌ).</p>
Object	<p>The person or thing that an action is being done to.</p> <p>Examples: “I read the book.” – “book” is the object of the verb “read” “Zayd hit Amr” – “Amr” is the object of the verb “hit”</p>
Predicate	<p>This is the information that the sentence is telling us about the subject of the sentence.</p> <p>Examples: In “The boy is tall,” the predicate is “tall”. The information that the sentence is giving us about the subject (“The boy”) is that he is tall.</p> <p>In “Today is a beautiful sunny day,” the predicate is “a beautiful sunny day.” The information that the sentence is telling us about the subject (“Today”) is that it’s a beautiful sunny day.</p>