

Chapter 13

Morphology and Syntax

Engl 423

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Parts of Speech: Structure Classes

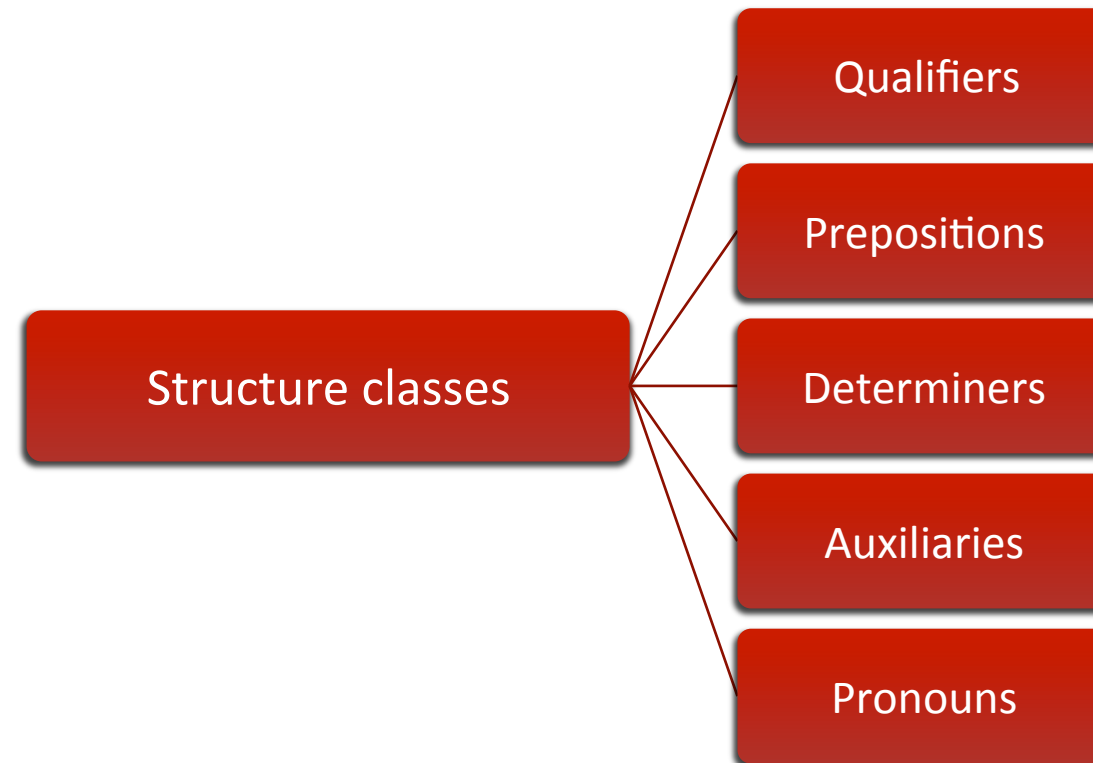
What do we mean by structure classes?

The words that do not belong to classes that have affixes identifying their part of speech.

There are three characteristics of structure classes:

- 1- They are recognized mainly by position, as they do not have characteristics of form.
 - 2- A structure class is small, the largest one (prepositions) having only about 50 members.
 - 3- A structure class has a stable membership and is closed class, that is, it rarely admits new members.
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Structure Classes



Qualifiers

It occurs before adjectival and adverbial and its function is to modify. We name the word that it modifies (the head).

E.g. The dinner is **very** delicious.

Most qualifiers are uninflected words. However, its position accepts any form class.

E.g. The table was only **inches** wide / The water is **boiling** hot.

A few qualifiers have the same form as adjectives.

E.g. pretty, mighty, great, full.

These do not take –er and –est so we will consider them as uninflected qualifiers that are homophones of adjectives.

Sometimes, noun phrases and idiomatic expressions are used in position before adjectivals and adverbials and must be therefore be regarded as qualifiers.

E.g. a lot, a great deal, a little, kind of, sort of, a bit (of).

Qualifiers

Some words have a homophone in another class, but their position can help us to know their identity as qualifiers.

Adjectival Vs. Qualifiers

She was **pretty** / We ran **pretty** fast.

Adverbial Vs. Qualifiers

She is coming **too** / They are **too** heavy

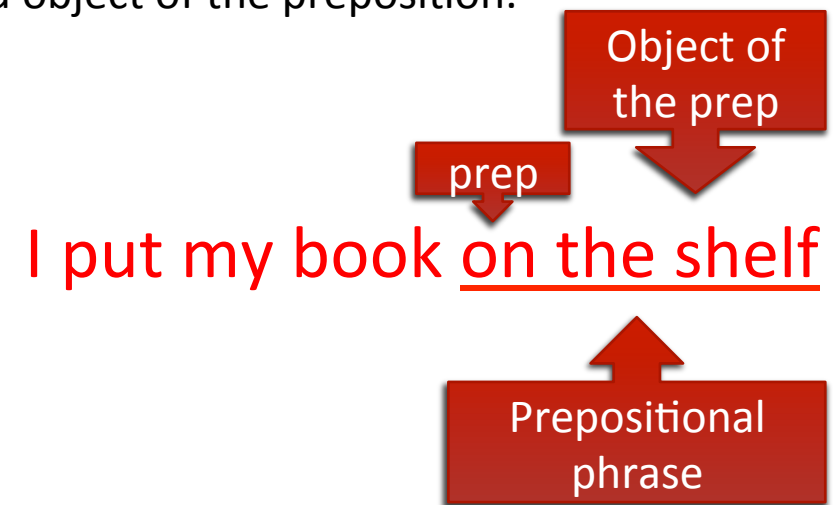
Nominal Vs. Qualifiers

I've had **plenty** / He was **plenty** angry

Prepositions

The prepositions are usually followed by a noun, noun phrase, personal pronoun, or noun substitute, which is called object of the preposition.

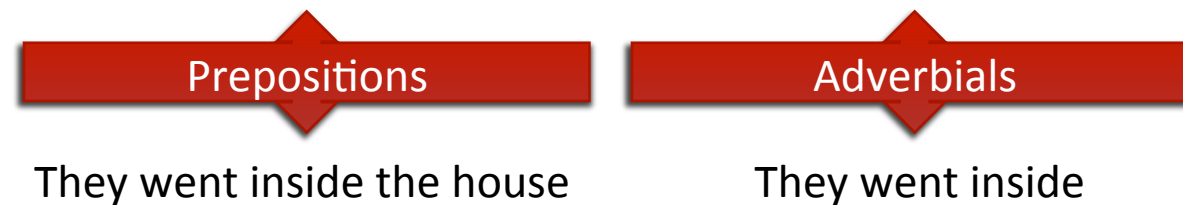
E. g.



Prepositions

- English has a small group of prepositions:
E.g. at, by, from, between, behind, before.

- Some words can be either prepositions or adverbials:
E.g. She looked up the stairs She looked up



- There is a group of –ing prepositions that all have a verb as a stem
E.g. assuming, concerning, considering, during, including, regarding.
- The final group of prepositions is formed by compound prepositions.
E.g. together with, apart from, up to, in spite of, with regard to.

Determiners

A determiner is a word that patterns with a noun. It precedes the noun and serves as a signal that a noun is soon to follow.

E.g. **The** book
This house

If the noun is preceded by adjectives or nouns, the determiner precedes these modifiers.

E.g. **The** blue book
This old house

Determiners

Articles

a/an, the

Prenominal possessive pronouns

My, your, his, her, its, our, their

Determiners

Demonstratives

This, that, these, those

Possessive proper names

John's, Sara's, Ali's

Auxiliaries

Auxiliaries are closely associated with the verb.

Kinds of auxiliaries:

1- Modal auxiliaries

Can, could, may, might, shall, should, will, would, must, ought (to).

The modal auxiliaries have two main characteristics:

1- The present tense does not take an –s in the third person singular.

2- They do not have participle forms; present and past.

* Modal auxiliaries precede verb stems and give them special shades of meaning, such as futurity, volition, possibility, probability, permission, and necessity.

Auxiliaries

Kinds of auxiliaries:

2- The two primary auxiliaries (have and be)

STEM	HAVE	BE
Present tense	Have/has	Am/is/are
Present participle	Having	Being
Past tense	Had	Was/were
Past participle	Had	Been

Have is followed by past participle and *be* is followed by past participle or present participle.

When there is more than one auxiliary in a sentence, the order should be; modal + have + be

E.g. I may have been finishing.

Auxiliaries

Kinds of auxiliaries:

3- The periphrastic auxiliary (do)

The auxiliary do carries the the verb tense.

E.g. Sara studies physics → Sara does not study physics → Does Sara study physics?

Simple present

Sara studied physics → Sara did not study physics → Did Sara study physics?

Simple past

Some occurrences of (do) do not constitute the use of an auxiliary.

E.g. He **did** not come

He **did** the homework

Auxiliaries

The differences between verbs and auxiliaries:

1- An auxiliary is not used as a full verb, it may be used as a substitute verb for a verb already mentioned or it is used in reference to a previously mentioned verb.

E.g. He studied for the exam and so **did** I.

Will you come tomorrow? Yes, I **will**.

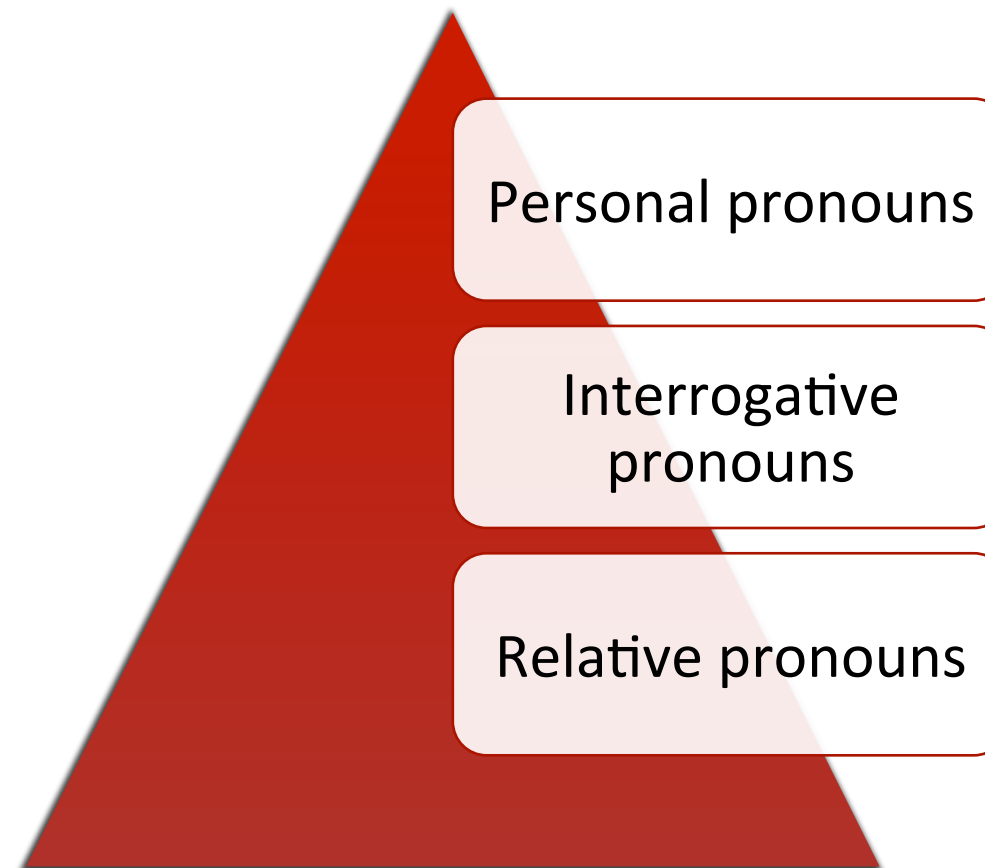
2- The negative of a verb phrase containing an auxiliary or auxiliaries is made by putting *not* after the first auxiliary in a sequence.

E.g. He has **not** been attending.

3- To make a question with an auxiliary, the subject and the auxiliary in a sequence are reversed

E.g. She **can** do it → **Can** she do it?

Pronouns



Pronouns

1- Personal pronouns

		Subject	Object	Prenominal possessive	Substitutional possessive	
Singular	1 st	I	Me	My	Mine	
	2 nd	You	You	Your	Yours	
	3 rd	M	He	Him	His	His
		F	She	Her	Her	Hers
		N	It	It	Its	its
Plural	1 st	We	Us	Our	Ours	
	2 nd	You	You	Your	Yours	
	3 rd	They	Them	Their	Theirs	
Interr. Relative		Who	Whom	Whose	Whose	

Pronouns

2- Interrogative pronouns

Who → subject or object

Whom → object

Whose → prenominal and substitutional possession

What → things, actions.

Which → choices

Why → reasons

When → time

Where → place

How → ways or means

Pronouns

1- Relative pronouns

Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Used for human references
Whom	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Used for human references
Whose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interrogative → Used for human references• Relative → Used for both human and nonhuman references
Which	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Used for nonhuman references
That	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Used for both human and nonhuman references

This is all for today

SEE YOU NEXT WEEK 😊