Chapter 3: Parts of Speech Overview, pp. 45–67

Choices: Investigating Parts of Speech, p. 45

Choices activities are designed to extend and enrich students’ understanding of grammar, usage, and mechanics and to take learners beyond traditional classroom instruction. To use the Choices worksheet, have each student pick an activity that interests him or her. In some cases, you may wish to assign an activity to a particular student or group of students. You may also want to request that students get your approval for the activities they choose. Establish guidelines for what constitutes successful completion of an activity. Then, help students plan how they will share their work with the rest of the class.

Choices activities can be scored with a pass-fail grade or treated as bonus-point projects. Those activities that require students to research or create a certain number of items might be graded in a traditional manner.

The Verb, p. 46

EXERCISE

1. The giraffe’s neck forms about half of its height.
2. The giraffe has a short tufted mane on its long neck.
3. A mature giraffe is approximately eighteen feet tall.
4. All giraffes develop two to four horns.
5. Reddish brown splotches highlight their pale brown coats.
6. The glass snake is actually a legless lizard.
7. Some people call them glass lizards.
8. These lizards live in North America, Eurasia, and Africa.
9. Their smooth skins are usually brown or green.
10. A groove runs along each side of the glass snake’s body.
11. The glowworm is a wingless female beetle.
12. Organs inside these beetles and their larvae emit a glow.
13. Firefly is the term for the male.
14. The male, not the female, flies.
15. Hares are large members of the rabbit family.
16. Many adult hares weigh up to ten pounds.
17. The ears of a hare are longer than its head.
18. The fur of the arctic hare turns white in winter for camouflage.
19. Its ears are shorter than the ears of the Mediterranean brown hare.
20. The jack rabbit is a familiar North American hare.

Action Verbs, p. 47

EXERCISE A

1. Jon collected gold, red, and yellow leaves.
2. He carefully placed them in his backpack.
3. I wondered why.
4. Later, he **told** me about his plan.
5. He **knew** of a market for these beautiful leaves.
6. A local craft shop **buys** the leaves for craft classes.
7. For example, the class on greeting cards **uses** colorful leaves regularly.
8. The art classes always **want** leaves, too.
9. Artists **incorporate** the foliage into collages.
10. People **enjoy** the “back to nature” tone of this artwork.

**EXERCISE B**
11. **I remember** my great-grandmother’s recipe for gumbo.
12. The shrimp, vegetables, and spices **simmer** together.
13. I always **drop** a little hot pepper sauce into the pot.
14. Meanwhile, white rice **steams** until tender.
15. I **prefer** this mild rice along with the spicy gumbo.

**Linking Verbs, p. 48**

**EXERCISE A**
1. The huge diamond mine is now a museum.
2. The computerized voice **sounded** human to me.
3. After the storm, the islanders **grew** nervous at the sight of all the dark clouds.
4. Some of the bristlecone pine trees are **very** old.
5. The farm animals **looked** quite content.

**EXERCISE B**
6. Burr **became** one of the most colorful characters in U.S. history.
7. Burr **came** from a well-known Puritan family.
8. At age twenty-one, he **was** a commanding officer of an entire regiment.
9. He resigned **in** 1779 because of ill health.
10. Later, Burr **practiced** law.
11. He almost always **looked** healthy and successful.
12. Burr and Alexander Hamilton **were** longtime enemies.
13. Burr **fought** a duel with Hamilton.
14. Hamilton **died** from his wound.
15. Burr’s political career **was** soon over.

**Helping Verbs and Main Verbs, p. 49**

**EXERCISE A**
1. Perhaps we **should learn** more about birthday celebrations in various countries.
2. Mexicans will sometimes **buy** a piñata for a birthday party.
3. The piñata is filled with small treats and gifts.
4. In Mexico, families will usually celebrate a girl’s fifteenth birthday with a special party.
5. This traditional celebration is called a quinceañera.
6. In the United States, a girl’s sixteenth birthday is often treated as a special birthday.
7. Some people do not like birthday celebrations.
8. They might not tell you their age.
9. Other people have celebrated in spectacular ways.
10. Maybe I will celebrate my birthday in a new way this year.

**EXERCISE B**

*The paragraph contains ten verb phrases.*

Scientists can explain the causes of thunder. The sound of thunder is caused by the heat of lightning. A bolt of lightning can heat nearby air molecules. The air molecules will then expand, and they will also move. Their movement can create sounds and echoes. Because light can travel faster than sound, you will first see the lightning. The flash will occur almost immediately; only afterward will you hear the thunder.

**Transitive and Intransitive Verbs, p. 50**

**EXERCISE A**

1. At this airport, no planes land after dark.
2. My sister and I planted tomatoes and onions.
3. Rick’s parrot screams all day long.
4. Everyone ran quickly toward the exit.
5. Of all the contestants, Ming Chin caught the largest fish.

**EXERCISE B**

*Answers will vary. Sample responses are given.*

6. Erin will not forget her spelling notebook.
7. Ernesto will recite “The Kraken” next.
8. Today we will draw silhouettes with charcoal.
9. While one partner works the puzzle, the other watches the clock.
10. Michael, can you cook linguine with tomatoes and basil?

**Identifying Kinds of Verbs, p. 51**

**EXERCISE A**

1. We are late, Tony.
2. That would be wonderful!
3. Terrence sings in the school choir.
4. I have traveled to Scotland twice.
5. I dreamed vividly last night.
6. Throw the football!
7. How far is the park?
8. Guess again, Lori.
9. She has become quite famous.
10. Will you come to my party?

**Exercise B**

11. Several songbirds chirped sweetly outside my window.
12. This weekend we will build a bird feeder.
13. I will fill it with birdseed daily.
14. Dozens of birds will visit our backyard soon.
15. I can relax while listening to bird songs.

**The Adverb, p. 52**

**Exercise A**

1. Vivi Malloy rides her horse daily.
2. She has always wanted to be on the U.S. Equestrian Team.
3. Vivi rides a very attractive chestnut horse named Penny Red.
4. Vivi usually cleans the horse’s stall after school.
5. Then she grooms her horse.
7. Penny Red trots briskly around the ring.
8. Penny Red and Vivi especially enjoy jumping.
9. They have competed successfully in several shows.
10. Vivi’s parents always attend her shows.

**Exercise B**

Answers will vary. Sample responses are given.

11. usually 14. often
12. cleverly 15. easily
13. always

**Adverbs and the Words They Modify, p. 53**

**Exercise**

Answers will vary. Sample responses are given.

1. Most of the kids we know are saving money carefully. [Carefully modifies are saving, a verb.]
2. The money is usually put into an account for college or trade school. [Usually modifies is put, a verb.]
3. They get their allowance weekly. [Weekly modifies get, a verb.]
4. They quickly spend a little of it. [Quickly modifies spend, a verb.]
5. Armand and I often donate some of our earnings to charity. [Often modifies donate, a verb.]
6. Armand is very good at taking care of lawns. [Very modifies good, an adjective.]
7. Lawn work isn’t very practical for me because I live in an apartment building. [Very modifies practical, an adjective.]
8. Instead, I walk dogs and run errands daily for people in my building. [Daily modifies walk and run, verbs.]
9. I can simultaneously earn extra money and meet new neighbors. [Simultaneously modifies can earn and meet, verbs.]
10. I am wisely saving my earnings in a bank account. [Wisely modifies am saving, a verb.]

**Adverb or Adjective? p. 54**

**Exercise**

1. The kindly stranger helped the lost child.
2. At noon, the whistle blew shrilly.
3. I carefully tested the heat of the water.
4. My young niece’s frilly dress was handmade by her mother.

5. I rose early and jogged three miles.

6. The early bird catches the worm.

7. Candace had rarely been late.

8. For some reason, I laughed uncontrollably.


10. My daily lunch is fruit, pretzels, and a sandwich.

11. This especially large room will be perfect for my art studio.

12. The air over the city is refreshingly clear of smog.

13. The timely bell saved me from a dozen more sit-ups in gym class.

14. I was extremely tired by the end of the day.

15. The monthly meeting was held in the cafeteria.

16. The club meets monthly, doesn’t it?

17. With a queenly smile, she dismissed the knight.

18. John smiled shyly and then started to laugh.

19. Our yearly trip to Vermont was postponed.

20. He easily lifted the cabinet.

The Preposition, p. 55

EXERCISE A

1. The bottom of the ocean is very dark.

2. In most places, it is also cold.

3. However, in some places the ocean floor is warm.

4. One such place is near the Galapagos Islands.

5. Scientists discovered a crack in the ocean floor.

6. They found that heat poured from this crack.

7. The heat was rising from the earth.

8. Many plants and animals lived around this spot.


10. These life forms lived eight thousand feet below the water’s surface.

EXERCISE B

Answers may vary. Sample responses are given.

11. on

12. near

13. with

14. Beneath

15. after

16. around

17. in front of

18. of

19. Since

20. behind

Prepositional Phrases, p. 56

EXERCISE A

1. A copper-colored snake slithered along the rotting log.

2. During a crisis David sometimes loses his temper.

3. The pigs found their food under the shallow water.

4. That ancient bridge was built 155 feet above the Gard River.

5. The newscaster slipped on the ice as he hurried along.

EXERCISE B

Answers will vary. Sample responses are given.

6. The frightened soldier hid under the overturned jeep.

7. Canditha wore a beautiful scarf over one shoulder.

8. Suddenly, the prisoners heard a faint scratching noise from the next cell.

9. The creature had hideous green tentacles on its head and back.

10. The noisy helicopter landed in the parking lot.
Preposition or Adverb? p. 57

**Exercise**

1. The poison ivy climbed **around** the trunk of the tree.
2. I looked **up** but didn’t see the source of the noise.
3. The ship slowly sailed away.
4. Do not put the bread bag **near** the hot burner on the stove.
5. When did you say you are coming over?
6. I could go **to** your house instead.
7. If I inherited a million dollars, I would spread my wealth **around** a little.
8. For example, I would donate money **to** many charities.
9. My brother got a ticket because he parked **in front of** a fire hydrant.
10. He paid the fine **through** the mail.
11. Should I flip the pancake over yet?
12. I could barely squeeze **through**.
13. Once **upon** a time, there was a very hungry dragon.
14. **Without** you and Jessie, I couldn’t have done it.
15. I can sprint to that tree or **beyond** it.
16. I have never seen anything like this before!
17. Our star party will last from **dusk till dawn**.
18. Is there really a ghost **in** Wuthering Heights?
19. Yes, the ghost of Catherine appears **outside** Heathcliff’s house during a storm.
20. With the dog close behind, the cat scrambled up the fence and **out of** its reach.

The Conjunction A, p. 58

**Exercise A**

1. I pressed the button, **but** the elevator did not stop.
2. **Either** Eddie **or** Pang will deliver the furniture.
3. We wanted to go sledding, **but** the snow was starting to melt.
4. Jennifer repeated the caller’s number **and** wrote it on the pad.
5. **Neither** strawberries **nor** raspberries are in season right now.
6. Pandora was curious **but** frightened.
7. Don’t sail now, **for** the winds are too strong.
8. The children are not **only** tired **but also** cranky.
9. Leotie wondered **whether** she should go or stay home.
10. Do you want me to make the fruit punch **or** blow up the balloons?

**Exercise B**

Answers may vary. Sample responses are given.

11. **or**
12. **but**
13. **nor**
14. **Either, or**
15. **and**
16. **Both, and**
17. **but**
18. **whether, or**
19. **Not only, but also**
20. **so**

The Conjunction B, p. 59

**Exercise**

Answers will vary. Sample responses are given.

1. Rudy plays not only the trumpet but also the trombone.
2. The horse bucked and reared.
3. Scott and Paco served the first course.
4. My sister neither speaks nor reads Russian.
5. The building trembled yet did not collapse.
6. Daniel played basketball and baseball.
7. The birds and the squirrels ate from the bird feeder.
8. A large bear waded into the water and caught a salmon.
9. The candle flickered and went out.
10. Shannon studied not only the trees but also the plants in the forest.

The Interjection, p. 60

Exercise
1. Ouch! I stubbed my toe.
2. Oh, maybe we should wait.
3. Help! My science class experiment blew up!
4. Well, it isn’t raining as hard now.
5. You won that much? Wow!
6. Eureka! I have found it!
7. Well, it sounds like fun, but I have to work.
8. Hooray! We won first place!
9. Oops! I spilled juice on the floor.
10. Shucks, that’s not so fast.
11. She swung the bat and, bam, the ball flew out of the park.
12. Pow! Every time he hits the bag it pops back.
13. Oh, that isn’t so impressive.
14. After it started raining, well, we went home.
15. Aha! So you’re the mysterious good Samaritan!
16. Okay, I’ll go to the park with you.
17. Uh-oh, here comes trouble.
18. Goodness! I hope everyone is unhurt.
19. You ran a marathon? Whew!
20. Wow, I didn’t even know that bird could whistle.

Determining Parts of Speech, p. 61

Exercise
1. Maps are very popular with collectors.
2. Some have sold for very high prices.
3. High prices have encouraged the publication of special books and magazines.
4. Valuable maps must be carefully protected from light and dust.
5. Many of the most valuable maps are kept inside closed drawers.
6. Oh, that really is a treasure map.
7. The Library of Congress houses the world’s largest collection of maps.
8. Within its vault are more than 4.5 million maps.
9. In the Geography and Map Division, you may use either an atlas or a globe.
10. In this collection are many unusual maps.
11. Some of the maps there are on public display.
12. Carefully, the librarian opened the first volume of Ptolemy’s Guide to Geography.
13. Later, he showed us a globe from the eighteenth century.
14. The archaeologist looked inside the cave and thought she saw a map on the wall.

15. In ancient times, the Babylonians drew maps on clay tablets.

16. Wow! Look at this Inuit map painted on an animal skin!

17. This old map shows both the northern hemisphere and the southern hemisphere.

18. Say, do you know how to read this road atlas?

19. The bold print in the atlas can be read easily.

20. Yesterday, we used the road atlas to find a route to St. Louis.

Review A: Verbs, p. 62

Exercise A

1. The apartment has been too warm all week.

2. Before diving, always look below you for possible hazards.

3. In his old age, my dog has become quite gray around the muzzle.

4. As he climbed the tower, Willis felt totally confident.

5. Most of the test subjects dreamed about flying or sailing.

6. My father is glad about it.

7. Quartz crystals vibrate at a constant rate.

8. Alicia wore kneepads and a helmet while she was in-line skating.

9. The baby rabbit remained still until the dog passed by.

10. We may be lost, because this area doesn’t look familiar to me.

Exercise B

11. The end of the rope fell into the water.

12. All the antelopes raised their heads.

13. Sean has received an award for bravery.

14. During the scavenger hunt, we raced into every store on Main Street.

15. Mu Lan finished her picture just in time for the show.

16. A chameleon’s body may grow to be twenty-five inches long.

17. The reptile’s tongue can be as long as its body.

18. This long tongue stays rolled up inside the mouth.

19. The chameleon can unroll its tongue very quickly.

20. Chameleons have caught insects many inches away.

Review B: Adverbs, Prepositions, Conjunctions, Interjections, p. 63

Exercise A  For number 7, you may want to allow students to identify only throw as the object.

1. Mildred Didrikson Zaharias came from Texas.

2. She was better known as Babe.

3. During her teens, she played basketball.

4. She also excelled in swimming and figure skating.

5. At eighteen, she was a major track star.

6. Before the year’s end, she won two Olympic medals.

7. Babe won one medal for the javelin throw.

8. She played baseball with equal skill.

9. Until her early death, she played golf.

10. She won seventeen straight golf tournaments in 1947.
EXERCISE B
11. Sometimes beachcombers find interesting things on beaches.
12. They are likely to find both bottles and driftwood.
13. A woman found a narwhal tusk there.
14. People once thought the tusks were unicorn horns.
15. But aren’t narwhals really imaginary creatures?
16. No, a narwhal is a small arctic whale.
17. The males often grow a single, long tusk.
18. Wow! Some tusks are almost nine feet long.
19. The narwhal may use the tusk for play-fighting or digging.
20. That tusk is not only uncommon but also quite interesting.

Review C: Verbs, Adverbs, Prepositions, Conjunctions, Interjections, p. 64

EXERCISE
1. Zap! The dragon’s breath burned the fence.
3. A technician is fixing the computer now.
4. A fire burned in the fireplace, but no one was in the room.
5. Three different Pharoahs built those pyramids.
6. During the operation, the nurse looked neither nervous nor pale.
7. Margarita grabbed the horse by its mane.
8. Breathlessly everyone watched the stunt parachutist.
9. Dr. Levine handed the new eyeglasses to the woman.
10. The mechanic checked the wires, yet he found nothing wrong.
11. Everyone wore a different kind of costume.
12. Yum, your entire house smells spicy.
13. Latrice is helping me catalog the books.
14. With one swift stroke, the chef chopped the onion into two pieces.
15. The students at my new school seem friendly.
16. In science, we are studying vampire bats.
17. These bats are found in Central America and South America.
18. Vampire bats rarely bite humans.
19. Instead, a vampire bat will make a tiny cut on an animal’s skin.
20. Usually, a bat will lap only a small amount of blood.

Literary Model: Using Adverbs in a Description, pp. 65–66

EXERCISE A
Students should list ten of the following eleven adverbs.

- completely
- vehemently
- sufficiently
- slowly
- accurately
- tranquilly
- rarely
- sometimes
- incessantly
- gravely
- perfectly

EXERCISE B
1. The opinions of this club were completely controlled by Nicholas Vedder, a patriarch of the village, and landlord of the inn, at the door of which he took his seat from morning till night, just moving sufficiently to avoid the sun and keep in the shade of a large tree; so that the neighbors could tell the hour by his movements as accurately as
by a sundial. It is true he was rarely heard to speak, but smoked his pipe incessantly. His adherents, however, perfectly understood him, and knew how to gather his opinions. When anything that was read or related displeased him, he was observed to smoke his pipe vehemently, and to send forth short, frequent, and angry puffs; but when pleased, he would inhale the smoke slowly and tranquilly, and emit it in light and placid clouds; and sometimes, taking the pipe from his mouth, and letting the fragrant vapor curl about his nose, would gravely nod his head in token of perfect approbation.

from “Rip Van Winkle” by Washington Irving

2. Answers will vary. A sample response is given.

Not all of the adverbs are necessary; that is, they could be left out of the paragraph. Including them, however, makes the writing more specific and more colorful. Because of the author’s use of adverbs, the reader more easily can imagine the man and the scene being described. The description is better with the adverbs.

EXERCISE C
Answers will vary. A sample response is given.

My cousin Bobby is four or five years old. At first, he sat perfectly still on the park bench, next to me. Before too long, he sprang from the bench and began scurrying between two elm trees. This went on for several minutes. I called out, “Bobby, stop that running. You know your asthma can’t take it.” I watched him walk to the bench, feet dragging and shoulders slumping.

EXERCISE D
Answers will vary. Sample responses are given.

1. My cousin Bobby is four or five years old. At first, he sat on the park bench, next to me. Before long, he sprang from the bench and began scurrying between two elm trees. This went on for several minutes. I called out, “Bobby, stop that running. You know your asthma can’t take it.” I watched him walk to the bench, feet dragging and shoulders slumping.

2. Deleting all the adverbs makes the paragraph become less visual, since those words add to the images that are produced in the reader’s mind.

Writing Application: Personal Description, p. 67

Writing Applications are designed to provide students immediate composition practice in using key concepts taught in each chapter of the Language and Sentence Skills Practice booklet. You may wish to evaluate student responses to these assignments as you do any other writing that students produce. To save grading time, however, you may want to use the following scoring rubric.

Scoring Rubric

The paragraph includes at least five well-chosen adverbs.

1 2 3 4 5

The paragraph avoids overused adverbs.

1 2 3 4 5

The paragraph mentions several details about the student’s vision of his or her future.

1 2 3 4 5

The assignment is relatively free of errors in usage and mechanics.

1 2 3 4 5

Total Score ______________

5 = highest; 1 = lowest