

The names of English language words

Parts of speech (or word-classes):

- ✧ **nouns:** chairperson, information, freedom, company, environment, policy;
- ✧ **verbs**¹: choose, manage, tell, go, vote, elect;
- ✧ **adjectives**²: happy, dangerous, profitable, expensive, green, independent;
- ✧ **adverbs**³: slowly, carefully, economically;

LEXICAL or
CONTENT WORDS – words carrying descriptive meaning

- ✧ **prepositions:** in, at, on, after;
- ✧ **pronouns:** me, you, them, who;
- ✧ **articles and determiners:** the, this, my, some;
- ✧ **conjunctions**⁴: and, or, but, however;
- ✧ **interjections**⁵: wow! yeah! no!!

GRAMMATICAL or
FUNCTION WORDS – words signalling relations

¹ Only **full verbs** are considered lexical words, whereas **auxiliary verbs** and **modal verbs** are classified as grammatical words.

² Only adjectives as **qualifiers** are considered lexical words.

³ Only **adverbs of manner** – i.e., those deriving from qualifiers – are considered lexical words.

⁴ Also called **connectives** or **linking words**.

⁵ Also called **exclamations**.