

Grammar Glossary

Grammar Glossary is the terminology of English grammatical terms, with definitions, explanations and example sentences presented in an alphabetical order.

<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>
Regular plurals	<p>Regular plurals are noun plurals formed by adding -s or -es to the singular form.</p> <p>Ex: class – classes; avocado – avocados; zebra – zebras etc.</p>
Regular verb	<p>A regular verb is one that has the past tense and past participle created by adding -d or -ed to the present tense. The majority of verbs are regular verbs with four forms, such as help, helps, helped, and helping.</p> <p>Ex: asked, joined, learned, helped etc.</p>
Relative adverb	<p>An adverb that introduces a relative clause is known as a relative adverb. It comes before an adjective clause. For instance, where, when, wherever, and whenever.</p> <p>Ex: I know the city <u>where you live</u>. The bench where we sat last Sunday is still free. We do not know the reason why she left.</p>
Relative clause	<p>A dependent clause that begins with a relative pronoun, such as who or which, or a relative adverb, such as where, is known as a relative clause.</p> <p>Ex: She lives in Switzerland, <u>which she likes</u>. Can I have the pen that I gave you yesterday? I want to live in a town where there is lots to do.</p>
Relative pronoun	<p>A relative pronoun is a pronoun that precedes a subordinate clause that provides more information about the person or thing to which the pronoun refers. The relative pronouns in modern English are who, whom, whose, which, and that.</p>
Reported speech	<p>Also called as indirect speech. Please refer indirect speech in the document Grammar Glossary 4.</p>

<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>
Restrictive and non-restrictive modifiers	<p>A restrictive modifier restricts or limits the meaning of its headword. A restrictive modifier is essential to a sentence's meaning. The meaning of the sentence would be drastically different if the modifier was not present.</p> <p>Ex: All taxpayers who fail to file their returns by March 31st will be fined.</p>
Rhetorical question	<p>A rhetorical question is one that is posed without the expectation of a response. It's possible that the query might not have an answer or that the answer will be evident.</p> <p>It's a question that doesn't ask for information but rather assumes that the answer is obvious.</p> <p>Ex: Who doesn't love pizza?</p>
Run on sentence	<p>When two whole sentences are connected together without a coordinating conjunction or suitable punctuation, such as a period or a semicolon, run-on sentences result. Fused sentences are another name for them.</p> <p>Ex: I love to write short stories I would write one every day if I had the time.</p>
Second conditional	<p>The second conditional is a "if-then" conditional structure that is used to discuss an unlikely future scenario.</p> <p>The second conditional is used to indicate the present or future consequences of an unrealistic action or situation. The circumstance can be extremely unlikely or entirely unreal.</p> <p>Ex: If I won the lottery, I would travel around Asia.</p>
Second person	<p>The person (or group of persons) addressed is indicated by pronouns in the second person.</p> <p>The second-person pronouns in modern standard English are you, your, yours, yourself, and yourselves.</p>

<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>
Sentence	<p>The largest unit of a language is a sentence. Except in imperatives, a sentence must always have a subject and a predicate.</p> <p>A sentence begins with a capital letter and ends with a full stop/period (.), question mark (?), or an exclamation point/mark(!).</p> <p>A complete thought, such as a statement, question, request, or command, is contained within a sentence.</p>
Sentence fragment	<p>A sentence fragment is a part of a sentence that has become detached or separated from the rest of the sentence. It's referred to as a fragment sentence because it's an incomplete sentence on its own.</p> <p>At least one independent clause is required for a group of words to be a sentence. Independent clauses are never seen in sentence fragments; instead, dependent clauses or phrases are found.</p> <p>Ex: I went to the store. <u>Because I wanted some juice.</u> (Fragment)</p>
Similative	<p>Similative refers to a phrase or expression in which something is likened to something else.</p> <p>Semantically, the difference between equatives and similatives is that similatives express the identity of manner, whereas equatives express the identity of degree or extent.</p> <p>To put it another way, the equative construction expresses similarity of extent, which is a simple one-dimensional concept, whereas the similative construction expresses similarity of manner, which is a multi-faceted concept.</p> <p>Ex: “fly like a bird”, the literal meaning is “fly in the manner of birds” “[They] worshipped [him] like a deity.”</p>
Simple sentence	<p>A simple word, phrase, sentence, or grammatical construction is one that has only one element and is not complex. A simple sentence is one in which there is only one independent clause. It contains the essential components of a sentence: a subject, a verb, and a complete thought.</p> <p>Ex: Ethan waited for the train. I looked for Mary and Joe at the airport.</p>

<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>
Singular	<p>The singular form of a noun refers to only one person or thing. Singular nouns are the most basic form of a noun.</p> <p>Ex: Guava, tree, plate, fork, boy, girl, etc.</p>
Split infinitive	<p>In a split infinitive, a word or phrase is placed between the particle "to" and the verb in an infinitive. Some people think it's a poor construction.</p> <p>Ex: The sales department is going to carefully check each new sales order.</p>
Squinting modifier	<p>A squinting modifier is one that can be used to alter either the word(s) before it or the word(s) after it.</p> <p>Ex: Cycling up hills quickly strengthen your biceps. (In the above example, it is not clear whether squinting modifier quickly pertains to Cycling up hills or strengthen.)</p>
Standard English (S.E.)	<p>Standard English (S.E.) refers to the "standard" spelling, pronunciation, and grammar that educated native English speakers to use.</p> <p>It refers to any dialect (variety) of the English language that is used as the national norm – standard language, in an English-speaking country, particularly for public and formal usage.</p>
Structure word	<p>A structure word is a word in English grammar that expresses a grammatical or structural relationship between other words in a sentence. They are words that have no real significance in a sentence but are necessary for its structure.</p> <p>These words include determiners, conjunctions, prepositions, pronouns, auxiliary verbs, modals, qualifiers, and question words.</p> <p>Ex: The quick brown fox jumped gracefully over the lazy dog and cat.</p>
Subject	<p>A sentence's subject is one of the two primary elements (the other being the predicate). The subject of a sentence is usually the first noun phrase and is what the rest of the sentence "is about."</p> <p>Ex: The kitten is sleeping in the sun. Eva and her dog run on the beach every morning.</p>

<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>
Subjective case	<p>A noun or pronoun that is the subject of a verb is said to be in the subjective case. I, you, he, she, it, us, and they are the main subjective pronouns in modern English, with distinct forms depending on case.</p> <p>Objective pronouns such as me, him, and others contrast with subjective pronouns. (Note that in the subjective and objective cases, you and it have the same form.)</p> <p>Ex: The boy eats cookies.</p>
Subjunctive	<p>The subjunctive is a grammatical mood that expresses hypothesis, conditionality, or non-factuality. In contrast to the term "indicative."</p> <p>The subjunctive is rarely used in modern English, and modal verbs such as might, could, and should are now used to express many of the meanings that the subjunctive used to express.</p> <p>Ex: God save the King! God bless you! God help us!</p>
Subordinate clause	<p>(Another term for dependent clause). Please refer the term dependent clause in the document Grammar Glossary 3.</p>
Suffix	<p>Suffix is a letter or group of letters that are appended to the end of a word to form a new word.</p> <p>Ex: bondage, kingdom, reader, agreement</p>