

GRADE 8 ENGLISH NOTES

PARTS OF SPEECH

All words may be classified into groups called **parts of speech**. There are 8 parts of speech namely: **Nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions** and **interjections**.

We shall now discuss these parts of speech one at a time:

NOUNS

A **noun** is the part of speech that names a person, a place, a thing or an idea. You use nouns every day when you speak or write. Every day you probably use thousands of nouns. Because nouns name the objects and people and places around you, it would be very difficult to talk about anything at all without them.

Many nouns name things you can see:

Persons	Places	Things
boy	lake	boot
student	country	shadow
John Kamau	Nairobi	chair
stranger	Jupiter	sweater
writer	Kenyatta Market	calendar
Barack Obama	Sierra Leone	short story

Some nouns name things you cannot see such as feelings, ideas and characteristics:

Feelings	Ideas	Characteristics
excitement	freedom	curiosity
fear	justice	cowardice
anger	fantasy	courage
happiness	faith	imagination
surprise	evil	self-confidence

Exercise 1

What words in each sentence below are nouns?

Example: John is a dancer – **John, dancer**

1. The students planned a party.
2. Three boys performed songs.
3. Excitement filled the air.
4. Joyce Chepkemai won a prize.
5. Otieno lives in a house on my street.

Exercise 2

Copy the nouns below and write whether it names a person, a place, a thing, or an idea.

Example: river – place

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|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Candle | 5. Guitar |
| 2. Wrestle | 6. China |
| 3. Joy | 7. Hatred |
| 4. Menengai Crater | 8. Masanduku Arap Simiti |