Chapter 4

FORMal Words
Chapter 4: Grammar Safari

- Find a word you don’t know and can’t find in the dictionary.
  - Identify its part of speech (form class)
  - Tell us how you knew (form or function)

- Example:
  - “In *The Peace War* Vernor Vinge introduced the technology of *bobbles*, originally used to counter nuclear threat..."
A Rose is a Rose...?

- What’s the Part of Speech \textit{(formal class)} of:
  - Bat
  - Slide
  - Plate
  - Home
  - Throw
  - Inning

Choose 2 or 3
Form & Function *(Revisited)*

- Parts of Speech = Form Classes
  - _________
  - _________
  - _________
  - _________
  - _________

- Form = Shape = Morphology
- Function = Behavior = Role in Sentence
Exercise 4.1

The *androokers plurked gribbly* along beside the *broofled lumphet.*

- Identify the nonsense words above as N, V, Adj, or Adv.
- Are you using formal *(word level clues)* or functional *(sentence level clues)* to know?
Nouns

- Traditional Definition
  - Person, place, or thing

- Linguistic Definition
  - Tangible item or intangible concept
Know a **Noun** when you see it...

- **Formal Clues**
  - Has noun-making (derivational) morpheme
  - Takes noun inflection morphemes
    - _____ or _____

- **Functional Clues**
  - Appear after articles *(may have Adj. before)*
  - Fits in the **Subject** position *(test frame sentence)*
(The) _________ seems all right.
Missing Nouns

- Fill in the missing nouns...
- Identify the nouns that were not deleted...
Exercise 4.2

- Which of the following are 'mainstream' nouns?
- Which criteria apply to each?

Potato
Refusing

Sheep
Glamorous
Degrees of Nounness

A. Nouns that name people, places & things
B. Nouns derived from adjectives
C. Nouns derived from verbs
D. Adjectives that are also nouns
E. Verbs that are also nouns
F. Verbs in noun positions
G. Prepositions used as nouns

Examples?
Preposition as a Noun

What's the best way to keep mites away, Dad?

Buy yourself a can of "Off".

That's right. When you put "Off" on, it keeps the mites off.

Cool! ...but how do you get the "Off" off?

You buy yourself a can of "On".

What does "On" do?

You put the "On" on. To get the "Off" off.

But then how do you get the "On" off?

Easy. You just put "On" on the "On" and the "On" comes right off.

So, if the "Off" is on, again I gotta put more "On" on to get the "Off" off?

Exactly.

When do you ever get the "On" off? Of you?

When you die.
Diagramming Nouns

Aunt Blabby

your

Nouns go on a flat line...
Subjects @ front; Objects @ end
Noun Features

- Count & Non-count
- Common & Proper
- Animate & Inanimate
- Human & Nonhuman
- Male & female

Examples

- ________
- ________
- ________
- ________

Why?? *The king put the crown on herself*
Count vs. No-Count

Test Frame

A. He likes ______________.
B. The _________ is good
C. He wants a(n) _________.
D. ____________ (e)s are good.

Words that:
- Don’t fit in A-D ≠ Nouns
- Fit only A & B = Non-count
- Fit only B, C & D = Count

Try these words, then some of your own:

fun  light  desk  home  news  chicken
cash  noise  ask  lamp  amiss  dessert
Verbs

- Traditional Definition
  - Action & ‘State of Being’ words

- Linguistic Definition
  - Convey action or state of being AND
  - Carry grammatical information about
    - tense (pres, past, etc)
    - person (1st, 2nd, 3rd)
    - Other... *(to be discussed in later chapters)*
Know a Verb when you see it...

- **Formal Clues**
  - Has verb-making morpheme
  - Can take tense-related morphemes

- **Functional Clues**
  - Can be made into a command
  - Can be made negative
  - Can fit a Verb Frame Sentence
Verb Frame Sentences

- They must ____________ (it).

- They must ____________ good.
  *(well)*
Find the Verbs

YOU'RE GOING DOWN, ROBERTS!

YOU WISH, ICKERZIAK!

PLAY BALL!

PLAY PAPER!
Diagramming Verbs

(you)    Play    ball

Verbs go on a flat line after the subject...
Exercise 4.6

- Noun, Verb, Neither, or Both: Why?
  - Rock
  - Sob
  - Pluralize
Adjectives

- Traditional Definition
  - Modify nouns & other adjectives

- Linguistic Definition
  - Modifies a nominal or adjectival
    *(really close to the traditional definition...)*
Know an **Adj** when you see it…

- **Formal Clues**
  - Has adjective-making morpheme
  - Takes comparative/superlative morphemes

- **Functional Clues**
  - Can be compared using *more* or *most*
  - Qualifies something
  - Can fit the Adjective Frame Sentence
“The __________ man is very __________.”
Exercise 4.7

- Adjective or Not... Why?
  - Shiny
  - Wicker
  - Calling
Find the Adjectives

A PUMPKIN PI.

\[ \pi = \frac{22}{7} \]

“Once he fetches a stick it stays fetched.”
To Comma or Not to Comma

- Between two or more adjectives
  - When the adjectives are “equal”
    - “and” can be inserted between them
    - they can be reversed
  - No comma before the noun

- Example:
  - the crabby old dog (≠ ‘equal’)
  - the bright, curious child
    = the bright and curious child
    = the curious, bright child

Traditional Rule:  
Size → Age → Color

- the big, old, red wagon
- *the old red big wagon
- *the red old big wagon
Diagramming Adjectives

Use slanted lines for modifiers...
Adjective Subclasses

- Attributive
- Predicative
- Gradable

Examples

__________

__________

__________
Adjective Subclasses

“The _____ sour_____ apple is very _____ sour_____."

(Attributive)  (Predicative)

Post-Nominal:  It hit me like a ton of bricks.
- (Before or after the verb...)
Adverbs

- Traditional Definition
  - Modifies verbs, adjectives or adverbs w/ info about Time, Place, or Manner

- Linguistic Definition
  - Modifies non-nominal items
    - V, Adj, Adv, phrases, clauses, or sentences
Know an **Adv** when you see it...

- **Formal Clues**
  - Has adverb-making morpheme
  - Takes comparative/superlative morphemes

- **Functional Clues**
  - Can be compared using *more* or *most*
  - Moveable in sentence
  - Can fit the Adverb Frame Sentence
Adverb Frame Sentence

“The man told his story __________.”
Exercise 4.9

- Prototypically Adverb or Adjective? Why? Do you see a pattern?
  - Boldly, shortly, silently, seriously
  - Earthly, beastly, gentlemanly
  - Cowardly, yearly, leisurely  *(Exceptions...)*
Find the Adverbs

SUDDENLY, Awkwardly, Andy realized he was snapping along to the funeral dirge.
Diagramming Adverbs

Words that modify go on a slanted line
- Adv’s go under the modified word even if they are separated...
Adverb Subclasses

- Manner
- Time
- Place

Example

- __________
- __________
- __________

- Degree
- Frequency & Number
- Duration

- __________
- __________
- __________
To Comma or Not to Comma

- Comma
  - At the beginning of a sentence
  - When the Adverb has moved from beside the item it modifies

- No Comma
  - When the Adverb is next to the item it modifies
Adverb Subclasses

- Manner
  - slowly
- Time
  - now
- Place
  - there
- Frequency & Number
  - twice
- Duration
  - while
Analyzing Form & Function

- What a word *is* (Form: N, V, Adj, Adv) is not always the same as what it *does* (Function: nominal, verbal, adjectival, adverbial)

- Two *fresh* flowers
- Two *spring* flowers
- Two *wilting* flowers

Strategy Suggestion:

Use substitution to identify form classes
Exercise 4.13

- Form vs. Function: Identify each.
  - I think Carl has lost his electronic ticket
  - I think Carl has lost his parking ticket
  - I think Carl has lost his theater ticket
Exercise 4.14

- Page 87
- Group work

- The Review Exercises on pages 89-91 are also very good...
Think About It...

Why do people who feel bad say, "I feel poorly"? When they feel good, they don't say, "I feel richly"!

Beats me, son. Ask your teacher about it.

Top o the morning, Jake. How are you feeling today?

"Up-in-the-dumps," Zeke!

Copyright © 2006 Creators Syndicate, Inc.
NOTE:

While many of the exercises are referenced in this slide show, several are not...

Those not reviewed are intended for you to cover on your own (though I’ll be happy to review your work w/you outside class).
Tomorrow

- Quiz on Chapter 4

- Begin Chapter 5