

32  
36

# OUTLINE OF ENGLISH GRAMMAR

IN FIVE PARTS

- I.—NOUNS, ADJECTIVES, PRONOUNS, ADVERBS, PREPOSITIONS,  
AND CONJUNCTIONS.
- II.—VERBS AND THEIR INFLECTIONS.
- III.—PARSING AND SYNTAX.
- IV.—ANALYSIS AND CONVERSION OF SENTENCES: SEQUENCE OF  
TENSES.
- V.—ANALYSIS AND DERIVATION OF WORDS: SOUNDS AND  
SPELLINGS.

BY

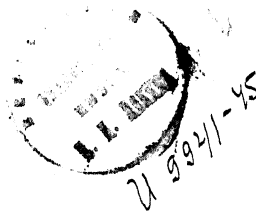
J. C. NESFIELD, M.A.

AUTHOR OF 'ENGLISH GRAMMAR PAST AND PRESENT,' 'HISTORICAL  
ENGLISH AND DERIVATION,' ETC.

MACMILLAN AND CO., LIMITED  
ST. MARTIN'S STREET, LONDON

1908

*First Edition, February 1900*  
*Reprinted October 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903 (twice)*  
*1905 (twice), 1906, 1907, 1908*



# CONTENTS

## PART I.—NOUNS, ADJECTIVES, PRONOUNS, ADVERBS, PREPOSITIONS, AND CONJUNCTIONS.

CHAP.	PAGE
1. HOW TO TELL THE PARTS OF SPEECH . . . . .	5 ✓
2. FORMS AND KINDS OF NOUNS . . . . .	9
1. Number. 2. Gender. 3. Case. 4. Kinds of Nouns.	
3. FORMS AND KINDS OF ADJECTIVES . . . . .	18
1. Kinds of Adjectives. 2. Comparison of Adjectives.	
4. FORMS AND KINDS OF PRONOUNS . . . . .	23
1. Personal Pronouns. 2. Demonstrative Pronouns. 3. Relative or Conjunctive Pronouns. 4. Interrogative Pronouns.	
5. FORMS AND KINDS OF ADVERBS . . . . .	28
1. Kinds of Adverbs. 2. Comparison of Adverbs. 3. Forms of Adverbs.	
6. PREPOSITIONS . . . . .	32
7. CONJUNCTIONS . . . . .	35 ✓
Exercises 1-8.	

## PART II.—VERBS AND THEIR INFLECTIONS.

8. THE KINDS OF VERBS . . . . .	38
9. PARTS OF A FINITE VERB . . . . .	40
10. PARTS OF A VERB NOT FINITE . . . . .	47 ✓
11. STRONG AND WEAK VERBS . . . . .	50
12. AUXILIARY VERBS . . . . .	56
13. DEFECTIVE AND IMPERSONAL VERBS . . . . .	58
Exercises 9-14.	

## PART III.—PARSING AND SYNTAX.

14. THE PARSING OF NOUNS . . . . .	63
15. THE PARSING OF PRONOUNS . . . . .	64
16. CASES OF NOUNS AND PRONOUNS . . . . .	65
17. VERB AND OBJECT . . . . .	67
18. THE PARSING OF ADJECTIVES . . . . .	69
19. FINITE VERB AND SUBJECT . . . . .	70

CHAP.	PAGE
20. THE PARSING OF INFINITIVES . . . . .	73 ✓
21. THE PARSING OF PARTICIPLES . . . . .	75
22. THE PARSING OF GERUNDS AND VERBAL NOUNS . . . . .	76 ✓
23. THE PARSING OF ADVERBS, PREPOSITIONS, AND CON- JUNCTIONS . . . . .	78 ✓
Oxford and Cambridge Preliminary Examinations, 1896-1899.	
Central Welsh Board Junior Certificate Examinations, 1898, 1899.	
Preceptors' Third-Class Examinations, 1897, 1898.	
Exercises 15-24.	

#### PART IV.—ANALYSIS AND CONVERSION OF SENTENCES: SEQUENCE OF TENSES.

24. SENTENCES SIMPLE, COMPOUND, AND COMPLEX . . . . .	92 ✓
25. THE METHOD OF ANALYSIS . . . . .	97
26. COMPOUND SENTENCES . . . . .	101
27. COMPLEX AND MIXED SENTENCES . . . . .	105 ✓
28. CONVERSION OF SENTENCES . . . . .	109
1. From Simple to Compound. 2. From Compound to Simple. 3. From Simple to Complex. 4. From Complex to Simple. 5. From Compound to Complex. 6. From Complex to Compound.	
29. SEQUENCE OF TENSES: DIRECT AND INDIRECT SPEECH Exercises 25-39.	117

#### PART V.—ANALYSIS AND DERIVATION OF WORDS: SOUNDS AND SPELLINGS.

30. COMPOUND WORDS . . . . .	121
31. DERIVATIVES . . . . .	122
1. Suffixes: Teutonic, Romanic, Greek. 2. Prefixes: Teutonic, Romanic, Greek.	
32. SOUNDS, SYMBOLS, AND SPELLINGS . . . . .	132
1. Letters, Accent, Syllables. 2. Vowels: Sounds, Symbols, and Spellings. 3. Consonants: Sounds, Symbols, and Spellings.	
33. PECULIAR PLURALS: ORIGIN AND USES . . . . .	148
34. GENDER OF NOUNS: ORIGIN AND HISTORY . . . . .	152
35. ORIGIN AND USE OF CERTAIN ENDINGS . . . . .	154
36. ORIGIN AND HISTORY OF CERTAIN WORDS . . . . .	157
Exercises 40-42 (selected from Oxford, Cambridge, and College of Preceptors).	

## PART I.—NOUNS, ADJECTIVES, PRONOUNS, ADVERBS, PREPOSITIONS, AND CONJUNCTIONS.

### CHAPTER I.—HOW TO TELL THE PARTS OF SPEECH.

1. **How to tell the Parts of Speech.**—To find out the "Part of Speech" to which a word belongs, or in which it is used in any given example, ask yourself, "*What kind of work does the word do in the sentence before me? What part does it play in helping to make the sentence?*"

(1) If a word *gives a name* to some individual person or thing or to some kind of person or thing, the word is a **Noun**:—

*James saw an apple fall to the ground.*

Here "*James*" is the name of some person. "*Apple*" is the name of a kind of fruit. "*Ground*" is a name given to the earth we stand on. So *James*, *apple*, and *ground* are all nouns.

"Noun" and "name" mean the same thing. "Noun" is of Latin origin (*nomen*). "Name" is of Anglo-Saxon origin (*nama*).

(2) If a word *refers* to some person or thing *without giving a name* to the person or thing referred to, the word is a **Pronoun**. (If it gives a *name* to some person or thing, it is of course a Noun, not a Pronoun. Herein lies the essential difference between the one part of speech and the other.)

*You and he came here a week before me.*

Here "*you*" refers to the person spoken to without naming him; "*he*" refers to some person spoken of, whose name has been mentioned in a previous sentence; "*me*" refers to the person speaking without naming him. So all these words are pronouns.

The word "*pronoun*" means "for (Latin *pro*) a noun"; i.e. a word used instead of a noun, or as a substitute for a noun.

(3) If a word *adds* to the meaning of a noun so as to show