

adjective: A word that modifies or describes a noun or pronoun. Examples of adjectives are *handsome*, *tired*, and *blue*.

adverb: A word that describes an adjective, verb or other adverb. Examples of adverbs are *always* and *very*.

adverb of frequency: An adverb that tells how often something occurs. *Always* and *sometimes* are adverbs of frequency.

auxiliary verb: A verb that is used with a main verb. Examples of auxiliary verbs are *do*, *does*, *am*, *is*, and *are*.

base verb: A verb that can be used alone or with an auxiliary verb. In this sentence, *I do not like pizza*, *like* is the base verb. Also called *main verb*.

clause: A group of related words with a subject and a verb.

comparative adjective: An adjective that compares nouns or pronouns. Examples are *bigger*, *better*, and *more important*.

compound sentence: A sentence with two or more clauses. Each clause has a subject and a verb and is a complete sentence. Clauses are joined by a conjunction such as *and* or *but*.

conjunction: A word that connects other words. Examples of conjunctions are *and*, *but*, and *because*.

contraction: A word that is formed by combining two other words. *I'm* and *isn't* are contractions.

demonstrative adjective: An adjective that points out whether something is near or far. The demonstrative adjectives are *this*, *that*, *these*, and *those*.

gender: A type of classification that defines nouns, pronouns and adjectives as masculine, feminine or neuter. In English, gender only applies to a few nouns such as *mother* and *father*.

header: Information about the author that usually is in the upper right corner of an essay.

infinitive: A base verb preceded by *to*. Examples of infinitives are *to work* and *to study*.

irregular verb: A verb that does not follow the usual spelling rules. For example, irregular past tense verbs do not end in *ed*.

main verb: A verb that can be used alone or with an auxiliary verb. In this sentence, *I do not like pizza*, *like* is the main verb. Also called *base verb*.

non-action verb: A verb that does not show action. Examples of non-action verbs are *need*, *want*, and *like*. Also called *stative verbs*.

noun: A person, place, animal or thing. Examples of nouns are *teacher*, *book*, and *park*.

paragraph: A group of sentences about the same topic.

participle: A verb that ends in *ing*. Examples of participles are *walking* and *thinking*. A present continuous verb must include a participle.

Glossary

phrase: A group of related words that does not have a subject and a verb. Examples are *in the morning* and *on the floor*.

plural noun: A noun that refers to more than one person, place, animal, or thing. *Books* is a plural noun.

possessive adjective: An adjective that shows that something belongs to or is related to a noun. The possessive adjectives are *my, your, his, her, its, our, and their*.

possessive noun: A word that is used to show that something belongs to someone or something else. For example, in the sentence *Juana's sofa is new*, *Juana's* is the possessive noun because it shows that the sofa belongs to Juana.

preposition: A word that describes time, place, direction, or location. *In, over, to, at, on, and next to* are prepositions.

present continuous: A verb tense that is used to talk about activities that are happening right now. Also called *present progressive*. A present continuous verb includes *to be* and a participle. For example, *I am working now*. Also called *present progressive*.

present progressive: A verb tense that is used to talk about activities that are happening right now. A present progressive verb includes *to be* and a participle. For example, *I am working now*. Also called *present continuous*.

pronoun: A word that takes the place of a noun. (See *subject pronoun*.)

regular verb: A verb that follows the usual spelling words.

simple present: A verb tense that is used to talk about habitual activities that occur in the present. For example, *I work five days a week*.

singular noun: A noun that refers to one person, place, animal or thing. *Book* is a singular noun.

stative verb: A verb that does not show action. Examples of stative verbs are *need, want, and like*. Also called *non-action verbs*.

subject: The word or words in the sentence that tell who or what the sentence is about. In this sentence, *Ana is married*, the subject is *Ana*.

subject pronoun: A pronoun that is the subject of a sentence. The subject pronouns are *I, you, he, she, it, we* and *they*.

topic sentence: The first sentence in a paragraph. The topic sentence tells what the paragraph is about.

verb: A word that shows action or state of being. Examples are *talk, sing, play, and study*.

verb tense: The form of the verb that tells whether the verb occurs in the past, present or future.

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