

Glossary

adjective. A word that modifies a noun or a pronoun.

predicate adjective. An adjective that follows a linking verb and describes the subject.

The sky is blue.

adverb. A word that modifies a verb, an adverb or an adjective.

conjunctive adverb. A word, such as *therefore*, *thus*, *however*, that introduces an independent clause and shows a relationship to a previous independent clause.

appositive. A noun or pronoun that identifies another noun or pronoun near it. *My brother, John, is here.*

article. The adjectives *the*, *a*, and *an*.

clause. A group of words with both a subject and a predicate.

adverb clause. A dependent clause that modifies a verb, an adverb, or an adjective.

adjective clause. A dependent clause that modifies a noun or a pronoun.

dependent clause. A clause that cannot stand alone.

independent clause. A clause that can make a sentence by itself.

noun clause. A dependent clause that takes the place of a noun.

cliché. A worn-out phrase in common usage.

complement. A noun or an adjective that follows a linking verb and describes the subject.

predicate adjective. An adjective that follows a linking verb and describes the subject. *The sky is blue.*

predicate nominative. A noun that follows a linking verb and describes the subject. *Josh is a voter.*

conjunctive adverb. A word such as *therefore*, *for example*, *moreover*, or *however* that introduces an independent clause and shows a relationship to a previous independent clause.

conjunction. A word that joins other words, phrases, or clauses.

coordinate conjunction. A word such as *and*, *but*, *so*, *or*, *for* that joins equal partners.

subordinate conjunction. A word such as *because*, *if*, *although*, *when*, or *since* that connects a dependent clause to an independent clause.

contraction. A verb and another word combined with a letter or letters left out and replaced with an apostrophe.

Glossary, continued

gerund. An “ing” verb form used as a noun. *Running is hard work.*

gerund phrase. A gerund that is teamed up with an object, a complement, or modifiers.

infinitive. A verb form preceded by *to* such as *to swim*.

infinitive phrase. An infinitive teamed up with an object, a complement, or other modifiers. *I like to eat ice cream.*

noun. A person, place or thing.

common noun. A noun that is not naming a specific person, place, or thing.

proper noun. The name of a specific person, place, or thing.

object. A noun or pronoun (or a phrase or clause used as a noun or pronoun) that follows an action verb or a preposition.

direct object. A noun or pronoun acted upon by the verb. *The club hit the ball.*

indirect object. A noun or pronoun that tells to whom or for whom an action is done. *John gave me a cookie.*

object of a preposition. A noun or pronoun that follows a preposition. *Jump over the hedge.*

oxymoron. An expression that contradicts itself.

parallel structure. A list of two or more words or phrases that have a similar structure. *I like to run, to jump, and to race.*

participle. A verb form that usually ends in *ing* or *ed*.

past participle. A past-tense verb form such as *painted*.

present participle. A present-tense verb form such as *painting*.

participle phrase. A verb form with modifiers or objects used as an adjective. *The boy painting the house is tired.*

phrase. A group of words without a subject and a predicate.

prepositional phrase. A group of words including a preposition, its object, and any modifiers.

infinitive phrase. An infinitive teamed up with an object, a complement, or other modifiers.

participle phrase. A verb form with modifiers or objects used as an adjective.

gerund phrase. A gerund teamed up with an object, a complement, or modifiers.

predicate. The part of a clause that includes the verb, its objects, its complements, and its modifiers.

predicate adjective. An adjective that follows a linking verb and describes the subject. *The sky is blue.*

Glossary, continued

predicate nominative. A noun that follows a linking verb and describes the subject.

Josh is a voter.

preposition. A word such as *in*, *over*, *of*, *after*, or *like* that shows a relationship between a noun or pronoun and another word in the sentence.

prepositional phrase. A group of words including a preposition and its object, and any modifiers.

pronoun. A word that stands for a noun.

indefinite pronoun. A word that stands for an undefined group such as *anybody*, *nobody*, or *someone*.

interrogative pronoun. A word that asks a question such as *who*, *whom*, or *which*.

possessive pronoun. A word that indicates possession such as *mine*, *theirs*, or *ours*.

reflexive pronoun. A word that reflects back on the subject such as *myself*, or *himself*.

relative pronoun. A word such as *who*, *which*, or *whom* that connects an adjective clause to an antecedent in another clause.

redundancy. An expression that repeats itself.

sentence. A subject and a predicate in an independent clause.

subject. What or who is being talked about in a sentence.

tense. The time when an action occurs.

future tense. A verb form showing the action is in the future. *I will run.*

past tense. A verb form showing the action is in the past. *I ran.*

present tense. A verb form showing the action is in the present. *I run.*

progressive tense. A verb form showing an action is continuing. *I am running.*

subjunctive tense. A verb form that indicates the situation is contrary to fact. *I would fly if I could.*

verb. A word that shows an action or an appearance of something.

action verb. A word that shows an action. *The bird flies.*

active verb. An action verb with the subject of the sentence doing the action. *The boy hit the ball.*

helping verb. A verb such as *might*, *can*, *is*, *would*, *may*, *were* that is paired with another verb.

linking verb. A verb such as *appears*, *becomes*, *was*, *seems*, *smells*, *looks* that indicates the appearance of something and is followed by a noun or adjective.

passive verb. An action verb with the subject of the sentence not doing the acting.

The ball was hit by the boy.