

Word Classes



Does your text include the following word classes...

determiners?	
nouns?	
adjectives?	
verbs and modal verbs?	
adverbs?	
pronouns?	
relative pronouns?	
conjunctions?	
prepositions?	

Verbs

(action or doing words)

jump swim live climb work sing
sleep move talk breathe think

Modal Verbs

must shall will should would can
could may might

Conjunctions

(words that join words, phrases, clauses or sentences)

and because until when while
since if for however although as
but after

Pronouns

(words that take the place of a noun)

his her she I
it this he they

Nouns and Proper Nouns

(common and proper names of people, places, things and ideas)

boy girl woman Alex Mr Brennan
castle Oxford Street tiger
house Windsor

Determiners

(words that introduce a noun)

a the an these those her his
whose some many

Prepositions

(words that link nouns, pronouns and phrases)

across on above
below over in
through around

Adverbs

(words that describe how, when or where a verb is being done)

slowly silently
upstairs yesterday
nearby kindly
occasionally easily
tomorrow

Adjectives

(words that describe nouns)

shiny ancient smooth gigantic
rosy tiny clear thin heavy

Relative Pronouns

(words that introduce relative clauses)

which that who whom whose



Some Examples of Word Classes

determiners

nouns

adjectives

verbs

adverbs

pronouns

relative pronoun

conjunctions

prepositions

An Excerpt from Theseus and the Minotaur

Theseus, who was the prince of Athens, was fed up. Minos has been telling Athens what to do for nine years. Tomorrow, 14 more children would be shipped off to meet the Minotaur. He went over his clever plan in his head and knocked on the wooden door of his father's study.

Before Aegeus could even stand up to meet his son, Theseus had started talking. "This deal with Minos has gone on for too long. Families are terrified that their children will be picked next, which doesn't make us very well-liked. We should be protecting our people – not feeding them to the Minotaur! Tomorrow, when the boat comes, I am going to take the place of one of the boys who is to be sacrificed. Then, I will defeat the Minotaur and we can live in peace."

Aegeus was shocked. He knew that his son was strong and brave but the Minotaur was huge and fierce. In fact, it was so fierce that it had to be locked inside a complex maze. Aegeus begged Theseus to find another way but he had already made up his mind. Eventually, Aegeus had to agree.



Remember - some words can belong to different word classes in different sentences.