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Unit I

Topic Basic Units of English, Part of Speech

Sub-Topic Letter, Word, Phrase, Clause, Subject-

Predicate, Sentence & its types.

Noun, Pronoun, Verb, Adjective, Article,

Preposition.

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Reference

* Text book

BAEN-111 – ENGLISH -I

UNIT – I

BASIC UNITS OF ENGLISH:

What is called a Unit?

A unit is a basic part, many of which bring out the whole. Units make a word or a sentence complete.

There are **SIX UNITS**.

- 1. Letter
- 2. Word
- 3. Phrase
- 4. Clause
- 5. Subject-Predicate
- **6.** Sentences & its Types

All these six Units make a sentence or a paragraph a meaningful one.

1. Letter:

There are twenty six letters in English Language. They are: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y and Z. These letters have been written in **Capital forms.**

The same letters can also be written in Small forms. They are: A, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, I, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y and z.

All these twenty-six letters care collectively called ALPHABET. So, the alphabet of English language has twenty-six letters. These twenty-six letters can be classified into two groups. They are:

I. Consonants

b, c, d, f, g, h, j, k, l, m, n, p, q, r, ,s, t, v, w, x, y, and z are called **CONSONANTS**.

That means there are 21 consonants.

II. Vowels

a, e, i, o and u are called VOWELS. That means there are five vowels.

2. Word:

A word converts the group of letters into a meaningful one. A word plays a pivotal role in the Units of English. A word is a group of letters with a meaning viz ball, nation, ocean, boy, courage, install, save and organization are words.

The word **ball** is having four letters b .. a.. l..l

The word organization is having twelve letters o..r..g..a..n..i..z..a..t..i..o..n. In this way all the words are collective forms of few letters.

3. Phrase:

A Phrase is group of word without <u>a subject and a predicate</u> but with a meaning.

Let us see few phrases:

- i. The leader of the group
- ii. The red ball
- iii. Yours class-mates
- iv. Our family members
- v. A very distant palace
- vi. Business people
- vii. To makeup
- viii. To get away with
- ix. To score more marks
- x. To attain fame

If the most important word in a phrase is a noun, it is called a Nominal Phrase or a Noun phrase.

In the above given examples, the first six phrase have nouns as the most important words.

"The leader of the group" has the noun "Leader" as the most important word in that phrase.

"The red ball" has the noun "Ball" as the important word in that phrase. So, they are called Nominal phrase or Noun phrase.

Few more examples for Nominal Phrases:-

- i. All the admitted students.
- ii. Tax payers from that state.
- iii. The primary colours.
- iv. Safe web-sites.
- v. Only English teachers.

If the most important word in the phrase is verb, that phrase is called **Verbal phrase**. Few examples for verbal phrases:-

i. To cultivate the lands.

- ii. To study into night.
- iii. To go around the city.
- iv. To donate liberally.
- v. To be there in time.

4. Clause:

A clause is a group of words, with a <u>subject and a predicate</u> having a meaning.

Note:

A phrase does not have a subject and a predicate. But a clause has both.

- i. You are my best friend.
- ii. It is not possible for him to do that now.
- iii. When the train arrive.
- iv. If you are qualified.
- v. As the election is declared.

If the clause is conveying the complete meaning, it is called **Main Clause**.

The clause **You are my best friend** conveys the complete meaning. So, it is called the Main Clause.

Few more examples of Main Clause:

- i. His letter of full of eulogies.
- ii. The magician has not yet come.
- iii. The school-hour is over.
- iv. Red-colored car have very good demand.
- v. Indians are religious by nature.

If the meaning of the clause is incomplete, than that clause is called **subordinate** clause.

The clause mentioned above "If you are qualified" does not have a complete meaning. So that clause this called subordinate clause.

Few more examples for subordinate clauses:

- i. It is possible only when.
- ii. Unless you score high marks.
- iii. Since your ages below 20 years.
- iv. As the time is not ripe.
- v. Because of high blood pressure.

Subordinate clauses begin with words such as:

Who, Whom, Whose, Which, That, Unless, As, Because, When, How, Where, What, Since etc.

Note:

- A. There can't be a sentence without a Main clause. \(\)
- B. In few sentences, the subordinate clause may occur between two parts of a main clause.

5. Subject and Predicate:

Subject

The part which names the person or thing is called subject of the sentence.

Predicate

The part that tells something about the subject is called the predicate.

Usually the subject of a sentence come first, but in certain cases it is placed after the predicate. See the following examples:

	Subject	Predicate
1.	Swati	is an intelligent girl.
2.	Sun	rises in the east.
3.	Train	is moving fast.
	Predicate Of good actions Here goes	Subject sweet are the fruits. The train

In imperative sentences, the subject is left out as given below:

- Open the door.
- Help me in lifting the box.

6. Sentence and its types:

Sentence

When we speak or right, we use words to communicate properly, we group these words. A sentence is a group of words that makes a complete sense/meaning. Following examples are as under:

- i. Pooja is a good student.
- ii. What is your name?
- iii. Earth is roun.
- iv. Fetch me a glass of water.
- v. What a good performance of the team!

Types of sentences:

Sentences are of four types:

Types of Sentences	Definition	Examples
Declaration Sentences	Statements that state or	1. It is a sunny day.

	declare something	2. The lion is the king
	deciare something	
		of jungle.
		3. Usha is running very
		fast.
Interrogative Sentences	The sentences that ask	1. When will you finish
	questions	your work.
		2. Will you help the
		students in sports?
		3. Are you going by
		car today?
		4. Dosen't Shekher like
		sweets?
Imperative Sentence	These sentences are	1. Be silent.
	commands that express	2. Please stand in a
	orders, requests and	queue.
	advice.	3. Stop laughing,
Exclamatory Sentences	These sentences express	1. How cold is the
	strong or sudden feeling.	night!
		2. What a good
		performance of the
		team!

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PARTS OF SPEECH

The words constitutes the part of speech according to the functions carried out by those words in a sentence.

Those parts are:

- i. Noun
- ii. Pronoun
- iii. Verb
- iv. Adjective
- v. Article
- vi. Preposition

i. Noun

Noun is a name of a person, place, thing, state, quality, activity, action etc. For example:

- Mr. Johan is our English teacher.
- Harvard University is the oldest University.
- <u>Lions</u> live in the <u>forest</u>.
- <u>He</u> is my best <u>friend</u>.
- New Delhi is the capital of India.

The above underlined words are Noun.

ii. Pronoun

A pronoun is the word used in a place of a Noun to avoid its (of the noun) repetition. Words such as he, she, they, we, you, us and himself are pronoun.

For examples:

- i. She is a doctor.
- ii. That is your house.
- iii. Whom do you like?
- iv. I have lost the watch you gave me.
- v. We hurt are selves.
- vi. I myself do this work.

In the above sentences she, that, who, which, are selves and myself are pronouns.

There are seven types of pronoun:

- 1. Personal Pronoun.
- 2. Interrogative Pronoun.
- 3. Relative Pronouns.
- 4. Demonstrative Pronouns.

- 5. Reflexive pronouns.
- 6. Empathetic Pronouns.
- 7. Indefinite Pronouns.

iii. Verb

A verb is a word that tell something about a person or a thing. It is also as know as action or state word. It is the most important word of sentence.

A Verb may express:

- i. What a person or thing does: as
 - Priyanka smiles.
 - The dog <u>bites</u>.
- ii. What is done two a person or thing: as,
 - He is **punished**.
 - The water is **thrown**.

Kinds of verbs:

- i. Transitive verbs.
- ii. Intransitive verbs.
- iii. Auxiliary verbs.

iv. Adjective:

Adjective is a part of speech that modifies a noun or a pronoun. An adjective is a word used to add something to the meaning of a noun. Examples;

- i. He is a **brave** boy.
- ii. They are **perfect** people.
- iii. Swati is a **beautiful** girl.
- iv. The bucket has <u>little</u> water.
- v. There are **few** mangoes in the basket.

The above underline words express the quality of the noun or pronoun used in the sentences.

Kinds of Adjectives:

There are five kinds of Adjectives;

- i. Adjective of quality.
- ii. Adjective of quantity.
- iii. Adjective of numbers or numeral adjective.
- iv. Demonstrative adjective.
- v. Interrogative adjective.

v. Article:

The words "A" or "An" and "The" are called articles. They came before nouns.

"A" or "An" – are the indefinite articles, because it usually leaves imprecise the person or thing spoken of : as

- <u>A</u> teacher.
- An orange.

"The" is called the definite articles, because it tells about some particular person or thing: as

• He saw <u>the</u> teacher (meaning some particular teacher).

we can use an or a with singular countable noun whereas the may be used before singular/countable/uncountable nouns: as

- **An** enemy, a man.
- The book, the books, the women.

A is used before a word which start with a consonant.

Examples

A cow, a Dog, a cat, a table etc.

An is used before a word that starts with a vowel.

Examples

An inkpot, an umbrella, an aeroplane, an hour etc.

vi. Preposition

A preposition is a word placed before a noun or pronoun to show its relation with other noun or pronoun.

Examples;

- i. The teacher came **into** the room.
- ii. Garima went **to** school.
- iii. You are reading with him.
- iv. They laughed **at** me.

The above underline words are the prepositions.