WORD CLASSES

All of the words in the English language can be broken down into specific Word Classes (sometimes called the "parts of speech," "lexical categories," or "syntactic categories").

NOUNS refer to people, places, or things.
Example:
Mary, Paul, Peter, Socialism, ball, plant, cup, plane, Paris, Texas, apples, family

PRONOUNS act as substitutes for nouns.
Example:
I, we, you, they, them, our, us, his, hers, theirs, yours, themselves, ourselves

ADJECTIVES modify or describe nouns and pronouns.
Example:
blue, shy, cute, little, funny, complex, simple, green

DETERMINERS help to define nouns in terms of number, ownership, specificity (whether they are definite or indefinite), etc. [Determiners appear before nouns and any adjectives in a noun phrase.].
Example:
a, an, the, this, that, these, those, all, both, any, his, her, its, their, one, two, three

VERBS express actions or states of being.
Example:
is, are, jump, drive, tease, run, walk, talk, ask, write, draw

ADVERBS modify or describe the qualities of verbs, adjectives, other adverbs, or whole sentences.
Example:
quickly, badly, rapidly, essentially, very, really, cautiously

CONJUNCTIONS (or CONNECTORS) connect words, phrases, and clauses.
Example:
and, but, or, nor, neither, both, yet, however

SUBORDINATORS create subordinate clauses, and connect main and subordinate clauses.
Example:
that, if, whether, when, while, although, after, before, since, unless

PREPOSITIONS help to express location and contextual relationships (between people and people, people and objects, and objects and objects).
Example:
under, over, down, of, with, at, below, for, from, at, during, on top of, next to, by

(Prepositions may appear as a single word or appear in two-, three-, and four-word groups).

EXCLAMATIONS (or INTERJECTIONS) express strong emotions, profanity, salutation, etc.
Example:
wow, hi, hello, gosh, ah, yes, no, ahoy, crap

Note: Exclamations may appear as a single word or appear in two- and three-word groups.

NOTE: Several words in the English language may function within different Word Classes. Hence, some nouns may be act as verbs, and so forth. You must observe the context (that is, what the word is doing in relation to other words) to understand its classification.

Example: (The noun/verb Dance)

Dance is a wonderful subject. [noun]
We will dance to the waltz. [verb]

Example: (The noun/verb/adjective Hunting)

Hunting is a biological necessity for carnivores. [noun]
We will go hunting today. [verb]
Jack, our dog, is a hunting dog [adjective]