

Parts of Speech



ENGLISH STUDY NOTES



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction 03

Nouns 04

Verbs 05

Adjectives 07

Adverbs 10

Pronouns 11

Conjunctions 13

Prepositions 14

Articles 15



Introduction



" We believe in empowerment through education. We are genuinely inspired to better the future by encouraging world-changing ideas and invest in the potentials of the people we teach everyday. "

- SMART CULTURE

At Smart Culture, we focus on strategies rather than obstacles. We lead, motivate and challenge learners to academically excel, because we delight in the beauty of success.

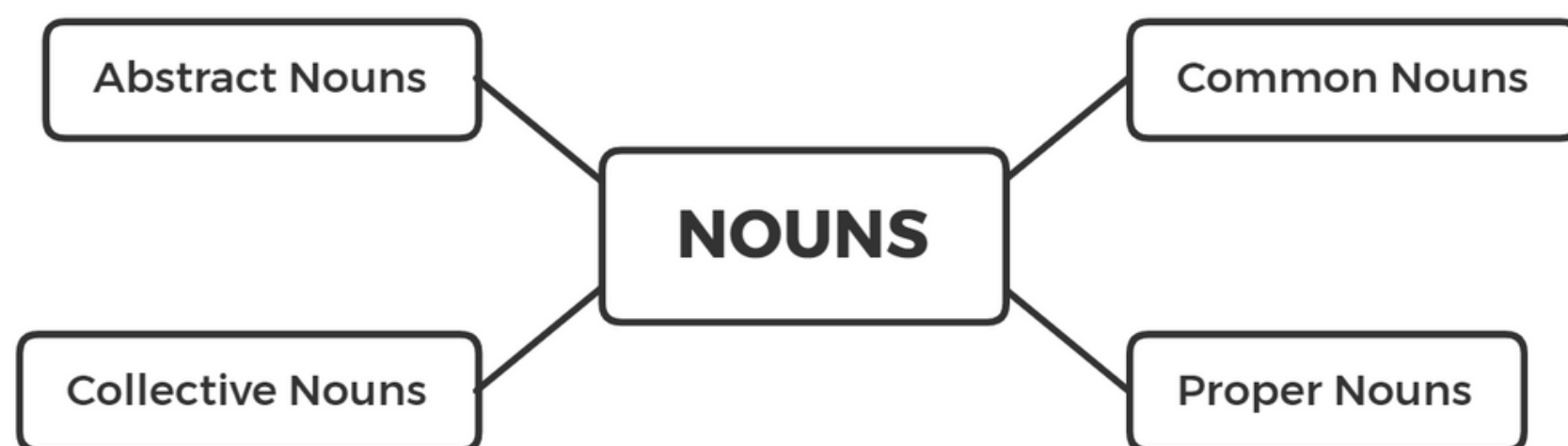
The Smart Culture study notes offer simple explanations and examples to assist learners to build their understanding. It is our sincere wish that all learners will benefit from these study notes and academically thrive.

Should you have any queries or require any further information please do not hesitate to contact us by email: info@smartcultureworld.com or visit our website www.smartcultureworld.com

NOUNS

A noun is a person, place, or thing. Nouns provide labels for the "things" we find in our world, such as people, objects, concepts, places and so on.

There are four different categories of nouns.



Common Nouns

Common nouns are nonspecific. These nouns label general categories for things. These type of nouns are not capitalized.

Let's take a look at some examples:

- child
- mother
- shop
- mountain
- scientist

Proper Nouns

Proper nouns are the names of specific examples. These nouns always starts with a capital letter.

Let's take a look at some examples:

- Lucy
- Maria
- Prada
- Mount Everest
- Isaac Newton

Collective Nouns

A collective noun is a collection or a group of common nouns taken as a whole.

Let's take a look at some examples:

- bunch (of grapes)
- team (of footballers)
- cast (of actors)
- choir (of singers)
- flock (of sheep)
- brood (of hens)

Abstract Nouns

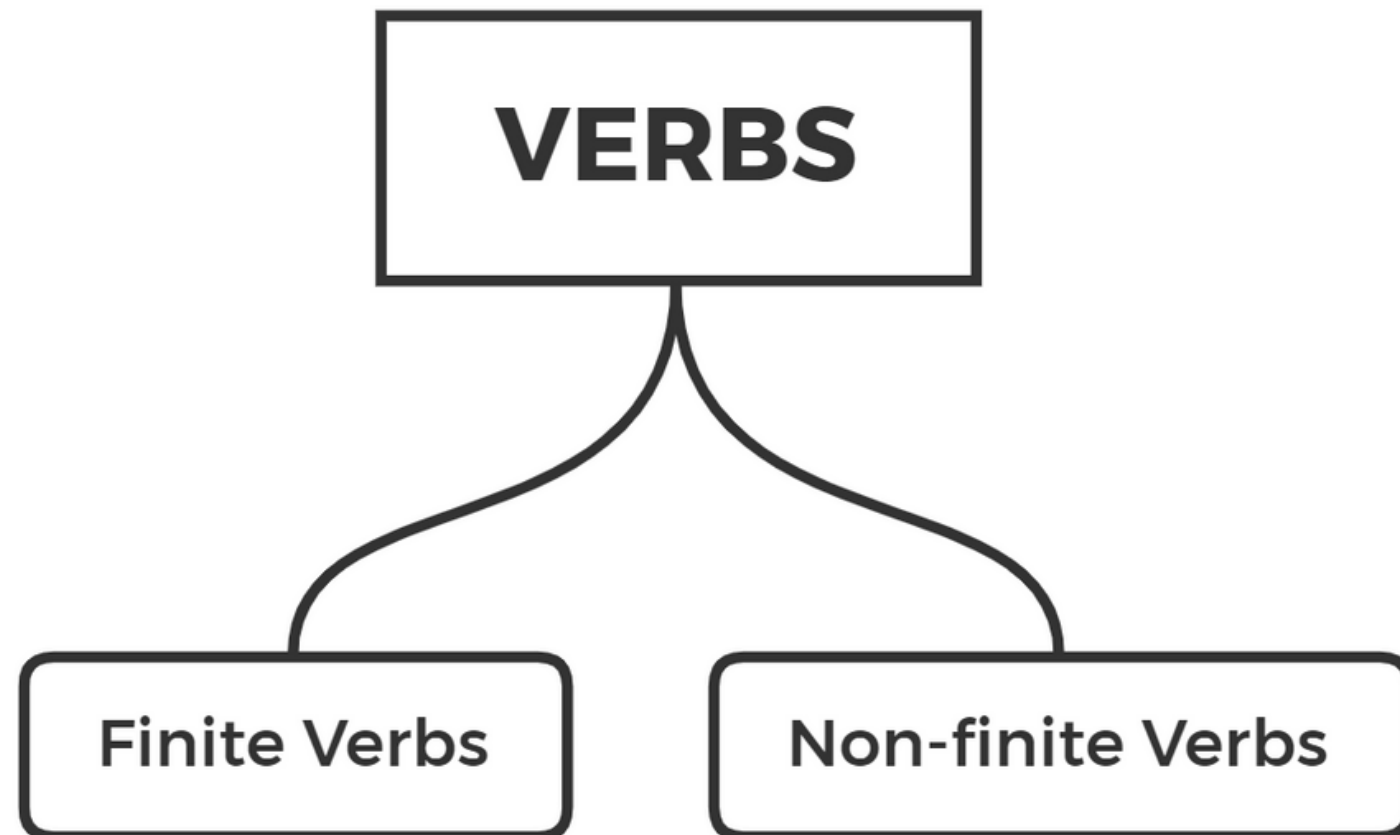
An abstract noun is a noun that denotes an idea, quality, or emotion rather than a concrete object.

Let's take a look at some examples:

- death
- frustration
- pleasure
- danger
- truth

VERBS

A verb is a word used to describe an action, behavior, or occurrence. Verbs tell us WHAT an object does.



Finite Verbs

Finite verb forms show tense, person and number.

- Have a subject that 'does' the verb.
- Change their form according to whether the subject of the sentence is singular or plural.
- Show that the actions takes place at a certain time

Let's take a look at some examples:

- *He was waiting in the room before he came in.*
- *Does your sister know my brother*
- *Aren't your mom a bit late?*

Non-finite Verbs

Non-finite verb forms do not show tense, person or number.

- Do not indicate any mood, tense or gender
- Cannot be the main verb

Let's take a look at some examples:

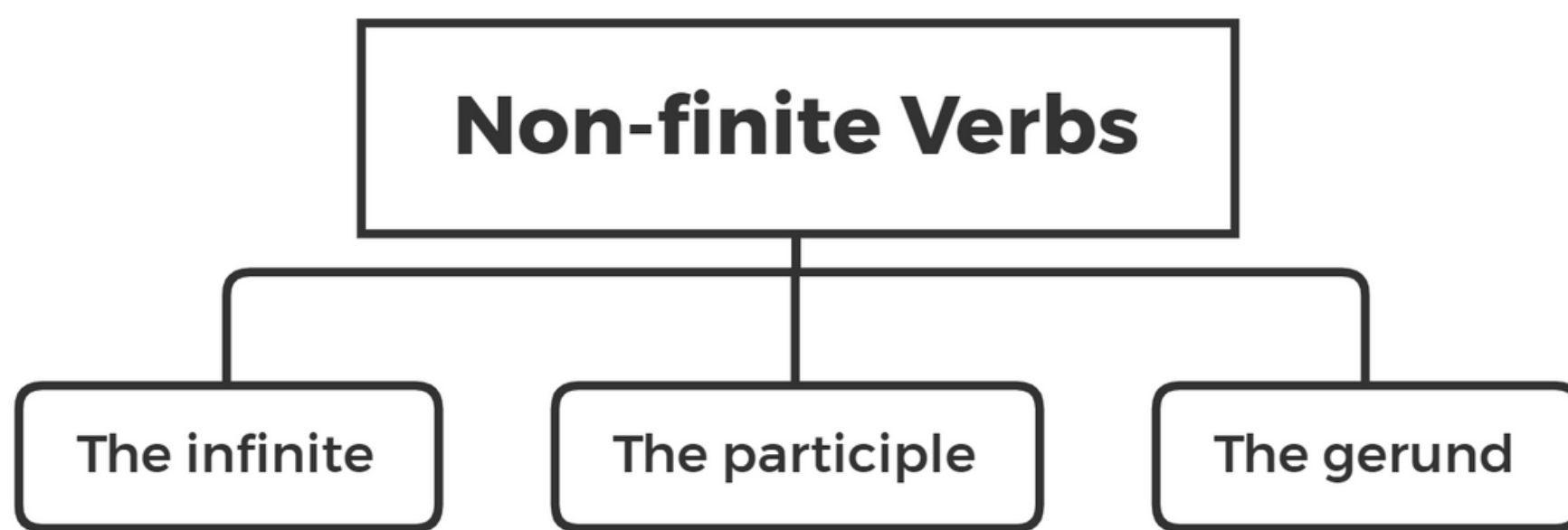
- *She loves camping in the woods*
- *Do you fancy going out?*
- *We were delighted at Leo being awarded the prize.*
- *We enjoyed their singing.*
- *You need to paint the whole cupboard, starting from the bottom.*

There are 3 main forms of non-finite verbs:

- *The infinite*
- *The participle (present participles and past participles)*
- *The gerund*

Concept Checks 1.1

1. What are the 4 different categories of nouns?
2. Name two examples of abstract nouns
3. What is the difference between a finite and a non-finite verb?
4. What are the three forms of non-finite verbs?
5. What is a verb?



The infinite

- Simplest form of the verb
- Commonly has **to** in front of it

Examples:

- He asked me not to be late.
- I'd like you not to sing so loudly.

The participle

- Work with an auxiliary verb to form tense and mood
- Function as adjectives

Examples:

- Arriving late, I saw the other kids and they seemed to be excited.

The gerund

- Look like verbs, but do the work of nouns

Examples:

- I like sailing.
- I like swimming.
- We enjoyed her mother's singing.
- I like watermelon.

The Negative Form of Verbs

The negative verb forms are made by putting **not** after an auxiliary verb.

She has invited us. (Affirmative)

She has **not** invited us. (Negative)

If there is no auxiliary verb, **do** is used to make the negative verb forms

I like reading. (Affirmative)

I **do not** like reading. (Negative)

The not can be shortened with an apostrophe.

will not → won't

have not → haven't

did not → didn't

shall not → shan't

The Auxiliary Verb

- A verb used in forming the tenses, moods, and voices of other verbs.

do, be, have

Concept Checks 1.2

1. What are the 3 main forms of non-finite verbs?
2. How can the **not** be shortened in the negative form of verbs?
3. What is an auxiliary verb?

ADJECTIVES

Adjectives describe, define, illustrate or give more information about nouns. Adjectives give a sentence its interest and color.

Let's take a look at some examples:

Describing Taste

- Bitter
- Fruity
- Sweet
- Sour
- Tangy
- Spicy
- Sweet
- Tasty
- Yummy
- Minty
- Salty

Describing Size

- Jumbo
- Short
- Small
- Tall
- Puny
- Thin
- Vast
- Giant
- Great
- Huge
- Chubby

Describing Sound

- Blaring
- Silent
- Soft
- Thundering
- Voiceless
- Quiet
- Hushed
- Faint
- Husky
- Hissing
- Mute

Describing Amounts

- Heavy
- Few
- Profuse
- Several
- Substantial
- Considerable
- Many
- Multiple
- Large
- Light
- Bountiful

Describing Time

- Futuristic
- Annual
- Rapid
- Regular
- Eternal
- Modern
- Fast
- Swift
- Early
- Brief
- Speedy

Describing Shape

- Distorted
- Straight
- Chubby
- Wide
- Narrow
- Broad
- Crooked
- Curved
- Deep
- Shallow
- Hollow

Adjective Order and Punctuation

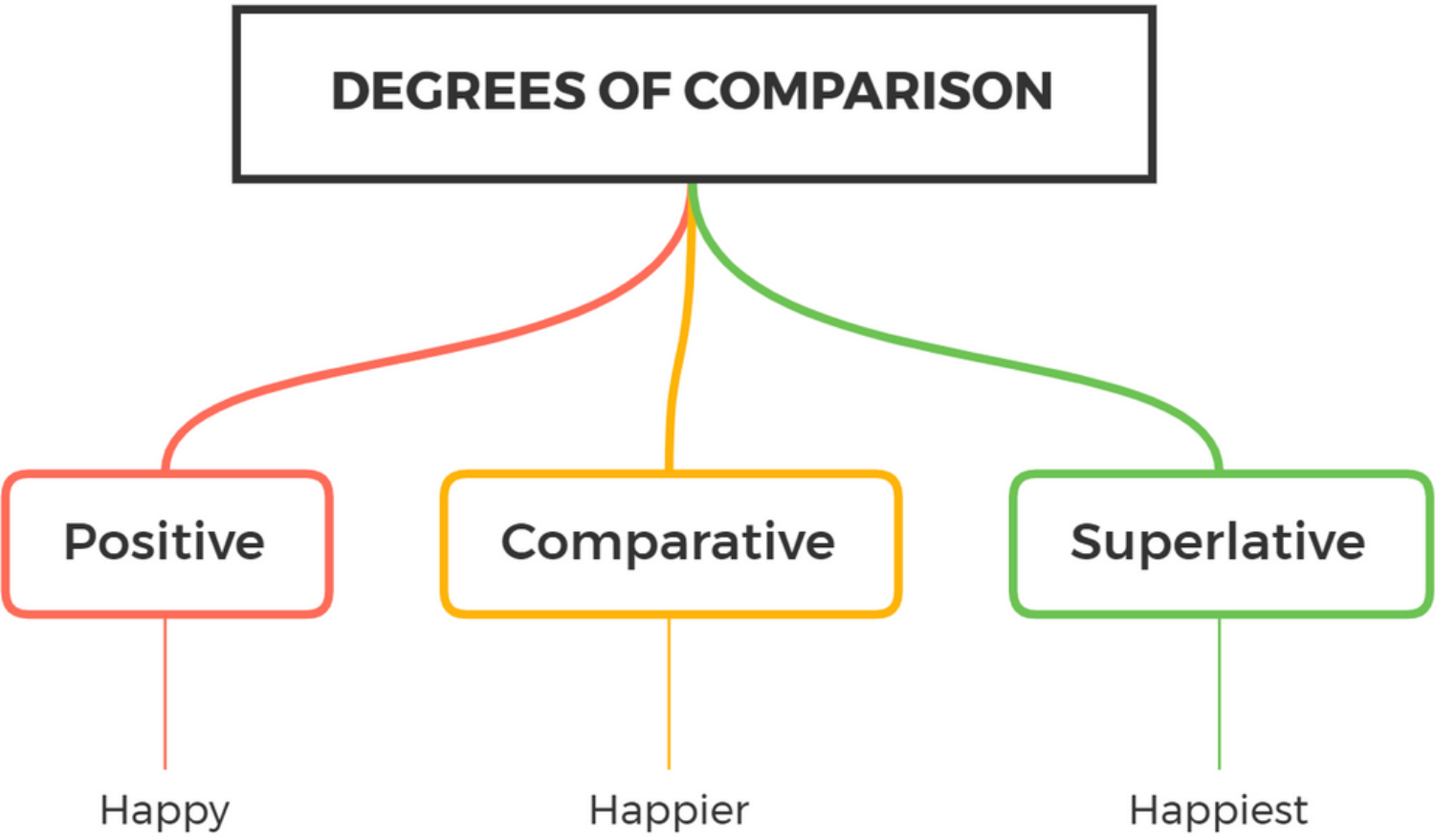
If the adjectives are all being used to describe the noun, commas should separate them.

She has long, dark hair.

The natural order for multiple adjectives is based on what type of adjectives are used. Adjectives should appear in this order:

1. Opinion → 2. Size → 3. Age → 4. Shape → 5. Color → 6. Origin → 7. Material → 8. Purpose

Most adjectives have three different forms to show degrees of comparison — the positive, the comparative, and the superlative.



Examples of regular cases:

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
green	greener	greenest
slow	slower	slowest
brave	braver	bravest
tall	taller	tallest
white	whiter	whitest
sweet	sweeter	sweetest
pretty	prettier	prettiest
hot	hotter	hottest
difficult	more difficult	most difficult

Examples of irregular cases:

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
good	better	best
bad	worse	worst
much	more	most
little	less	least
far	farther	farthest

Concept Checks 1.3

- 1.Name 5 adjectives to describe taste.
- 2.Name 5 adjective to describe sound.
- 3.What are the 3 degree of comparison?



Study Tip

Find fun ways to learn new words!

Possessive Adjectives

A possessive adjective sits before a noun (or a pronoun) to show who or what owns it.

Examples of possessive adjectives:

my, your, his, her, its, our, their, and whose.

I am looking after her cat.



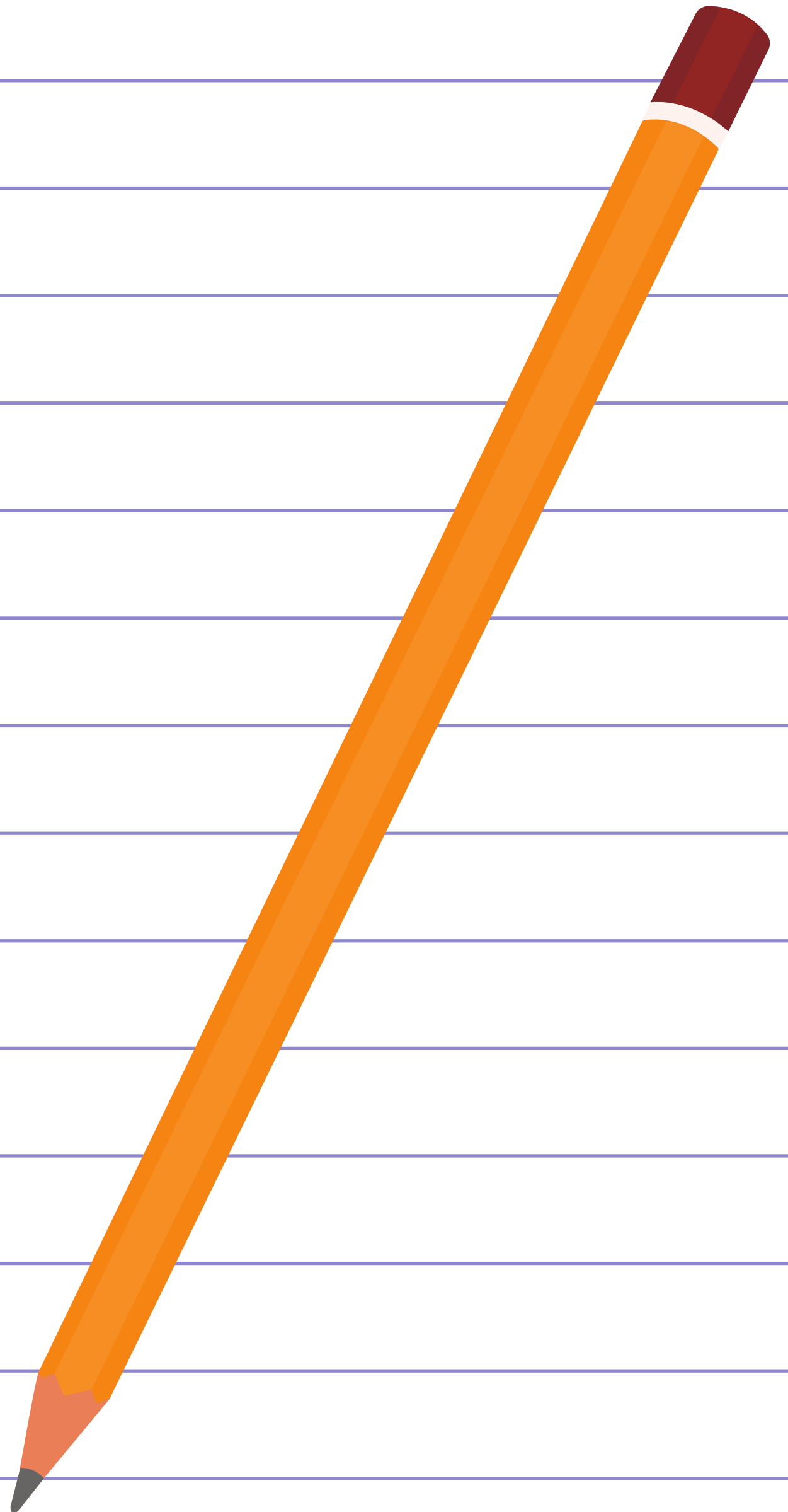
possessive adjective

The accident was his fault.



possessive adjective

Notes:



ADVERBS

Adverbs modify verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs. They can add to or change the meaning of a word. A great way to spot adverbs is to look for words that end in *-ly*. (Keep in mind that many adverbs end in *-ly*, but not all of them.)

Adverbs give us more information about the verb:

Where, when or how something happened.

Degree/extent

Reason

Examples of adverbs:

- Abruptly
- Beautifully
- Delicately
- Firmly
- Lightly
- Truthfully
- Quickly
- Wearily
- Willfully

Concept Checks 1.4

1. What is the difference between an adverb and an adjective?
2. Name 4 examples of adjectives.
3. What can adverbs tell us about the verb?
4. Will all adverbs end in *-ly*?



Study Tip

Set realistic goals for yourself.

Set short-term as well as long-term goals, and keep track of your progress.

Adverbs like to answer the following questions:

When?

yesterday
tomorrow
today
last
later
never
now
early
first

Where?

upstairs
downstairs
everywhere
somewhere
there
underground
in
inside
outside

How?

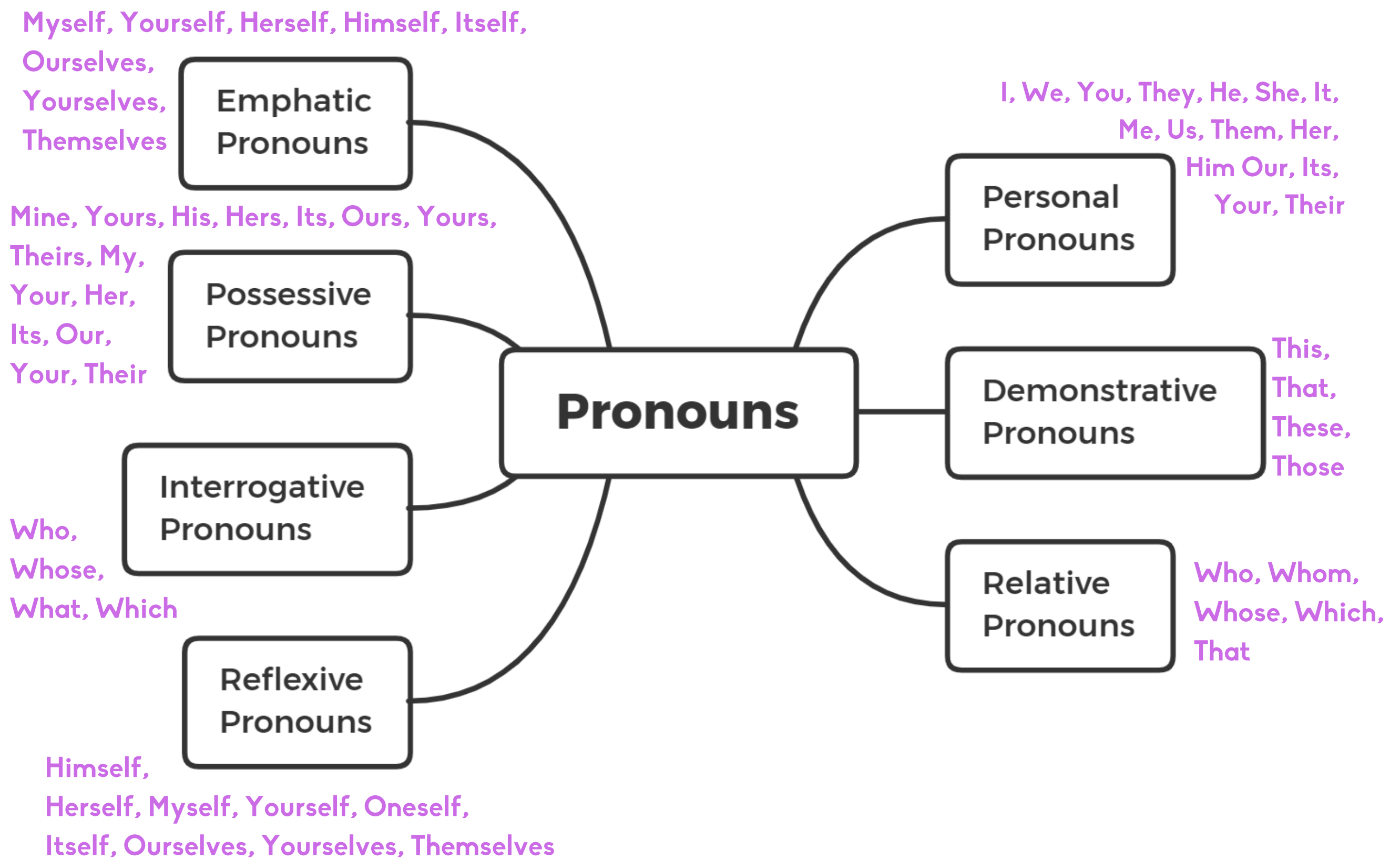
randomly
weirdly
expertly
slowly
cheerfully
sadly
brutally
uneasily
wickedly

Extent?

almost
also
enough
only
very
quite
rather
so
too

PRONOUNS

Pronouns are words that we use in place of NOUNS in a sentence to make it less repetitive.



Personal Pronouns

Personal pronouns refer to:

- The person speaking → Give me some money.
- The person spoken to → I hope you are doing well.
- The person spoken about → We should ask her to assist us.

Demonstrative Pronouns

Personal pronouns refer to something mentioned or indicated.

For example:

This is the student I told you about.

You can have these books, as long as I get those documents!

Relative Pronouns

These pronouns refer back to someone or something mentioned before, and introduce a definition or description of that person/thing.

For example:

Here are the files that we were looking for.

The Americans are the runners who won most gold medals.

Reflexive Pronouns

Reflexive pronouns are used to indicate a noun which has been used in the earlier part of some sentence.

For example:

The lady expressed herself with clarity.

You have to look after yourself.

Interrogative Pronouns

Interrogative pronouns introduce certain forms of questions and they are positioned before the verb.

For example:

What textbook did he use?

Which car did they use to go to Cape Town?

Possessive Pronouns

Possessive pronouns help us show possession or ownership in a sentence. We use them in place of the noun to which they refer.

For example:

I didn't have my textbook for English class, so Jackson lent me his.

Your holiday plans sound just as exciting as mine!

Emphatic Pronouns

Emphatic pronouns are very similar to reflexive pronouns, but they are used for emphasis.

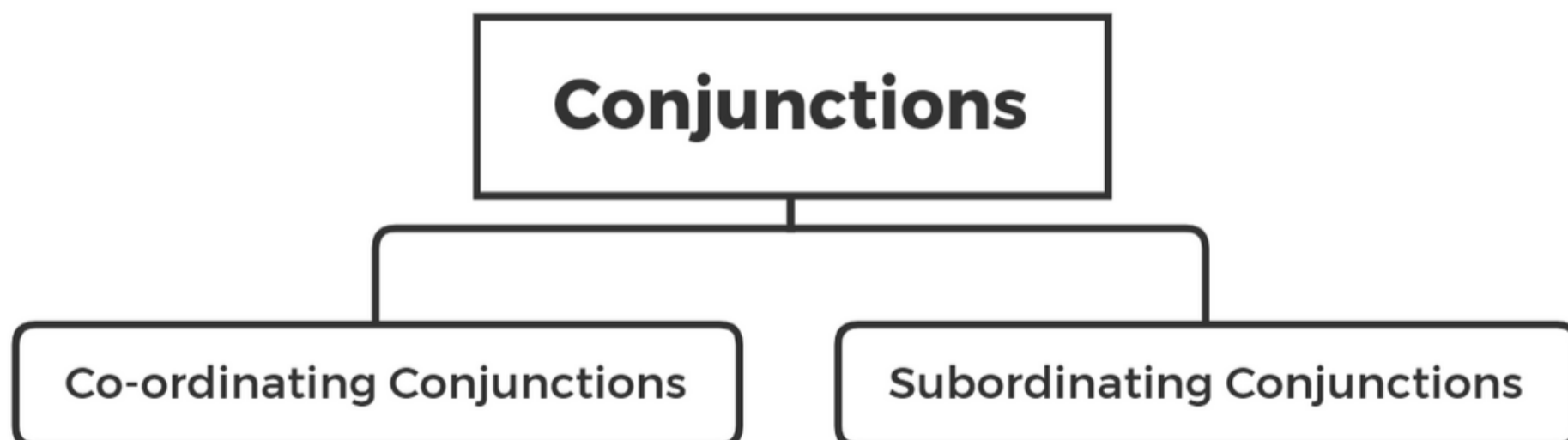
For example:

The King himself attended the party.

The only thing we have to fear is fear itself.

CONJUNCTIONS

Conjunctions are words that link other words, phrases, or clauses together.



Co-ordinating Conjunctions

Co-ordinating conjunctions join two words, phrases or clauses of equal weight.

For example:

Peter and Martha are advanced in age yet full of energy!

The lion is old and tired.



Correlative Conjunctions

A special type of co-ordinating conjunction is the correlative conjunction. Correlative conjunctions are pairs of conjunctions that work together to perform the function of a single co-ordinating conjunction.

For example:

either/or, neither/nor, not only/but also.

Not only am I finished studying for Spanish, but I'm also finished writing my history essay.

Subordinating Conjunctions

Subordinating conjunctions join independent and dependent clauses. A subordinating conjunction can signal a cause-and-effect relationship, a contrast, or some other kind of relationship between the clauses.

For example:

because, since, as, although, though, while, whereas..

Because I was thirsty, I drank a glass of water.

Before she leaves, make sure her room is clean.

PREPOSITIONS

A preposition is a word or set of words that indicates location or some other relationship between a noun or pronoun and other parts of the sentence.

- The preposition like means "similar to" or "similarly to." It should be followed by an object of the preposition (noun, pronoun, noun phrase), not by a subject and verb.

For example:

You look like your father.

- The preposition of should never be used in place of the helping verb have.

For example:

I should have done it. ✓
I should of done it. ✗

- Use into rather than in to express motion toward something. Use in to tell the location.

For example:

I dived into the water. ✓
I dived in the water. ✗

Prepositions

- | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|----------|
| • with | • until | • in | • upon | • within |
| • at | • against | • for | • concerning | • across |
| • from | • among | • on | • about | • out |
| • into | • throughout | • by | • like | • around |
| • during | • of | • despite | • over | • near |
| • including | • to | • towards | • before | • above |

Concept Checks 1.5

1. What is the difference between personal pronouns and demonstrative pronouns?
2. Name 2 examples of relative pronouns.
3. Name 2 examples of interrogative pronouns.
4. What is the difference between possessive pronouns and possessive adjectives?
5. Make a sentence using a possessive pronoun.
6. What is the difference between co-ordinating conjunctions and subordinating conjunctions?
7. Make a sentence using a correlative conjunction.
8. Make a sentence using a subordinating conjunction.
9. Name 4 examples of prepositions.



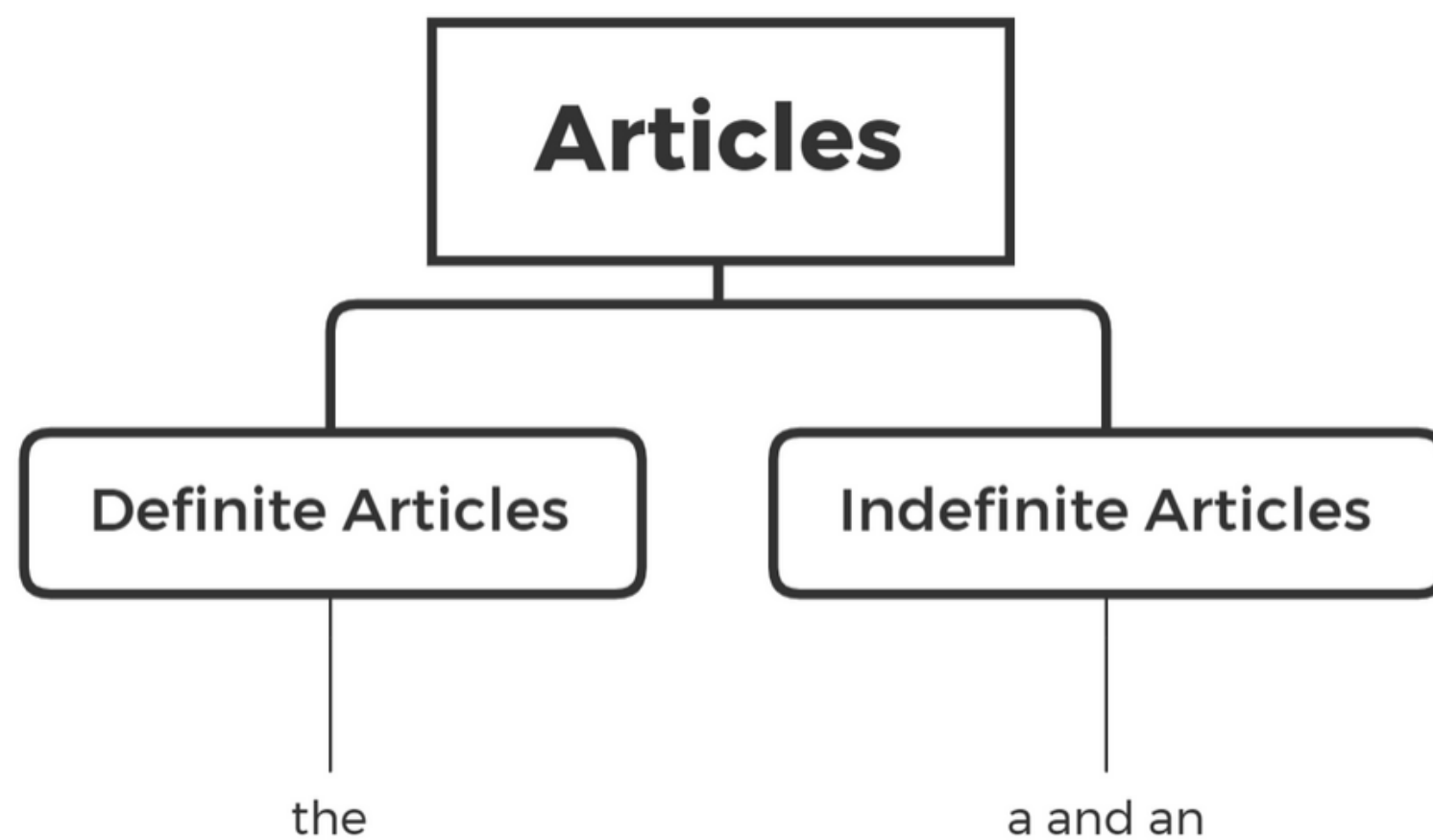
Study Tip

Take breaks

It's important to take breaks while you're studying, especially if you're feeling tired or frustrated. Working too long on a task can decrease your performance.

ARTICLES

In English there are three articles: a, an, and the. Articles are used before nouns or noun equivalents.



Definite Articles

The word "the" is one of the most common words in English and the only definite article. Nouns in English are preceded by the definite article when the speaker believes that the listener already knows what he/she is referring to.

For example:

My sister enjoyed the book you gave him.

Where is the kitchen?

I scratched the yellow car parked outside.

She is the doctor I came to see.

Indefinite Articles

In English, the two indefinite articles are a and an. Indefinite articles are invariable. You use one or the other, depending on the first letter of the word following the article, for pronunciation reasons.

Use **a** when the next word starts with a consonant. Use **an** when the next word starts with a vowel (a,e,i,o,u) or with a mute h.

For example:

John is a doctor and his sister is an engineer.