

TABLE 4.1 TRADITIONAL SYNTACTIC CATEGORIES (PARTS OF SPEECH)

Nouns

- NNP (NNPS if plural) **Proper** (name): *Joe, Frankenstein, America*
- Common** (ordinary)
- NN (NNS if plural) **Count** (distinguishes singular from plural): *dog/dogs, theory/theories*
- NN **Mass (Noncount)** (no plural): *water, air, stuff, superiority*
- VBG **Gerund of verb**: *singing, painting* (as in painting is fun)

Pronouns

- PRP **Personal**: *he/him, she/her, it, we/us, you, they/them*
- PRP **Reflexive**: *himself, herself, itself, ourselves...*
- DT or PRP **Demonstrative (Deictic)**: *this, that* (as in This is it)
- PRP **Indefinite**: *someone, everybody, nobody, something...*

Determiners

- DT **Articles**: *the, a (an)*
- DT **Demonstrative (Deictic)**: *this, that* (example: this house)
- DT **Quantifiers**: *every, all, some, three*
- PRP\$ **Possessive pronouns**: *my, your, his, her, their*

Adjectives

- JJ **Positive**: *big, good, exceptional*
- JJR **Comparative**: *bigger, better*
- JJS **Superlative**: *biggest, best*
- VBN, VBG **Participle of verb**: *distracted, singing* (as in a singing cowboy)

Verbs

- VB, VBP, VBZ, VBG, VBN, VBD **Intransitive** (taking no object): *sleep, yell, bark*
- dep. on form **Transitive** (taking one object): *kick, emulate, destroy, read*
- Ditransitive** (taking two objects): *give* (as in give Joe the book)
- Copula** (verb of being): *be, am, is, are, was, were*
- MD **Modals** (preceding another verb): *may, might, can, could, will, would...*
- Auxiliaries** (preceding the verb, can follow a modal): *be, is, are, has*

Adverbs

- RB **Modifying a verb**: *quickly, slowly, today, here*
- (RBR with -er, RBS with -est) **Modifying an adjective or adverb**: *very, extremely, slightly*
- Modifying the whole sentence**: *hopefully, unfortunately*

Prepositions

- TO, IN **With objects**: *in, before, after, below...* (example: in the house)
- RP **Without objects (Particles)**: *up, down, in, out* (example: Look it up)

Conjunctions

- CC **Coordinating** (joining constituents of same type)
 - Simple**: *and, or*
 - Correlating**: *both... and, either... or, neither... nor*
- IN (like prepositions) **Subordinating** (joining embedded sentence to main sentence): *before, after, although, because, when, whenever*

- UH **Interjections**: *no! yes! oh! ouch! wham! bang! alas!*