

1

Word class and word order

In the world today



In the world today, people speak around **2,700** different languages.

More than **750** million people use the English language.
But only about **350** million people speak it as a first language.

About **885** million people speak Chinese as their first language.

About **80%** of the information on the world's computers is in English.

There are **26** letters in the English alphabet. The sentence
The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog uses all 26 letters.



Underline the correct option: English is the first language of around 350 / 750 / 885 million people in the world.

Answer: 350

Word class and word order

- 1 A noun can be singular (e.g. *world*) or plural (e.g. *computers, people*).

Examples of nouns are:

man, girl (people)
fox (animals)
computer, letter, language (things)
world (places)
success (qualities)

- 2 A pronoun can replace a noun.

Examples of pronouns are:

I, me, you, she, him, it, we, them

- 3 An adjective describes a noun.

Examples of adjectives are:

quick, brown, first, different, good

- 4 Adjectives usually come before the noun.

a first language NOT *a language first*

Adjectives have no plural form.

different languages NOT *different languages*

- 5 A verb can refer to the past, present or future.

Examples of verbs are:

speak, jump (actions)
be, like, stay (states)

- 6 An adverb can describe a verb, an adjective or a whole sentence. Examples of adverbs are:

carefully, slowly (adverbs that describe a verb)
very, extremely (adverbs that describe adjectives)
however, sometimes, luckily (adverbs that describe sentences)

- 7 A sentence usually contains a subject (S) and a verb (V).

He (S) *won* (V).
Williams (S) *was* (V) *the winner*.
Our team (S) *is playing* (V) *in the big stadium*.

- 8 Many sentences contain an object (O). In these sentences the word order is SVO.

She (S) *won* (V) *the race* (O).

- 9 Adverbs which describe a verb usually come at the end of a sentence.

My brother speaks English quickly.

Practice

A Find examples of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs in the following sentences and write them below.

- The alphabet has 26 letters.
- 750,000,000 people use the language.
- It has five vowels: a, e, i, o and u.
- The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.
- He studied the new words very carefully.

Nouns: alphabet, letters,

Pronouns: _____

Adjectives: _____

Verbs: has,

Adverbs: _____

B What is the subject in each of the sentences in Exercise A?

- the alphabet
- _____
- _____
- _____

C Complete the sentences with an appropriate word. Use the part of speech in brackets.

- He's a happy child – he's always smiling. (adjective)
- _____ loves her. (pronoun)
- She _____ to the pool every Saturday. (verb)
- Can you speak more _____? I can't understand you. (adverb)
- They're both very _____ and thin. (adjective)
- Luckily, the weather is _____ good. It has been sunny all week. (adverb)
- I study at school. I'm a _____. (noun)
- My teacher _____ really good stories. (verb)
- They work at the _____. They're nurses. (noun)
- My cousins live in Brazil. _____ speak Portuguese. (pronoun)

D Make sentences by putting the words in the correct order.

- walks / he / quickly He walks quickly.
- we / speak / Russian _____
- a / woman / strange / is / she _____
- very badly / drives / my aunt _____
- they / live / in this street _____
- he / two brothers / has _____
- the dog / my sandwich / ate _____
- we / film / the / new / saw _____

MY TURN!

Use the words in the box to complete the table below.

	adjectives	adverbs	nouns	pronouns	verbs
1	<u>nouns</u>		bee country game giraffe leaves man moon Morocco pizza spider station tennis match woman		
2			I they we		
3			beautiful crazy purple small <u>stripy</u> tall ugly wonderful young		
4			be dance eat go have watch win		
5			angrily happily quickly quietly sadly slowly		

Now use the words from the table to make ten or more sentences and write them in your notebook. Use the verb in any appropriate tense. Your sentences must be correct but they can be crazy!
Example: The tall man ate his pizza slowly.



MY TEST!

Circle the correct option.

- My sister and I love computer games. _____ all the time. a We play them b Them play we c Play we them
- My uncle speaks four _____. a different languages b languages differents c differents languages
- My mother is Spanish and my father is Japanese, but _____ both speak English with me. a we b them c they
- I like the book and my friend likes _____ too. a book b him c it
- Cat, rabbit, dog and snake are _____. a adverbs b nouns c pronouns

My Test answers: 1a 2a 3c 4c 5b

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2

Be

Are you my son?



The Prince and the Pauper (1881) is a book by Mark Twain. The book is about two boys, Tom and Edward. They are 15 years old but their lives are very different. Tom is a poor boy but Edward is a prince. They change places by mistake so Edward is a poor boy and Tom is a prince. The old King, Henry VIII, is not well but he is Edward's father and he wants to know the truth ...

The King visits the prince (or is he the poor boy?).

King: I don't understand! **Are you** my son?

Tom: No, I'm not a prince, I'm poor.

King: **Are you** sure? Your clothes **are not** very old!

Tom: **They're not** my clothes. **They're** Edward's clothes. **He's** poor now.

King: Oh no! **This is** terrible! **Is it** true?

Tom: Yes, **it is**. I'm really sorry, King Henry. **You aren't** my father, **you're** my King.



Underline the correct option: Edward is Henry's *father* / *brother* / *son*.

Answer: son

Be

- 1 Use *be* to give and ask for information.

I'm Tom.

*The story **isn't** true.*

Is he in England?

- 2 Use *be* with ages.

*Two boys **are** 15 years old.*

- 3 Use *be* and *a* / *an* with jobs.

*She's **a** teacher.*

- 4 Use *be* to describe the weather.

It's cold.

- 5 Use *be* to talk about time and place.

It's six o'clock.

*Edward **is** in London.*

- 6 There is a full form and a short form.

*I **am** → I'm.*

In conversation, the short form is more common.

*'**They're** not my clothes.'*

In writing, the short form is used mainly with pronouns, not nouns.

*The old King **is** not well, he's sick.*

► See Units 25 and 32 for more information on *be* in questions.

statement ✓	negative ✗
I am ('m)	I am not ('m not)
You / We / They are ('re)	You / We / They are not (aren't / 're not)
He / She / It is ('s)	He / She / It is not (isn't / 's not)

question ?	short answer ✓ ✗
Am I ...?	Yes, I am. No, I am not ('m not).
Are you / we / they ...?	Yes, (they) are. No, (they) are not (aren't / 're not).
Is he / she / it ...?	Yes, (he) is. No, (he) is not (isn't / 's not).

TIP

English sentences normally need a subject.

It is cold. NOT *is cold.*

I am sure. NOT *Am sure.*

Practice

A Underline the correct option.

- 1 I be / am / is twelve years old.
- 2 They be / am / are in the garden.
- 3 It am / is / are six o'clock.
- 4 You be / is / are a dentist.
- 5 I am / is / are in the station.
- 6 It am / is / are very hot.
- 7 My sister am / is / are at work.
- 8 I be / am / are hungry.
- 9 We am / is / are students.
- 10 The book be / is / are about tigers.

B Complete the sentences from stories with the present simple of *be*. Some are negatives or questions.

- 1 The poor boy has no coat. He 's cold.
- 2 We are the three bears. We are in the woods.
- 3 Cinderella is running home. It is 12 o'clock.
- 4 Tweedledum and Tweedledee have the same parents. They are brothers.
- 5 The monster has a very ugly face. He isn't handsome.
- 6 The wicked queen is asking her mirror: Are you I beautiful?
- 7 Achilles and Hector fight. They are friends.
- 8 Robinson Crusoe has no friends on the island. Is he unhappy?

C Complete this book review of *The Prince and the Pauper* with the present simple of *be*.

The Prince and the Pauper ¹ is a very good book. I ² am 11 years old and I ³ (not) am very interested in history but I really like this book. Mark Twain ⁴ is a great writer. It ⁵ (not) isn't a true story but the characters ⁶ are very realistic. The story ⁷ (not) isn't difficult. It ⁸ is easy to understand and enjoy the book. Tom ⁹ is a simple English boy. His family are poor and they ¹⁰ are always hungry. Edward ¹¹ (not) isn't poor because he ¹² is a prince. The boys ¹³ are very different but at the end of the book they ¹⁴ are friends. There are many films of the book too but they ¹⁵ (not) are not very good – the book is the best!

D Make Tom's questions, using the words given and *be*. Then make Edward's replies with short answers using *be*.

- 1 you / prince?
Tom: Are you a prince?
Edward: Yes, I am.
- 2 King Henry / your father?
Tom: Is King Henry your father?
Edward: Yes, he is.

- 3 your mother / the Queen?
Tom: Is your mother the Queen?
Edward: Yes, she is.
- 4 we / brothers?
Tom: Are we brothers?
Edward: No, we aren't. I don't have a brother.
- 5 your sisters / here?
Tom: Are your sisters here?
Edward: No, they're in France.
- 6 you / very rich?
Tom: Are you very rich?
Edward: No, I'm not.
- 7 it / cold / in your house?
Tom: Is it cold in your house?
Edward: No, it's always warm.
- 8 I / your friend?
Tom: Are you my friend?
Edward: Yes, I like you.

MY TURN!

Use the verb *be* to make these sentences true for you.

- 1 My mobile phone isn't new.
- 2 Today is Monday.
- 3 Coffee is my favourite drink.
- 4 I am a good cook.
- 5 My eyes are blue.
- 6 It is warm today.
- 7 My shoes are clean.
- 8 I am at home.
- 9 History books are interesting.
- 10 My bed is next to the door.

MY TEST!

Circle the correct option.

- 1 Tom and Edward are.
a have 15 years b is 15 years old
c are 15 years old
- 2 Paul isn't a doctor.
a isn't a b aren't c isn't
- 3 A: What's the time? B: It's 11 o'clock.
a Is b It c It's
- 4 A: Are you my son? B: No, I'm not.
a I'm not b I am c I am
- 5 A: Is it cold today? B: No, it isn't. It's warm.
a Is cold b Is it cold c It cold

My Test! answers: 1c 2a 3c 4a 5b