

Identifying grammatical terms

Parts of speech (nouns, verbs, adjectives etc.) and other common grammatical terms

Passage 1

Bond knocked on the door.

'Come in,' barked M.

Bond (*proper noun*) knocked (*verb -past tense*) on (*preposition*) the (*definite article*) door (*noun - countable*).

'Come in (*phrasal verb - imperative*),' barked (*verb - past tense*) M (*proper noun*).

Passage 2

James Bond picked up the Chinese vase and turned it in his hand.

M looked at him quizzically. 'A fine antique, don't you think?'

'It must be worth a lot of money,' said Bond.

'Then put it down,' snapped M. 'Before you break it.'

James Bond (*proper noun*) picked up (*phrasal verb - past tense*) the (*definite article*) Chinese (*adjective*) vase (*noun - countable*) and (*conjunction*) turned (*verb - past tense*) it (*pronoun*) in (*preposition*) his (*possessive determiner*) hand (*noun - countable*).

M (*proper noun*) looked (*verb - past tense*) at (*preposition*) him (*pronoun*) quizzically (*adverb*). 'A (*indefinite article*) fine (*adjective*) antique (*noun - countable*), don't you think?' (*tag question**)

'It (*pronoun*) must (*modal verb*) be (*verb - bare infinitive*) worth (*adjective***) a lot of (*quantity expression*) money (*noun - uncountable*),' said (*verb - past tense*) Bond (*proper noun*) .

'Put it (*preposition*) down, (*phrasal verb - imperative*) ' snapped (*verb - past tense*) M (*proper noun*). 'Before (*adverb****) you (*pronoun*) break (*verb - present tense*) it (*pronoun*).'

* the whole phrase is a tag question.

** can also be a noun

*** can also be a preposition and a conjunction.

Passage 3 - snap and re-assembly

Molly Meakin opened her eyes, and looked lovingly at Humphrey. 'Wake up, darling. You'll be late,' she said softly.

He continued to snore so she pulled his ear very gently.

Molly Meaken	opened	her	eyes	and	looked	lovingly	at
<i>proper noun</i>	<i>verb - past tense</i>	<i>possessive determiner</i>	<i>noun</i>	<i>conjunction</i>	<i>verb - past tense</i>	<i>adverb</i>	<i>preposition</i>
Humphrey.	'Wake up,	darling.	You	'll	be	late,'	she
<i>proper noun</i>	<i>phrasal verb - imperative</i>	<i>noun</i>	<i>pronoun</i>	<i>modal verb</i>	<i>verb - bare infinitive</i>	<i>adjective</i>	<i>pronoun</i>
said	softly.	He	continued	to snore	so	she	pulled
<i>verb - past tense</i>	<i>adverb</i>	<i>pronoun</i>	<i>verb - past tense</i>	<i>verb - full infinitive</i>	<i>conjunction</i>	<i>pronoun</i>	<i>verb - past tense</i>
his	ear	very	gently	<i>possessive determiner</i>	<i>noun</i>	<i>adverb</i>	<i>adverb</i>

Common errors - confusion between members of 'word families'

1 The MTR is very convenience.

The MTR is very convenient

2 My colleague is German but we can communication in English.

My colleague is German but we can communicate in English.

3 I want to get marry with my girlfriend next year.

I want to get married to my girlfriend next year.

4 Fortunately, I success in the exam.

Fortunately, I succeeded in the exam

5 In additional, I need to answer customers' enquiries.

In addition, I need to answer customers' enquiries.

6 I am very boring at work.

I am very bored at work.