



E-Content

On

Course Title: English—I

(Complete Course)

Course Code: BAL106

[For the Students of BA-LL.B (Honours)—First Semester]

Written, compiled & edited by

Dr Ajay K. Chaubey,

Associate Professor & Head,

Department of English,

In-charge Dean, Faculty of Law

Jananayak Chandrashekhar University, Ballia (U.P.), India

E-mail: ajay.chaubey@jncu.ac.in

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This study guide has been prepared merely to help students to sharpen their linguistic competence. This material warrants no pecuniary pursuit/s. The due credit is given to the several websites from which the information in this material is sourced.

There is no potential conflict of interest.

Syllabus of the Course

Paper- 6		
Course Code	Course Name	Credits
BAL106	ENGLISH – I	4
Units	Course Contents	
Unit-I	Basics of English: Parts of Speech, Phrase, Clause, Sentence, Articles, Concord/Agreement	
Unit-II	Vocabulary Building: Homophones, Synonyms, Antonyms, Morphology: Prefixes and Suffixes	
Unit-III	Writing Skills: Sentence Construction, Paragraph Development: Components, Techniques and Methods - Inductive, Deductive, Spatial, and Chronological	
Unit-IV	Jawaharlal Nehru – “Tryst with Destiny” R K Narayan – “An Astrologer’s Day” J. B. Priestley – “On Doing Nothing”	
Text Books/Suggested Reading: Arora, V. N. and Laxmi Chandra. <i>Improve Your Writing</i> . OUP, 1981. Brown, Gillian D., Sally Rice. <i>Professional English in Use (Law)</i> . CUP, 2008. Bolton, David and Noel Goody. <i>English Grammar in Steps</i> . Orient BlackSwan, 2008. Yadugiri, MA, Githa Bhasker. <i>English for Law</i> . Foundation Books, 2005.		

Unit-I

Parts of Speech

Definition/s

- The Oxford Learner's Dictionary defines parts of speech as "one of the classes into which words are divided according to their grammar, such as noun, verb, adjective, etc."
- The Cambridge Dictionary also gives a similar definition - "One of the grammatical groups into which words are divided, such as noun, verb, and adjective".

1. Nouns are words that are used to name people, places, animals, ideas and things. Nouns can be classified into two main categories: Common nouns and Proper nouns. Common nouns are generic like ball, car, stick, etc., and proper nouns are more specific like Charles, The White House, the Sun, etc.

Examples of nouns used in sentences:

- She bought a **pair of shoes**. (thing)
- I have a **pet**. (animal)
- Is this your **book**? (object)
- Many people have a **fear of darkness**. (ideas/abstract nouns)
- He is my **brother**. (person)
- This is my **school**. (place)

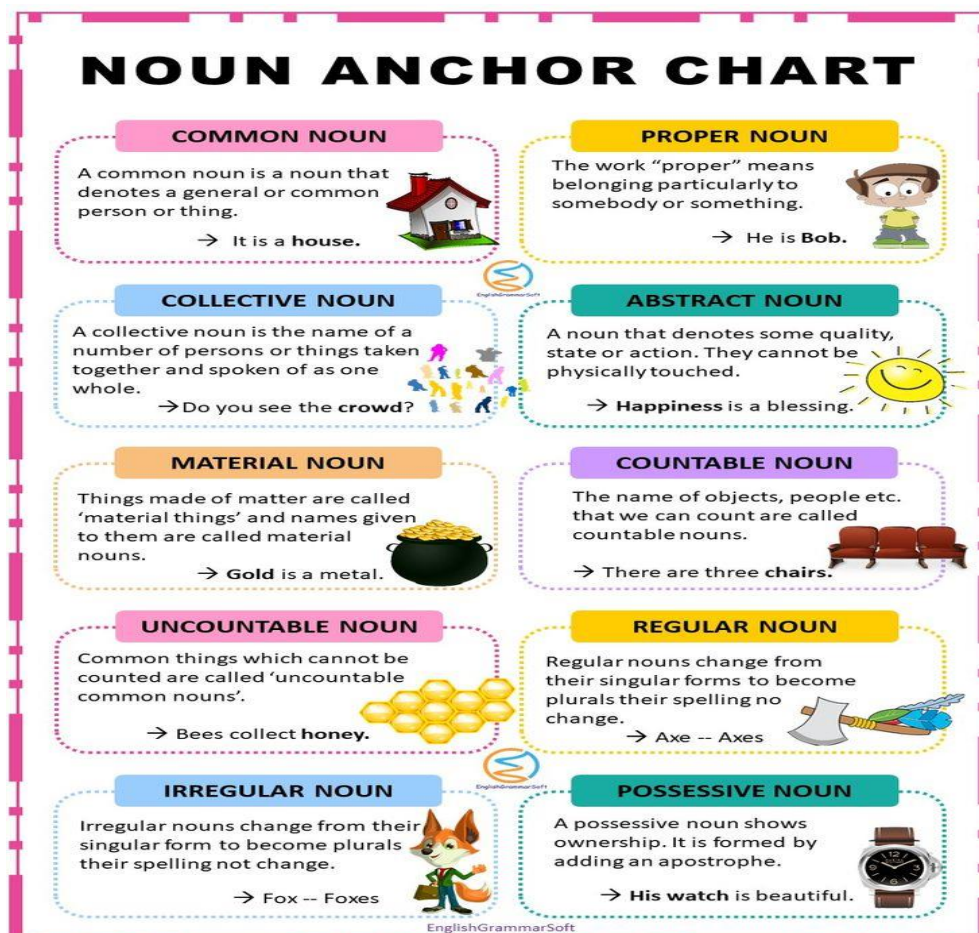


Image source: <https://de.pinterest.com/pin/671317888204087559/>

2. Pronouns are words that are used to substitute a noun in a sentence. There are different types of pronouns. Some of them are reflexive pronouns, possessive pronouns, relative pronouns and indefinite pronouns. I, he, she, it, them, his, yours, anyone, nobody, who, etc., are some of the pronouns.

Examples of pronouns used in sentences:

- I reached home at six in the evening. (1st person singular pronoun)
- Did **someone** see a red bag on the counter? (Indefinite pronoun)
- Is this the boy **who** won the first prize? (Relative pronoun)
- That is **my** mom. (Possessive pronoun)
- I hurt **myself** yesterday when we were playing cricket. (Reflexive pronoun)

10 Kinds of Pronouns

<p>1. Personal Pronouns</p> <p>A type of pronoun used to refer to specific individuals or groups.</p> <p>E.g. I, We, You, They, He, She.</p>	<p>2. Possessive Pronouns</p> <p>A type of pronoun that show ownership or possession of something.</p> <p>E.g. Mine, Yours, His, Hers, Its Ours, Theirs.</p>
<p>3. Reflexive Pronouns</p> <p>They are used to refer back to the subject of a sentence.</p> <p>E.g. Myself, Yourself, Himself, Herself, Itself, Ourselves.</p>	<p>4. Demonstrative Pronouns</p> <p>They point to or identify specific people, places, things, or ideas.</p> <p>E.g. This, That, These, Those.</p>
<p>5. Interrogative Pronouns</p> <p>They are used to ask questions and gather information.</p> <p>E.g. Who, Whom, Whose, Which, What.</p>	<p>6. Relative Pronouns</p> <p>They are used to connect one part of a sentence to another and show the relationship between them.</p> <p>E.g. Who, Whom, Whose, Which.</p>
<p>7. Indefinite Pronouns</p> <p>They are used to refer to non-specific people, things, or ideas.</p> <p>E.g. Someone, Something, Anybody, Anything, Nobody, Nothing.</p>	<p>8. Reciprocal Pronouns</p> <p>They are used to talk about actions that are done between two or more people.</p> <p>E.g. Each other, One another.</p>
<p>9. Intensive Pronouns</p> <p>They are used to add emphasis to a noun or pronoun in a sentence.</p> <p>E.g. Myself, Yourself, Himself, Herself, Itself.</p>	<p>10. Relative Possessive Pronouns</p> <p>They are used to show possession and introduce relative clauses at the same time.</p> <p>E.g. Whose, Of which.</p>

Image source: <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/10-kinds-of-pronouns-with-definition-and-examples>

3. Verbs are words that denote an action that is being performed by the noun or the subject in a sentence. They are also called action words. Some examples of verbs are read, sit, run, pick, garnish, come, pitch, etc.

Examples of verbs used in sentences:

- She **plays** cricket every day.
- Darshana and Arul **are going** to the movies.
- My friends **visited** me last week.
- **Did** you **have** your breakfast?
- My name **is** Meenakshi Kishore.

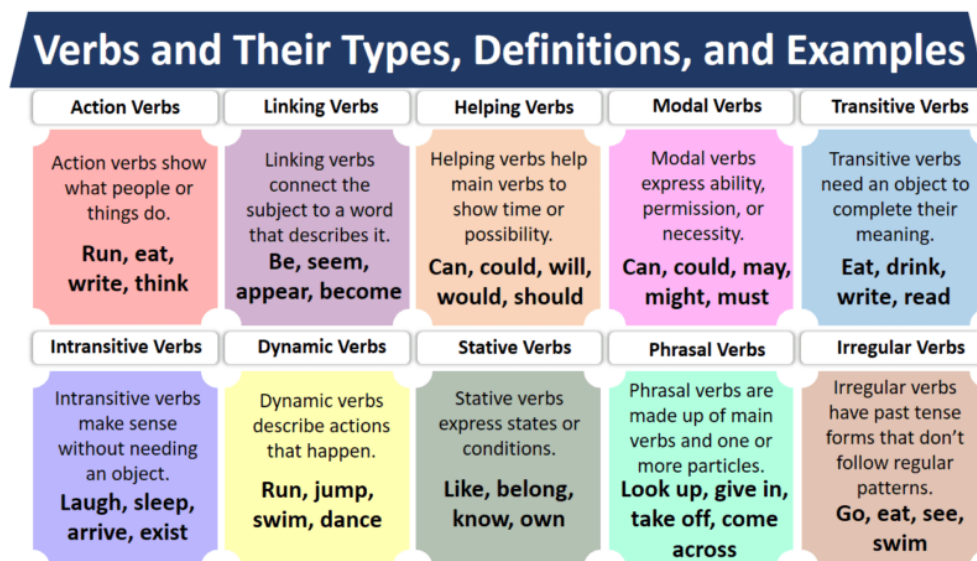


Image source: <https://mrmrsenglish.com/verbs-and-their-types/>

4. Adverbs are words that are used to provide more information about verbs, adjectives and other adverbs used in a sentence. There are five main types of adverbs namely, adverbs of manner, adverbs of degree, adverbs of frequency, adverbs of time and adverbs of place. Some examples of adverbs are today, quickly, randomly, early, 10 a.m. etc.

Examples of adverbs used in sentences:

- Did you come **here** to buy an umbrella? (Adverb of place)
- I did not go to school **yesterday** as I was sick. (Adverb of time)
- Savio reads the newspaper **every day**. (Adverb of frequency)
- Can you please come **quickly**? (Adverb of manner)
- Tony was so sleepy that he could **hardly** keep his eyes open during the meeting. (Adverb of degree)

Adverbs and Their Types, Definitions, and Examples

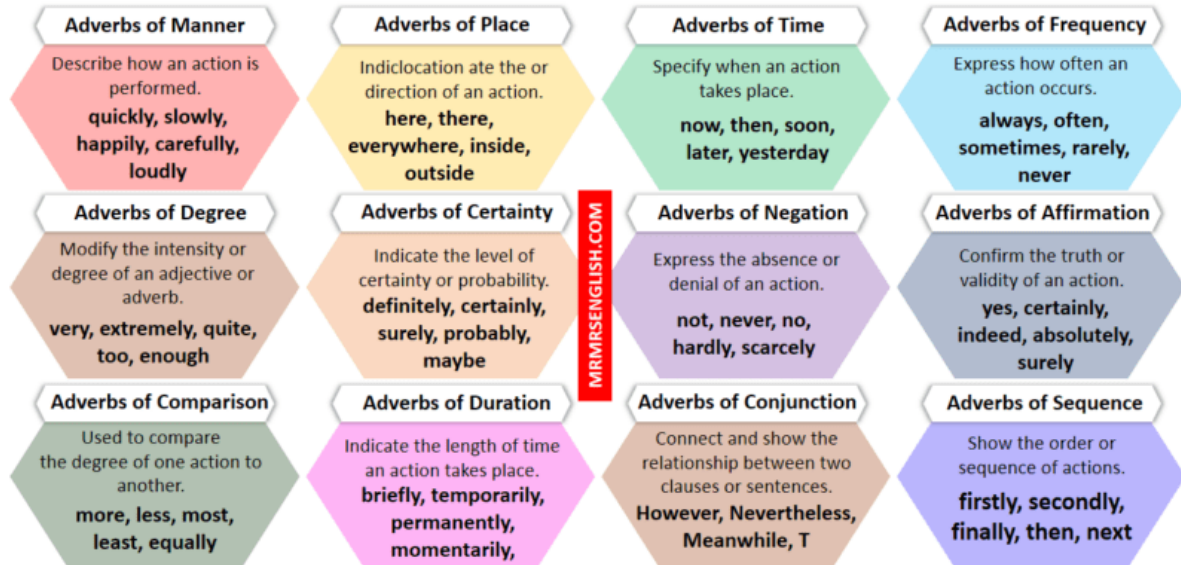


Image source: <https://promova.com/english-grammar/types-of-adverbs-in-english>

5. Adjectives are words that are used to describe or provide more information about the noun or the subject in a sentence. Some examples of adjectives include good, ugly, quick, beautiful, late, etc.

Examples of adjectives used in sentences:

- The place we visited yesterday was **serene**.
- Did you see how **big** that dog was?
- The weather is **pleasant** today.
- The **red** dress you wore on your birthday was lovely.
- My brother had only **one** chapati for breakfast.

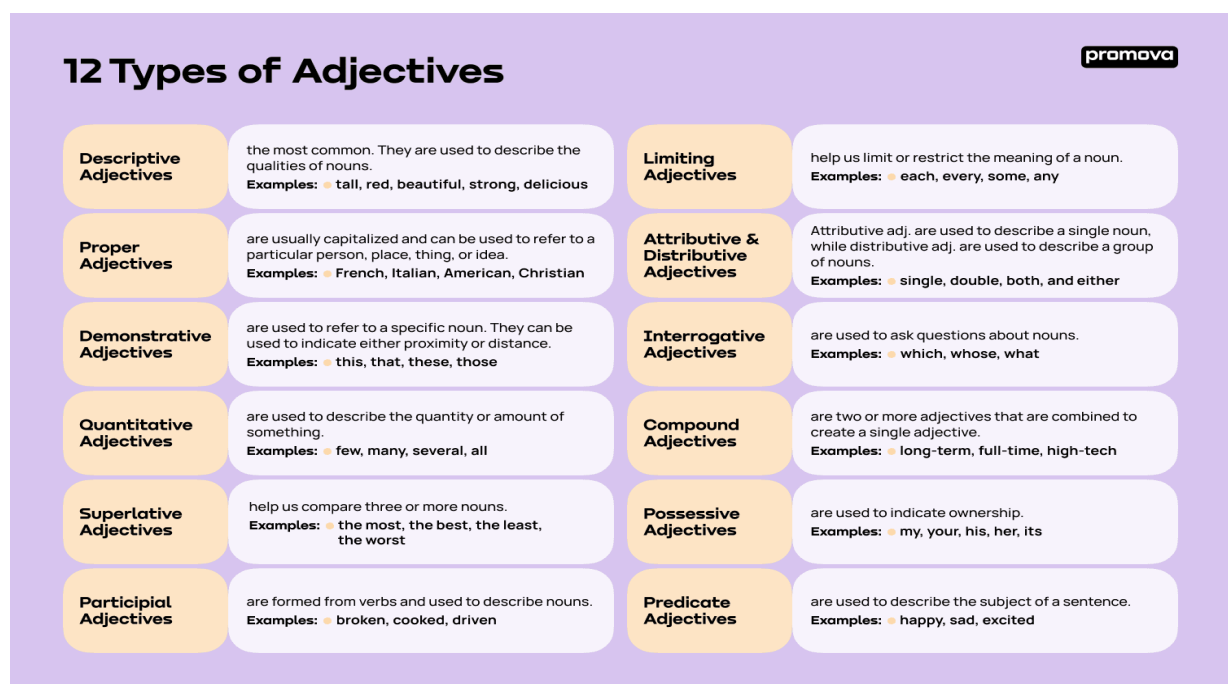


Image source: <https://promova.com/english-grammar/types-of-adjectives-in-english>

6. Prepositions are words that are used to link one part of the sentence to another. Prepositions show the position of the object or subject in a sentence. Some examples of prepositions are in, out, besides, in front of, below, opposite, etc.

Examples of prepositions used in sentences:

- The teacher asked the students to draw lines **on** the paper so that they could write **in** straight lines.
- The child hid his birthday presents **under** his bed.
- Mom asked me to go to the store **near** my school.
- The thieves jumped **over** the wall and escaped before we could reach home.

Prepositions and Their Types, Definitions, and Examples					
Simple Preposition Basic prepositions indicating location, time, direction, or relationships at, in, on, by, with, to, for, from, etc.	Compound Preposition Prepositions formed by combining two or more words into, onto, within, without, throughout, etc.	Double Preposition Prepositions comprised of two words among, between, across, beyond, inside, etc.	Participle Preposition Prepositions formed from present or past participles of verbs considering, regarding, notwithstanding, etc.	Phrase Preposition Prepositions consisting of more than one word because of, in spite of, due to, on account of, etc.	Prepositional Adverb Words functioning as both adverbs and prepositions over, under, around, through, etc.
Adjective Prepositions Prepositions modifying or describing nouns next to, opposite of, inside of, outside of, etc.	Relative Prepositions Prepositions introducing relative clauses who, whom, which, whose, where, etc.	Phrasal Prepositions Prepositions consisting of a verb and an adverb or a preposition look forward to, get away with, give up on, etc.	Adverbial Prepositions Prepositions modifying verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs before, after, during, since, until, etc.	Conjunctive Prepositions Prepositions connecting words, phrases, or clauses as, because, since, until, while, etc.	Elliptical Prepositions Prepositions implied but not explicitly stated (dependent on context)

Image source: <https://mrmrsenglish.com/prepositions-and-their-types-definitions-and-examples/>

7. Conjunctions are a part of speech that is used to connect two different parts of a sentence, phrases and clauses. Some examples of conjunctions are and, or, for, yet, although, because, not only, etc.

Examples of conjunctions used in sentences:

- Meera **and** Jasmine had come to my birthday party.
- Jane did not go to work **as** she was sick.
- **Unless** you work hard, you cannot score good marks.
- I have not finished my project, **yet** I went out with my friends.

Conjunctions and Their Types,

Coordinating Conjunctions		Subordinating Conjunctions		Correlative Conjunctions	
Coordinating conjunctions connect words, phrases, or clauses of equal importance in a sentence.		Subordinating conjunctions join an independent clause with a dependent clause, creating complex sentences.		Correlative conjunctions are pairs of conjunctions that work together to join words, phrases, or clauses.	
Conjunction	Examples	Conjunction	Examples	Conjunction	Examples
and	He likes to sing and dance.	after	After she done the work, she went for a walk.	either...or	She can either go to the party or stay home and study.
but	I want to eat ice cream, but I am already ill.	although	Although it was late, he continued working.	neither...nor	Neither the manager nor the employees were aware of the new policy.
or	She can choose to eat an apple or banana.	because	Because it was raining, he decided to stay.	both...and	They are both happy and excited about their vacation.
nor	She doesn't like spinach, nor does she like broccoli.	before	She read a book before going to bed.	not only...but also	He is not only a great musician but also a talented writer.
for	She stayed home, for she was feeling unwell.	if	He can play outside if he finishes his homework.		
so	It was raining, so they decided to stay indoors.	since	Since Started the job, she has been very busy.		
yet	He is very young, yet he is very responsible.	unless	You won't succeed unless you work hard.		
		until	We will wait here until the rain stops.		

Image source: <https://mrmrsenglish.com/conjunctions-and-their-types/>

8. Interjections are words that are used to convey strong emotions or feelings. Some examples of interjections are oh, wow, alas, yippee, etc. It is always followed by an exclamation mark.

Examples of interjections used in sentences:

- **Wow!** What a wonderful work of art.
- **Alas!** That is really sad.
- **Yippee!** We won the match.

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Interjection Types

Primary Interjection

Words and phrases used to express strong emotions, such as surprise, joy, anger, or disgust.

They can stand alone or be attached to a sentence.

- Oh!
- Wow!
- Hurrah!
- Awful!
- Oh no!
- Yikes!

Secondary Interjection

Words and phrases used to express milder emotions, such as disappointment, surprise, or joy.

They can stand alone or be attached to a sentence.

- Ah!
- Hmm.
- Hmmph.
- Oops.
- Ah well.
- Aha!

Volitive Interjection

Words used to express a desire or an urgent request.

They are usually found at the beginning of a sentence and followed by an exclamation mark.

- Come on!
- Look out!
- Help!
- Stop!
- Go away!
- Let's go!

Different Emotive Interjections

It's very common to use interjections specifically for emotions, so we can divide English interjections by the kind of emotion they display and how strong it is.

Let's first take a look at different emotions we might want to express:

Interjections of joy and delight:

- Wow!
- Congratulations!
- Hurrah!
- Yay!
- Hooray!
- Fantastic!

Interjections of surprise:

- Oh!
- Ah!
- Wow!
- Whoa!
- Huh?

Interjections of sorrow:

- Ouch!
- Aww.
- Oh no.
- Alas!
- Shoot!
- Oops!

Interjections of relief:

- Whew!
- Phew!
- Ahh.
- Thank goodness!
- Yay!

Image source: <https://promova.com/english-grammar/interjections-in-english>

Phrase

What Is a Phrase?

A phrase is a group of words that forms a grammatical component. It can be used to communicate something. It is a part of a sentence and cannot stand on its own. Phrases provide more information about whatever the sentence is speaking about.

A phrase, **according to the Oxford Learner's Dictionary**, is defined as “a group of words without a finite verb, especially one that forms part of a sentence.”

According to the Cambridge Dictionary, a phrase is defined as “a group of words that is part of, rather than the whole of a sentence.”

The **Collins Dictionary** defines a phrase as “a short group of words that people often use as a way of saying something. The meaning of a phrase is often not obvious from the meaning of the individual words in it.”

Types of Phrases with Examples

In English grammar, there are five main types of phrases. They are,

- Noun phrase
- Adjective phrase
- Adverb phrase
- Verb phrase
- Prepositional phrase

Other types of phrases include gerund phrase, appositive phrase, participle phrase and infinitive phrase.

Noun Phrase

A noun phrase is a group of words that have a noun or pronoun. It is used to modify the noun. In other words, it can be said that a noun phrase can function as a subject, an object or a complement in a sentence.

For example:

- **My brother's friend** had come to visit him. (Used as a subject)
- **Scented candles** are my favourite. (Used as a subject)
- The students were asked to find **the buried treasure**. (Used as an object)

Adjective Phrase

An adjective phrase or an adjectival phrase is a group of words that consists of an adjective. It can be used to complement it. It provides more information about the noun or pronoun in a sentence. In other words, it can be said that it functions just like an adjective in a sentence.

For example:

- Annu has **silky, smooth** hair.
- People, **living in large cities**, often find it difficult to reach in time.

- The team **that made it to the final** was congratulated in front of the whole school.

Adverb Phrase

An adverb phrase or an adverbial phrase is a group of words that includes an adverb and other modifiers. It performs all the functions of an adverb. It can be placed in any part of the sentence, with respect to the part of speech they modify. For example:

- We are planning to finish our group project **by the end of May**.
- **Later this evening**, my cousins and I have planned to go to the park.
- They saw some abandoned puppies **at the corner of the street**.

Verb Phrase

A verb phrase can be used just like a verb. It consists of a main verb and an auxiliary verb.

For example:

- Students **are practising** hard in order to participate in the state tournament.
- Aaron **has been writing** multiplication tables for three hours.
- The dogs **have been barking** continuously.

Prepositional Phrase

A prepositional phrase consists of a preposition and an object. It works just like an adjective or an adverb. It relates the subject and the verb in a sentence. It is used to modify the nouns and verbs in a particular sentence.

For example:

- It was too hard for me to concentrate **with the kids jumping around**.
- The jewellery boxes were kept **inside the cupboard**.
- **On the way to New York**, we caught sight of the famous Niagara Falls.

(Source: <https://byjus.com/english/clauses/>)

Clause

A clause in English grammar is a group of words that contains a subject and a verb. There are different types of clauses, including independent, dependent, relative, noun, adverbial, and coordinate clauses:

- **Independent clause**

A clause that can stand alone as a sentence. For example, "She loves to read books".

- **Dependent clause**

A clause that does not make sense by itself. Some types of dependent clauses include:

- **Adverbial clause:** A clause that modifies a verb, adjective, or adverb in the main clause. Adverbial clauses are introduced by subordinating conjunctions such as "when," "while," "because," "although," and "if".
- **Noun clause:** A clause that functions as a noun in the sentence. Noun clauses can be a subject, object, or complement.
- **Relative clause:** A clause that describes the noun of a sentence and starts with either a relative pronoun or a relative adverb.
- **Coordinate clause**
A clause that is introduced by one of the coordinating conjunctions, most commonly "and," "or," or "but". Coordinate clauses are essentially two sentences connected by a conjunction. (Source: <https://byjus.com/english/clauses/>)

Sentence

What Is a Sentence? - Meaning and Definition

A sentence is an array of multiple words arranged in a particular order. It has to be complete in itself and should convey meaning. It can express a general idea, pose a question or argument, provide a suggestion, and make an order or request, and so much more.

The **Oxford Learner's Dictionary** defines a sentence as "a set of words expressing a statement, a question or an order, usually containing a subject and a verb". According to the Cambridge Dictionary, a sentence is defined as "a group of words, usually containing a verb that expresses a thought in the form of a statement, question, instruction, or exclamation".

Formation of Sentences in English

When constructing sentences, you have to follow a particular word order. They consist of words, phrases and clauses that have to be arranged sequentially in order to make sense. In most cases, the subject with or without the determiner comes first, followed by the verb.

Parts of a Sentence

The basic division of sentences is in terms of,

Subjects - A noun, noun phrase or pronoun that does the action mentioned in the sentence. It mostly occurs at the beginning of the sentence.

Predicates - The remaining part of the sentence. It begins with the verb.

Here are a few examples.

Example 1: Daisy teaches English.

Subject - Daisy

Predicate - Teaches English

Example 2: Anitha called me yesterday.

Subject - Anitha

Predicate - Called me yesterday

Components of a Sentence

There are **five components** that can make up a sentence. They are,

Subject - The doer of the action

Verb - The action in the sentence

Object - The receiver of the action

Complement - A word/phrase that modifies the subject or object in the sentence

Adjunct - An adverb or an adverb clause that provides us with more information about the verb, complement or another adjunct in the sentence

Types of Sentences

TYPES OF SENTENCES			
TYPES	DEFINITION	STRUCTURE	EXAMPLE
Declarative	Convey message and give statements.	subject + verb	He passed the examination.
Interrogative	Interrogates and Ask Questions	(wh-word +) auxiliary + subject + verb	Are you going to university tomorrow?
Imperative	Give a command and order	Base verb and object	Turn on the lights.
Exclamatory	Express emotions.	What (+ adjective) + noun + subject + verb	What thrilling news she brings!

Image source: <https://grammrary.com/4-types-of-sentences/>

Sentence Structure

Sentence Structure

- A **simple** sentence expresses a single thought and must contain a subject and a verb.
e.g. The government has a responsibility to ensure the safety of its citizens.
- A **compound** sentence consists of two simple sentences that are connected with a coordinating conjunction (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so).
e.g. Some believe the government should increase spending on national defence, yet others believe the expenditure should be allocated to education.
- A **complex** sentence is an independent clause connected to one or more dependent clauses using a subordinating conjunction (while, although) or a relative pronoun (who, which).
e.g. Although the government promised to tackle childhood obesity, the 2020 target has not been met.
- A **complex-compound** sentence has two independent clauses and one or more dependent clauses.
e.g. Due to the failed handling of the crisis, the Prime Minister was forced to resign and a general election was called.

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Image source: <https://academic-englishuk.com/academic-sentence-structure/>

Article

What is an Article?

An article is a short monosyllabic word that is used to define if the noun is specific or not. Articles are normally used before nouns and since they are used to speak about the noun, they can be considered as adjectives.

Look at how various dictionaries define an article to have a much clearer idea of what they are.

An article, according to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, is defined as “any of a small set of words or affixes (such as a, an, and the) used with nouns to limit or give definiteness to the application.”

According to the Collins Dictionary, “an article is a kind of determiner. In English, ‘a’ and ‘an’ are called the indefinite article, and ‘the’ is called the definite article.”

Types of Articles

There are three articles in English - ‘a’, ‘an’ and ‘the’. These articles are divided into two types namely:

- Definite Article
- Indefinite Article

Definite Article

Among the three articles, ‘the’ is said to be the definite article. A definite article is used to determine something that is specific or particular. It is also used before plural nouns and to indicate the superlative degree of comparison. Furthermore, it can be used before collective nouns as well.

For example:

- **The** Sun sets in **the** west.

In the above sentence, the nouns ‘Sun’ and ‘west’ are proper nouns and are specific and so the definite article has to be used.

- **The** children are playing cricket.

In the above sentence, the definite article is used to determine the plural noun, ‘children’.

- This is **the** world’s longest river.

In the above sentence, the definite article is used to denote the superlative degree of comparison.

- **The** crowd sang along with **the** band.

In the above sentence, the definite article is used before the collective nouns, ‘crowd’ and ‘band’.

Indefinite Article

The articles 'an' and 'a' are termed as indefinite articles. An indefinite article, as the name suggests, is used to indicate something that is not definite or specific. It can also be used before singular nouns.

Among the indefinite articles, 'an' is used before singular nouns that start with vowel sounds and 'a' is used before singular nouns that begin with consonant sounds.

For example:

- I had an apple for breakfast.
- Do you have an eraser?
- I saw an aeroplane.
- She has a pet dog.
- My father is a doctor.
- My brother gave me a calculator.

(Source: <https://byjus.com/english/articles-in-english/>)

Concord agreement or subject-verb agreement

Concord agreement, or subject-verb agreement, is a grammatical rule in English that requires the verb and subject in a sentence to agree in number and person:

Rule

A singular subject takes a singular verb, and a plural subject takes a plural verb.

[For more details on the above topic, please see the below-mentioned details:

<https://www.scribd.com/document/342081318/12-Concord-Ppt>]

Unit-II

Homophones

Homophones are words that sound similar to another word but have different spellings and meanings. Understanding homophones can help you in building your vocabulary. Only if you learn the spellings and meanings of the homophones will you be able to use them correctly.

Difference between Homophones, Homographs and Homonyms

Homophones	Homographs	Homonyms
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Words that have the same sounds but different meanings and spellings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Words that have the same spelling but have different meanings and sometimes different pronunciations as well.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Words that have the same spelling or pronunciation but have different functions and meanings.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Examples:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Bear/BareSee/SeaBoard/Bored	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Examples:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Tear(noun)/Tear(verb)Bear(noun)/Bear(Verb)Bank(noun)/Bank(verb)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Examples:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Dye/DieNew/KnewFare/Fair

Synonyms

A synonym is a word or phrase that has a similar or identical meaning to another word or phrase. Synonyms can be used to replace or clarify the meaning of a word. Here are some examples of synonyms:

- Adjectives:** "Terrible", "unacceptable", "poor", "unsatisfactory", and "inferior" are synonyms for the adjective "bad".
- Nouns:** "Scholar", "pupil", and "learner" are synonyms for the noun "student".
- Verbs:** "Weep", "bawl", and "sob" are synonyms for the verb "cry".
- Adverbs:** "Shyly", "anxiously", and "timidly" are synonyms for the adverb "nervously".
- Close:** "Near" is a synonym for the word "close".
- Hurt:** "Injured" is a synonym for the word "hurt".
- Good:** "Fine", "excellent", "satisfactory", "wonderful", and "superb" are synonyms for the word "good".

Antonym/s

An antonym is a word that means the opposite of another word. For instance, the antonym of 'hot' may be 'cold.' The root words for the word 'antonym' are the words 'anti,' meaning 'against' or 'opposite,' and 'onym,' meaning 'name.'

Typically, antonyms come in pairs of two words that have opposite meanings. Some examples of pairs of antonyms include:

Hot and cold

Near and far

Tall and short

Quiet and noisy

Destroy and create

Divide and unite

It is also possible for one word to have several antonyms. For example, some antonyms of unite are:

Divide, Break, Partition, Segregate, Split, Subdivide

Morphology

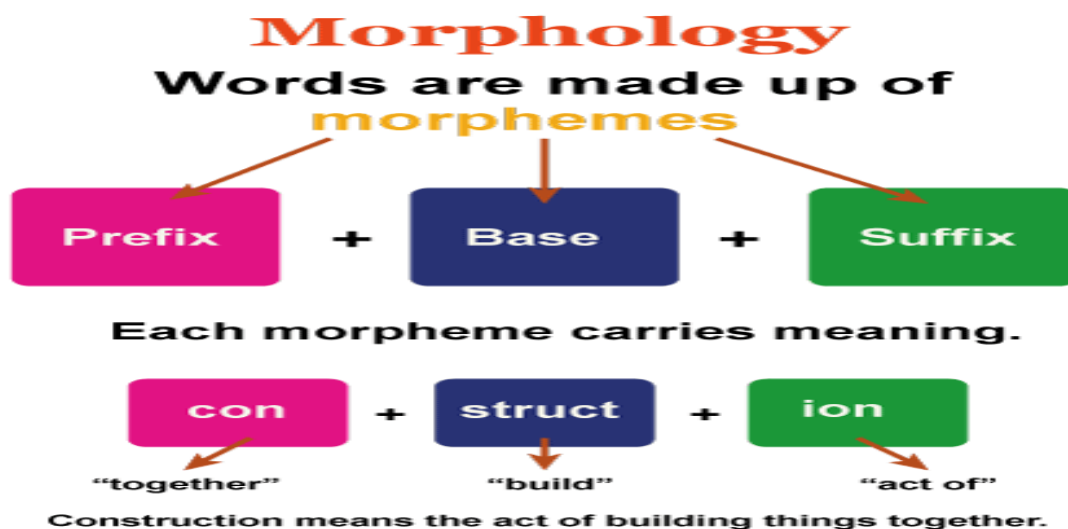
Morphology is the study of the internal structure of words and forms a core part of linguistic study today. The term morphology is Greek and is a makeup of morph- meaning 'shape, form', and -ology which means 'the study of something'.

- **What it studies**

Morphology studies how words are formed, how they are related to each other, and how they behave as parts of speech. It also analyses how words are inflected to express grammatical categories like tense, number, and aspect.

- **What it involves**

Morphology studies the relationship between morphemes, which are the smallest units of meaning in a word. Morphemes can be roots that can stand alone as words, or affixes that can only appear as part of a larger word.



Prefixes and Suffixes

A prefix is a word part added to the beginning of a word, while a suffix is a word part added to the end of a word. Prefixes and suffixes change the meaning of a word slightly.

Here are some examples of prefixes and suffixes:

Prefixes

- **Un-** Added to the word "helpful" to create "unhelpful"
- **Im-** Added to the word "possible" to create "impossible"
- **Fore-** Means "before" and is used in words like "forecast" and "forelimb"
- **Hyper-** Means "too much" and is used in words like "hyperactive" and "hypersensitive"

Suffixes

- **ful:** Added to the word "help" to create "helpful"
- **ity, -ty:** Means "quality of" and is used in words like "inactivity" and "veracity"
- **ment:** Means "condition of" and is used in words like "argument" and "endorsement"
- **ness:** Means "state of being" and is used in words like "heaviness" and "sadness"
- **ship:** Means "position held" and is used in words like "fellowship" and "ownership"

Unit-III

Writing Skills

Sentence Construction

Sentence construction is the arrangement of words, phrases, and clauses in a sentence to convey a complete thought. It's also known as syntax or syntactic structure.

Here are some key aspects of sentence construction:

- **Subject and predicate:** A sentence must have a subject and a predicate, either stated or understood. The subject is the noun that performs the action, and the predicate contains the verb that describes the action.
- **Word order:** The most common word order in English is subject-verb-object (SVO).
- **Clauses:** Sentences are made up of phrases and clauses, and the type of sentence structure is determined by the number and type of clauses used.
- **Punctuation:** The use of punctuation is important for sentence construction.
- **Grammar:** Proper grammar is important for sentence construction.

Paragraph Development

Paragraph development is the process of organizing a paragraph to convey a main idea. There are several **COMPONENTS** of paragraph, including:

- **Narration:** Tells a story in chronological order
- **Description:** Provides details about what something looks, smells, tastes, sounds, or feels like
- **Process:** Explains how something works, step by step
- **Classification:** Separates into groups or explains the various parts of a topic
- **Illustration:** Gives examples and explains how those examples support your point

Methods of Paragraph Writing

There are so many ways of developing a paragraph. However, the basic patterns of logically organizing information in a paragraph include:

- 1) **Inductive order:** In this logical organization, specific details, examples and illustrations come first. They are followed by general statements.
- 2) **Deductive order:** This logical pattern involves the process of moving from a principle, or law to specific details.
- 3) **Spatial organization:** This technique organizes information based on the physical or spatial relationship between objects or ideas. It describes things based on their location or arrangement in space.

4) **Interrupted method:** Whenever the writer gives a break to the line of thought and gives a turn to the idea to produce the desired effect, he uses this method.

5) **Linear:** Linear logical order refers to a systematic order as a line. One idea logically leads to another idea in a natural way.

6) **Chronological organization:** Chronological organization refers to the narration of events in the order in which they occur in time.

Unit-IV

Critical Analysis of “A Tryst with Destiny” by Jawaharlal Nehru

About the Author

Jawaharlal Nehru (1889 - 1964) was India's first prime minister and a leader of the Indian independence movement.

Born in Allahabad to a Kashmiri Pandit family, Nehru was educated at home and in England, where he attended Harrow School and Trinity College, Cambridge. He studied law at the Inner Temple in London and returned to India in 1912 to practice law.

Nehru joined the Indian National Congress in 1919 and became a leader of the party. He was a key figure in the Non-Cooperation Movement, the Kisan Movement, and the Civil Disobedience Movement. He was also a signatory of the Nehru Report on Indian Constitutional Reform.

Nehru became India's first prime minister in 1947 and served until his death in 1964. He was known for his neutralist foreign policy and established a parliamentary government.

Nehru's notable works include *The Discovery of India*, *Glimpses of World History*, *An Autobiography* (released in the United States as *Toward Freedom*), and *Letters from a Father to His Daughter*, all written in jail.

Introduction of the Essay

On August 14, 1947, at around midnight, Nehru gave his speech, "A Tryst with Destiny," to the Indian Constituent Assembly at the Parliament. It included topics that go beyond India's history. This great speech focuses on the aspects that transcend the history of India. Furthermore, "Tryst with Destiny" happens to be one of the greatest speeches of the 20th century. Moreover, this speech shows the essence of Indian triumph over British colonial rule.

Unique Aspects of this Speech

There was only one political reference in the entire speech "Tryst with Destiny". The only political element in the speech was Nehru's intention to fight poverty and disease. Hence, Nehru makes the speech as ethical as possible. In the rest of the speech, Nehru takes time to properly summarize and explain what India is all about.

Nehru makes use of metaphors to explain the spectacular and poetic tale of India. Furthermore, Nehru refers to a country metaphorically as a "she". It is a metaphor because the country is neither male nor female. Another use of metaphor by Nehru is when he says that "India will awake".

Poetry certainly comes to mind when Indian independence is compared with a star of hope and freedom. There is a possibility that many metaphors get lost in the lyrics. Moreover, Nehru provides listeners with a clear image. Such a clear image certainly plants patriotic feelings in the heart of any Indian.

Nehru is equally concerned in optimizing equal opportunities to all in terms of providing education and industry as well. Where there is an opportunity, it needs to be equally given and shared and grabbing the opportunities by any sectarian or communal means is an offence. Nehru highlights that the health of the individual and society is to be carefully examined to bring greater awareness in eradicating all the physical, mental, and social diseases in the nation. Physical, mental, and social health of the individual, society and nation is very much essential for the survival of the whole world.

Praise of Mahatma Gandhi

Something that will catch the attention of everyone who has at least some awareness of Indian history is the mention of Mahatma Gandhi. The amazing thing is that Nehru

never speaks his name in the entire speech. Nehru refers to Mahatma Gandhi as the greatest man of our generation. Consequently, Nehru gives Gandhi a very high and special status in his speech.

Nehru also mentions Mahatma Gandhi again as the architect of this freedom. Furthermore, he also refers to him as the father of the nation. Also, Nehru says that Gandhi embodies the old spirit of India.

If you want to understand what India is all about in a brief manner, then you must listen to “Tryst of Destiny”. Furthermore, with these poetic words, Jawaharlal Nehru sends India into its first day of independence. These powerful words can move any Indian with emotion and tears.

Conclusion

The humanitarian, social and secular approaches of Nehru's philosophy can be witnessed through this landmark speech of the twentieth century. The transfer of power, the sense of unity in diversity, the taste of equality, the spirit of freedom, and the feel for humaneness remains essential in visualizing the building of any good nation and to promote cordial connectivity with the whole world. Nehru highlights the essentiality of such creeds and canons, like equity and inclusivity, to eradicate poverty and strengthen social justice in the society. He emphasized on highlighting the self-consciousness move in evoking the spirit of reformation and accelerating the masses towards democratic move and new nation building.

Question/s for Practice:

- i. Discuss the life and works of Jawaharlal Nehru.
- ii. Critically analyse the theme of the essay “Tryst with Destiny”.

Important links/sources for the Advancement of Knowledge:

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jawaharlal_Nehru
- https://www.researchgate.net/publication/357752920_Humanitarian_prec_epts_and_the_relevance_of_Jawaharlal_Nehru's_Tryst_with_Destiny_spee_ch_and_idealstoday_A_critical_review
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lrEkYscgbqE> (One may listen to Nehru's speech here)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8xLrtnjmswA> (Hindi explanation of the essay)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=puYnSM9IBCc> (English explanation of the essay)

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Critical Analysis of “An Astrologer’s Day” by R K Narayan

About the Author

R. K. Narayan (10 October 1906 - 13 May 2001) was a prominent Indian author in English who wrote about the lives of ordinary people in India. His full name is Rasipuram Krishnaswami Narayanaswami.

Born in Madras (now Chennai) to a Brahmin family, Narayan was raised by his grandmother after his father's frequent transfers. He struggled with formal education and was discriminated against by Christian students at his school.

Narayan attended Maharaja's College in Mysore and became a teacher in a small village school after graduating in 1934. However, he soon realized he wanted to pursue writing.

Narayan's writing style was marked by simplicity, humor, and gentle irony. He often explored themes of tradition and modernity, individual freedom, and family life.

Narayan's notable works include *Swami and Friends* (1935), *The English Teacher* (1945), *The Guide* (1958), *The Man-Eater of Malgudi* (1961), and *The Grandmother's Tale* (1992).

In 2000, a year before his death, Narayan was awarded India's second-highest civilian honour, the Padma Vibhushan.

- **Full Title:** “An Astrologer’s Day”
- **Where Written:** Madras, India
- **When Published:** 1947
- **Literary Period:** Early Indian English literature
- **Genre:** Short story
- **Setting:** Malgudi, a fictional city in India.
- **Climax:** Guru Nayak bets the astrologer a large sum of money that he cannot foretell anything worthwhile or true. The astrologer draws on the experience of a secret past and wins the bet.
- **Antagonist:** Guru Nayak
- **Point of View:** Third person

Introduction

‘An Astrologer’s Day’ is a story from the Indian author R. K. Narayan’s *An Astrologer’s Day and Other Stories* (1947). The opening story in the book, ‘An Astrologer’s Day’ is about an unnamed astrologer who is confronted by a stranger who questions his abilities. The story takes place in the Malgudi, a fictional city in India.

Summary of the Story

At midday, the astrologer lays out his equipment and readies for the day. He has brought a dozen cowrie shells, mystical-looking but unreadable charts, parchments, and other accoutrements. His forehead is painted with sacred ash and he wears a saffron-colored turban. The astrologer’s garb, in combination with his keen eyes and long beard, give him an enigmatic and comforting appearance to potential customers. He seems prophetic and wise, though “even a half-wit’s eyes would sparkle in such a setting.”

Narayan vividly describes the way in which the astrologer’s appearance and equipment lend him a quasi-supernatural presence. Although the author leaves no room for doubt that the astrologer is indeed a fraud, the description of him is so compelling that it is easy to see how people would be fooled into regarding him as more than a mere man.

The astrologer is seated beneath a large tamarind tree near a road that leads through the Town Hall Park. Around him is a marketplace with similarly fraudulent characters, including an auctioneer of cheap cloth and a man who sells the same fried food every day but each day gives it a new luxurious name such as “Bombay Ice-Cream.” The lights in the marketplace flicker and dance from dozens of sources, creating an enchanted feeling—a feeling bolstered by the fact that the marketplace lacks “the benefit of municipal lighting.”

All the vendors are in the practice of overselling their own value. Both the cloth vendor and the food seller create the illusion of luxury, while the astrologer creates the illusion of wisdom and power. Catering to a poor demographic, each vendor exploits a desire for the trappings of a more privileged life. Note the contrast of the astrologer, representing ancient tradition, with the Town Hall Park, representing modern administration.

The astrologer prefers the indirect lighting, since he never aspired to be an astrologer at all, nor has he any business being one. He does not know any more about the stars than any customer who may come to him. Rather, he has a store of general platitudes and a practiced ear for guessing at people’s problems, since they are very often all the same. He tells people the things they want to hear. Even so, the author surprisingly interjects, his labour is as “honest” as any other, and his wages were earned.

Years before, the astrologer had to leave his home suddenly, without telling anyone and without preparation. Had he stayed, he would have been a farmer like his forefathers, working, marrying, dying, but it was not to be. Instead, he had to flee several hundred miles, an immense distance for a villager, and take up a new life.

The astrologer has formed a “working analysis” of humanity’s problems, being as they all relate to marriage, money, or messy human affairs. When someone comes to him, he first listens for ten minutes before speaking, by which point he has many things that could be said and passed off as cosmological wisdom. Often his answers are vague but sufficiently satisfying to give comfort to people; otherwise, they are self-affirming to the listener and as such leave them satisfied. He endears his customer to himself, but is careful to tie such praise to a cosmological symbol, such as the position of Saturn.

At the day’s end, the nuts vendor next to the astrologer blows out his flare and goes home, meaning it is time for the astrologer to go home as well. There is no more light available to him, save for a small shaft of green light that strayed to the ground in front of him.

As the astrologer is packing his garb and equipment, a stranger blots out the green light. The astrologer summons him to sit down, hoping to make money off of him. The stranger resists but the astrologer presses, until finally the stranger steps to him and aggressively offers a challenge.

The stranger offers a large sum on the cynical wager that the astrologer cannot tell him anything worthwhile. They haggle over the wager, eventually raising the price and the stakes.

The stranger strikes a match to light his cheroot, and the brief light of the flame illuminates his face enough for the astrologer to see his identity. The astrologer gets very uncomfortable and tries to wriggle out of the wager and go

home. The stranger will not allow it, grabbing him by the arm and keeping him there, determined to expose the astrologer as a fraud or learn something useful.

The astrologer, fearful now, tries several times to offer the same vague, placating advice that has satisfied other customers in the past. The stranger, however, will have none of it. The astrologer says a silent prayer and then changes tactic, revealing to the stranger that he knows that he was stabbed and left for dead some years ago.

The stranger is now filled with enthusiasm, convinced that the astrologer must truly possess cosmic wisdom. He inquires when he will be able to find the man who attacked him, so that he may kill him. The astrologer replies that it will not be until the next life, because his attacker died several months ago in a different village. The stranger is disappointed at this news. However, the astrologer offers him some satisfaction by telling him that the man he seeks was crushed under a lorry, and at least met a grisly, undignified end.

The astrologer reveals that he knows the man's name is Guru Nayak as well, crediting his own omniscience. He warns Guru Nayak to return to his village and never venture this way again or great harm will befall him. Guru Nayak concedes, for now that his assailant is dead he has no more reason to wander about. Guru Nayak gives the astrologer a fistful of coins and leaves while the astrologer packs his equipment. The last shaft of green light has also vanished.

The astrologer returns home to his wife and daughter in the dark of midnight. His wife is angry at him until she sees the money he has made from Guru Nayak, though the astrologer curses Nayak when he realizes that Nayak has slightly underpaid him. She remarks that her husband seems troubled, though he brushes it off. As they are lying down to sleep, the astrologer tells his wife that a great weight has been lifted from him today. For years he had believed he had murdered Guru Nayak when he lived in his home village, but now he sees that he is not a murderer after all. His wife is shocked at the revelation that her husband once attempted murder, but the astrologer dismisses his crime as the folly of youth.

Characters of the Story

i. The Astrologer

The nameless protagonist of the story, the astrologer is not truly an astrologer, but a con man. He sets up shop each day beneath a tree in a market, wearing a priest's garb and face paint and posing as a holy man with cosmic wisdom. For a small fee, he listens to people's problems and offers what seems like sage advice, dressing his common sense and manipulations in an astrologist's vernacular. Despite having no actual astrological wisdom, he is quite perceptive and offers comfort to his customers by giving them self-affirming answers and easing their minds. It is revealed at the end of the story that the astrologer is in hiding, having fled his home and past life as a farmer after he drunkenly attempted to murder Guru Nayak. As far as he knows, he actually did take Guru Nayak's life, and feels a great burden at the thought of being a murderer. His burden is not borne out of pity for Guru Nayak, however, but of his own self-interest. Even when the astrologer meets Guru Nayak, he makes no attempt to atone for his crime. Although he is the protagonist, the astrologer is not the hero of the story. The astrologer has a wife and child, neither of whom knows anything of his murderous past.

ii. Guru Nayak

Guru Nayak is the man whom the astrologer tried to murder several years before the story takes place. Very little is said about Guru Nayak other than that he has left his village and gone searching for the man who tried to kill him so that he can strangle him to death. Guru Nayak is introduced merely as an aggressive stranger who is immediately skeptical of the astrologer and his supposed wisdom. Though he is standing in front of him, due to the darkness of the evening and the paint, turban, and long beard that the astrologer wears, he does not recognize his attacker. He eventually believes that the astrologer is a prophet when the astrologer tells him the specifics of his attack and even Guru Nayak's own name. He is disappointed when he is told that his attacker died under the tires of a vehicle some months before, but satisfied enough that he promises to return home and never venture to this village again. Although Guru Nayak is positioned as the antagonist in the structure of the story, he actually could be considered as occupying the role of the hero in the relationship between the two characters. Although the story was written in English, Guru Nayak's name is actually two Hindi terms: "Guru" meaning teacher or spiritual initiator and "Nayak" meaning hero.

iii. Astrologer's Wife

Introduced only at the end of the story, the astrologer's wife is pleased that her husband has brought home more money than usual from his day's work. At the same time, she is shocked to learn that her husband had tried to murder Guru Nayak before he left his village and they were married.

Question/s for Practice:

- i. Discuss the life and works of R K Narayan.
- ii. Critically analyse the theme of the story entitled "An Astrologer's Day".
- iii. Write the character-sketch of the Astrologer OR Guru Nayak.

Important links/sources for the Advancement of Knowledge:

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/R._K._Narayan
- <https://interestingliterature.com/2022/05/rk-narayan-an-astrologers-day-summary-analysis/>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xo1ILW_Hgy4 (Hindi explanation of the story)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8rJfRf1miHk> (English explanation of the story)

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Critical Analysis of "On Doing Nothing" by J B Priestley

About the Author

John Boynton Priestley (1894-1984) was a British writer, broadcaster, and social commentator known for his novels, plays, essays, and wartime broadcasts.

During World War II, he was a popular broadcaster and his works reflected the British public's mood during the war.

He was active in politics, expressing his concerns about issues such as the nuclear arms race through commentary and campaigning.

Background

He was born in Bradford, Yorkshire, England, and served in the infantry during World War I. He studied English literature at Trinity College, Cambridge, and graduated in 1922.

He was awarded the freedom of the City of Bradford in 1973, the Order of Merit in 1977, and an honorary Doctor of Letters from the University of Bradford in 1970. The University of Bradford named the J.B. Priestley Library after him and erected a statue near Central Library.

His notable works include *The Good Companions* (1929), *Angel Pavement* (1930), *Bright Day* (1946), and *Lost Empires* (1965) among others.

Introduction of the Essay

In his essay "On Doing Nothing," J.B. Priestley humorously advocates for periods of idleness, asserting they are beneficial for the soul and society. He praises a restful holiday he took, counters criticism of laziness, and points out that overwork can lead to harmful outcomes. Priestley uses vivid descriptions and humor to make his case, referencing figures like Thoreau and Wordsworth who embraced simpler lives. He convincingly argues for the importance of slowing down and appreciating life's offerings.

Analysis of the Essay

The essay divides into three sections. In the first, Priestley's speaker writes praising a holiday he took with a friend on the moors, in which they did nothing but hike, eat, and lie on the grass, looking at the clouds. He found this to be a delightful and renewing vacation.

In the second part, he comes back from his holiday to declare, with mock horror, that he has been singled out for condemnation by a man named Mr. Selfridge. In actuality, Mr. Selfridge had not pointed out the narrator specifically, but in general criticized lazy people. The speaker pushes back, noting that idleness is a positive value and stating that, for example, if busy politicians had gone on vacation and done nothing in August 1914, a very bloody and costly war might have been avoided.

In the third part the narrator pivots to the Americans, who he says are very wealthy but very prone to working too much. He points out that the best of the American spirit has come from men like Thoreau, who pursued a simpler and more spiritual life in nature. He rounds back to the English poet Wordsworth as another example of a worthy person who chose a simple life.

The last sentence of the essay ‘And he would be right’ might also be significant as it suggests that Priestley is totally dedicated to the idea of being idle for a period of time. That there are proven benefits to being so. As to whether the reader themselves agrees is really left to each individual reader to decide. Some might suggest that laziness is indeed the primary sin while others may very well be exponents of the idea of having periods of idleness.

Question/s for Practice:

- i. Discuss the life and works of J B Priestley.
- ii. Critically analyse the essay “On Doing Nothing”.

Important links/sources for the Advancement of Knowledge:

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._B._Priestley
- <chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcgclefindmkaj/https://igntu.ac.in/eContent/IGNTU-eContent-773560201122-BA-English-2-Mr.GurujeganM.-Prose-4and5.pdf> (See page 14-15)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HOOf-HhMANwM> (Hindi explanation of the Essay)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lqjFTHjNEwY> (English explanation of the Essay)

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