Parts of Speech II: Verbs, Prepositions, Conjunctions, and Interjections

PURPOSE: Learning parts of speech can help you with spoken and written communication skills. Knowing parts of speech will help you eliminate grammatical problems and write essays more easily. There are only eight parts of speech, one we rarely use in academic writing (interjections), so let’s learn these once and for all. This DLA will cover four parts of speech. This DLA should take approximately 30 to 45 minutes to complete.

STEP 1: Access the Powerpoint “Parts of Speech DLA Part II”. Read through and understand the slides on verbs. Then, underline seven verbs in the first set of sentences on the next page of this DLA. You will want to print out that page to go over it with an instructor at the end (you don’t need to print this page).

***Remember, you can ask questions at any point in this process. Write down your questions as you go along, or ask an instructor each time you have a question. This is a self-paced activity, so make it work for you.

STEP 2: Return to the Powerpoint, and understand the slides on prepositions and play the game. Then, underline seven prepositions in the second question on the next page.

STEP 3: Return to the Powerpoint, and understand the slides on conjunctions and play the quick game. Then, underline the seven conjunctions in the third set of sentences on the next page.

STEP 4: Return to the Powerpoint, and understand the slides on interjections. Then, underline the three interjections in the fourth set of sentences on the next page.

STEP 5: Finally, complete the exercises on the following page by writing original sentences and underlining the words that you have used. Then, print that page only and bring it to an instructor to go over your answers and talk about any difficulties or discoveries you might have.
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1. **Underline seven verbs** (not verbals) in the sentences below (there are more than seven):

   Talking on the phone is not a good habit. When you talk on the phone, you waste a lot of time and avoid important duties. A phone can be a great tool, but if you overuse it, you will suffer the consequences. Some people cry about not having enough time, but if they stopped talking on the phone, they might find that they had plenty of time every day.

2. **Underline seven prepositional phrases** in the sentences below (there are more than seven):

   In the classroom, the students sat on the chairs and looked out the windows. Nine of the chairs were broken, but they were still comfortable for a short nap. An instructor came into the room and sat behind the students; he said, “During class, you cannot nap, but until then, feel free to rest your eyes.”

3. **Underline seven conjunctions** in the following sentences (there are more than seven):

   Even though the monkey is well-behaved, it cannot live in our house because we don’t have enough time, money, or space for it. However, if you really want to work with monkeys, you can get a job at the zoo. While this isn’t the same as living with a monkey, you will be able to bond and learn to communicate with the monkey so that when you live on your own, you’ll be all set to have a monkey move in there.

4. **Underline three interjections** in the following sentences (there are only three):

   Wow! I had no idea grammar was so much fun. Whoa, what do you mean? This is the last section? Darn! I was hoping to do more grammar.

5. **Write a sentence with a linking verb and a prepositional phrase. Underline each and mark them as verbs or prepositional phrases. Use the back of this page.**

6. **Write a sentence with a subordinating conjunction and two action verbs. Underline each and mark them as subordinating conjunction or verbs. Use the back of this page.**

7. **Write down any questions you may have about these four parts of speech, and bring those questions to the instructor on duty in the WRC. Have the instructor check your answers and sign this sheet when you are done discussing these parts of speech.**

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Riverside City College  
Writing and Reading Center  
Directed Learning Activity G.2

Name ___________________________  
Date ___________________________

Instructor name ____________________  
Instructor Signature _______________  
Date ____________________________