



FACT SHEETS

for the
TEAS®

**ENGLISH AND LANGUAGE
USAGE SECTION**

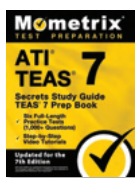
Mometrix
TEST PREPARATION

ATI® and TEAS® are registered trademarks of the Assessment Technologies Institute®, which is unaffiliated, not a sponsor, or associated with Mometrix Test Preparation

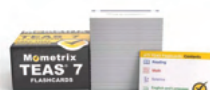
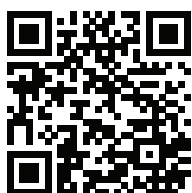
Table of Contents

Adjectives.....	1
Adverbs.....	3
Conjunctions.....	5
Interjections.....	8
Nouns.....	9
Prepositions.....	12
Pronouns.....	13
Verbs.....	15

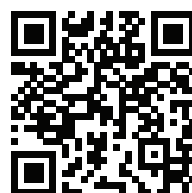
Need more resources? Scan the QR codes below to check out test prep materials from Mometrix that are specifically designed to help you ace the TEAS® exam.



TEAS® Study Guide



TEAS® Flashcards



Use code *teasfact20* to receive 20% off our online course!

Online TEAS® Course

ADJECTIVES

An **adjective** is a word that describes a noun. Specifically, an adjective can describe the quantity, opinion, size, age, color, shape, origin, material, specificity, and purpose of something. These descriptive words help us to clearly visualize what someone is talking about, whether in a day-to-day conversation or in a book.

Here are a couple of example sentences that contain simple adjectives.

The brown squirrel scampered up the tall tree.

Three people just sat at the wooden table.

In the first sentence, the adjectives *brown* and *tall* are describing color and size, and in the second sentence, the adjectives *three* and *wooden* are describing number and material. Articles (*a*, *an*, and *the*) are also adjectives, because they describe whether a noun is specific or non-specific.

COORDINATE AND COMPOUND ADJECTIVES

When two or more adjectives are being used to describe a noun, they are known as **coordinate adjectives**. Coordinate adjectives should be separated by a comma or the word *and*, as seen in the following sentences:

What a thoughtful and generous gift!

Rufus is a happy, energetic dog.

When a single adjective is made of multiple words, it is known as a **compound adjective**. Compound adjectives require a hyphen, as seen in the example sentences below:

The six-page essay is due tomorrow.

Kim is a well-known biologist from Nevada.

LIST OF ADJECTIVES

able	distressed	grotesque	lucky
abrupt	disturbed	grubby	massive
acidic	dizzy	grumpy	mysterious
adorable	early	handsome	narrow
adventurous	eager	happy	nasty
aggressive	easy	hard	obedient
agitated	effortless	harebrained	outrageous
alert	exasperated	healthy	panicky
aloof	excited	helpful	perfect
bad	exhilarated	helpless	perplexed
bashful	extensive	high	quizzical
best	exuberant	hollow	radiant
bored	foolish	homely	serene
brave	frantic	hungry	teeny
bright	free	hurt	tender
calm	fresh	icy	tense
certain	friendly	ideal	terrible
clear	frightened	immense	tricky
colossal	frothy	impressionable	troubled
condescending	frugal	intrigued	unsightly
confused	frustrating	irate	upset
cooperative	funny	jaded	victorious
corny	fuzzy	jovial	warm
costly	gaudy	keen	white
courageous	glorious	large	whole
cruel	good	lazy	wicked
dazzling	gorgeous	livid	yellow
despicable	graceful	lonely	young
determined	greasy	long	yummy
different	great	loose	zany
dilapidated	grieving	lovely	zealous
diminutive	gritty	low	zippy

ADVERBS

An **adverb** is a word that modifies a verb, an adjective, or another adverb. Adverbs add detail about how, when, where, how often, or to what extent something happens, letting readers picture actions and descriptions more clearly.

Here are a couple of example sentences that contain simple adverbs.

Quickly grab your coat and meet me outside.

The choir sang exceptionally well tonight.

TYPES OF ADVERBS

In the first example sentence, the adverbs *quickly* (manner) and *outside* (place) tell us how and where the action occurs. In the second sentence, *exceptionally* (degree) intensifies the adverb *well*, which itself modifies the verb *sang*.

	Question Answered	Example Adverbs
Manner	How?	quickly, carefully, loudly
Time	When?	now, yesterday, soon
Place	Where?	here, everywhere, downstairs
Frequency	How often?	always, rarely, weekly
Degree	How much?	very, almost, completely

DEGREES OF COMPARISON

Adverbs can show comparison, just like adjectives.

Positive Degree

The cheetah is **fast**.

Comparative Degree

The cheetah is **faster** than the lion.

Superlative Degree

The cheetah is the **fastest** land animal.

LIST OF ADVERBS

abruptly	enormously	intensely	rapidly
accidentally	especially	internationally	rarely
actually	evenly	joyfully	really
afterwards	eventually	justly	recently
almost	exactly	keenly	recklessly
always	excitedly	kindly	regularly
annually	extremely	knowingly	reluctantly
anxiously	fairly	lately	repeatedly
awkwardly	fast	lazily	rightly
badly	finally	loosely	roughly
boldly	firmly	loudly	rudely
briskly	freely	madly	safely
broadly	frequently	merrily	scarcely
calmly	fully	monthly	seriously
carefully	gently	neatly	sharply
cautiously	gladly	nervously	shortly
certainly	gracefully	noisily	silently
cheerfully	greatly	normally	slowly
clearly	happily	occasionally	smoothly
closely	hastily	often	softly
completely	heavily	openly	sometimes
constantly	helpfully	painfully	soon
continually	highly	patiently	suddenly
correctly	honestly	perfectly	surely
daily	hourly	playfully	swiftly
deeply	hungrily	politely	tenderly
deliberately	immediately	poorly	terribly
diligently	immensely	powerfully	thankfully
directly	impatiently	promptly	thoroughly
eagerly	incredibly	properly	thoughtfully
easily	indoors	quickly	truly
elegantly	innocently	quietly	usually

CONJUNCTIONS

CORRELATIVE CONJUNCTIONS

Correlative conjunctions are used in pairs to correlate similar elements of a sentence. It's common to pair correlative conjunctions with the wrong partner, so be sure to remember the pairs:

Either/or	You can <u>either</u> do your homework <u>or</u> clean your room.
Neither/nor	<u>Neither</u> Rachel <u>nor</u> Olivia showed up to work on time.
Both/and	<u>Both</u> the dog <u>and</u> the cat are playing in the yard.
Not only/but also	My teacher is <u>not only</u> intelligent <u>but also</u> funny.
Whether/or	I can't decide <u>whether</u> to pack a lunch <u>or</u> buy one.
Rather/than	I'd <u>rather</u> watch a movie <u>than</u> read a book.

Just like coordinating conjunctions, correlative conjunctions must connect **parallel** elements (two nouns, two verb phrases, two prepositional phrases, etc.).

Take the sentence below, for example. The either/or pair isn't parallel because it's trying to connect an independent clause with a verb, which aren't the same thing.

Either Lucy will walk or bike to her appointment.

Conjunctions

Connected elements

To correct this, you can change where the word *either* appears. Placing it before *walk* will make the correlation parallel.

Lucy will either walk or bike to her appointment.

Conjunctions

Connected elements

CONJUNCTIONS

SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

Subordinating conjunctions are used to introduce a dependent clause (also called a subordinate clause) in order to connect it to an independent clause.

There are seven meanings that these conjunctions can express.

Condition

You can take the exam if you're registered.

I'll go skydiving as long as you go too.

Time

I'll head to the store after the tennis match.

Please wait here until I get out of class.

Purpose

Claire ran so that she would arrive on time.

Slow down in order that you don't trip.

Place

Wherever he goes, he always wears a suit.

I know a place where we can go to fish.

Contrast

Although it was rainy, we played the game.

While it's very old, the car still runs well.

Reason

They ate early because they were hungry.

We should go home now since it's late.

Manner

The dancer leapt as if he had grown wings.

He dressed as though it were summer.

CONJUNCTIONS

A **conjunction** is a word that connects words, phrases, or clauses within a sentence. This lets us create more complex and interesting sentences.

There are three main types of conjunctions: coordinating, correlative, and subordinating.

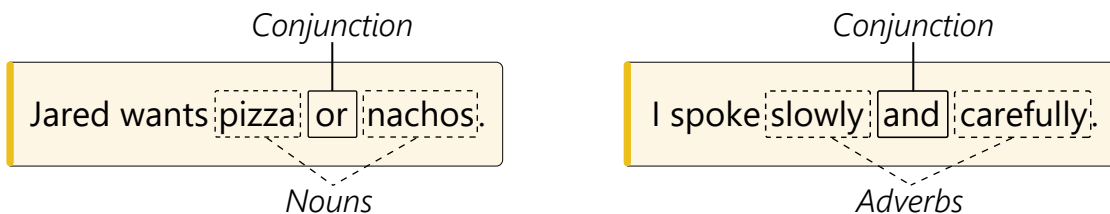
COORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

Coordinating conjunctions are used to connect (coordinate!) parts of a sentence that have equal rank. In other words, they can be used to connect two nouns, two verbs, two independent clauses, etc.

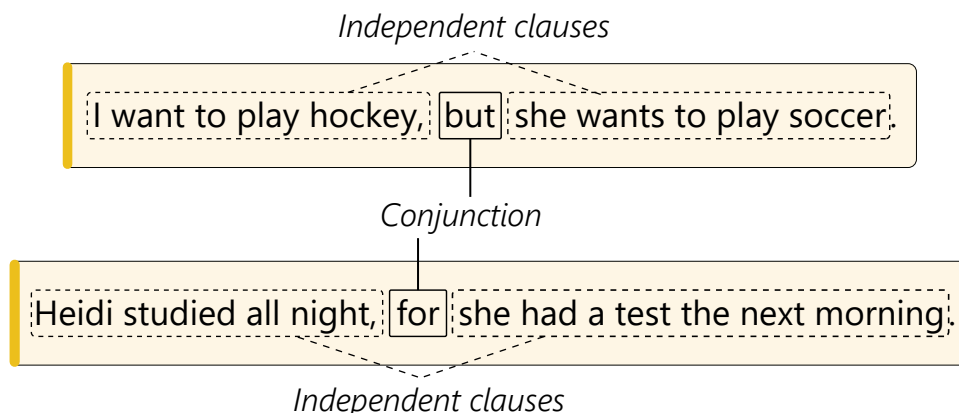
You can use the acronym FANBOYS to remember the coordinating conjunctions:

F	A	N	B	O	Y	S
For	And	Nor	But	Or	Yet	So

In the two sentences below, the coordinating conjunctions and or are used to connect nouns and adverbs. When a conjunction is connecting simple words or phrases, you don't add a comma before it.



If a conjunction is being used to connect two independent clauses, you always add a comma before the conjunction:



INTERJECTIONS

An **interjection** is an abrupt remark, usually followed by an exclamation point, which expresses a spontaneous feeling or reaction. Interjections generally appear before or after a sentence to convey surprise or excitement.

Ouch! This coffee is hot!

There's a present for me? Wow!

Oops. I spelled that wrong.

In these examples, the interjections provide a sense of surprise or realization to the related sentence.

You can also place interjections *within* a sentence. If you do, it's important that you use commas or parentheses to separate the interjection from the rest of the sentence.

I forgot about the essay (oops), so I stayed up all night writing it.

I was planning to go, but, alas, it started to rain.

There are all sorts of interjections that you likely hear or use on a regular basis. Here are some of the most common:

Wow!	Bah!	Shoot!
Oh!	Phooey!	Jeez!
Aha!	Drat!	Oops!
Gosh!	Rats!	Alas!
Gee!	Yay!	Oh dear!
Goodness!	Yippee!	Oh no!
Whoa!	Woohoo!	Whoops!
Yikes!	Hurray!	Hmm
Ouch!	Bravo!	Um
Ow!	Bingo!	Uh
Argh!	Cheers!	Well
Ugh!	Awesome!	Mhm
Ew!	Gah!	Uh-huh
Ick!	Darn!	Okay
Phew!	Hey!	Alright
Huh?	Psst!	Indeed

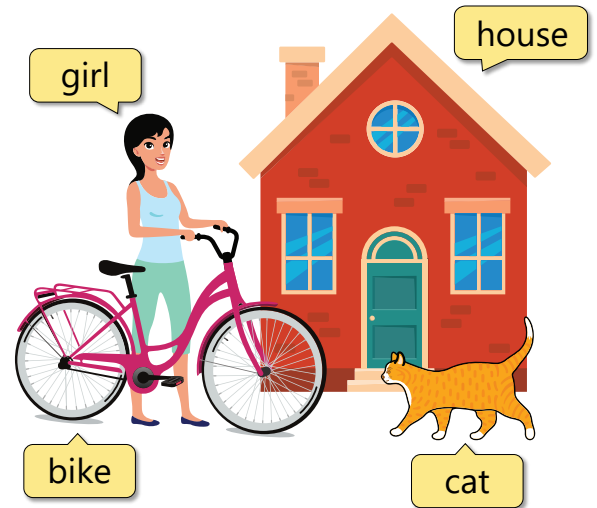
NOUNS

A **noun** is a word that names a person, place, thing, or idea. For example, the words *car*, *team*, and *John* are all nouns. There are a few different types of nouns that can be used:

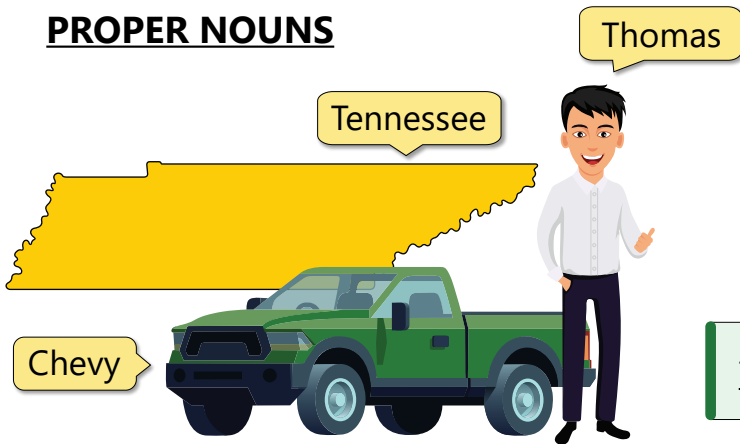
COMMON NOUNS

A common noun is a word that refers to general people, places, things, or ideas. For example, the words *girl*, *bike*, *house*, and *school* are all common nouns.

The girl rode her bike from her house to the school.



PROPER NOUNS



A proper noun is a word that refers to specific people, places, or things. For example, the words *Thomas*, *Tennessee*, *Lindale High School*, and *Friday* are all proper nouns. Proper nouns are always capitalized.

Thomas will drive to Tennessee on Friday in his Chevy.

COLLECTIVE NOUNS

A collective noun refers to a collective group of people or things that can act as a unit. For example, to refer to a group of multiple people playing a sport, we use the collective noun *team*.

The flock of birds soared through the morning sky.

There are eight people on that soccer team.



PLURAL NOUNS

Nouns that refer to more than one person, place, or thing are plural nouns, while nouns that refer to just one person, place, or thing are singular nouns. There are a few different rules to remember when writing regular plural nouns (and there are usually some exceptions):

GENERAL RULE

Add -s to the end of the singular form.

- bat → bat**s**
- car → car**s**
- table → table**s**
- doll → doll**s**

NOUNS ENDING IN S, X, Z, CH, SH, OR SS

Add -es to the end of the singular form.

- box → box**es**
 - bench → bench**es**
 - bus → bus**es**
 - glass → glass**es**
-

NOUNS ENDING IN A CONSONANT + O

Add -es to the end of the singular form.

- hero → hero**es**
- volcano → volcano**es**
- tomato → tomato**es**
- potato → potato**es**

NOUNS ENDING IN A VOWEL + O

Add -s to the end of the singular form.

- radio → radio**s**
 - stereo → stereo**s**
 - video → video**s**
 - audio → audio**s**
-

NOUNS ENDING IN A CONSONANT + Y

Remove the y and add -ies to the end.

- city → citi**ies**
- lady → ladi**ies**
- enemy → enem**ies**
- fly → fl**ies**

NOUNS ENDING IN A VOWEL + Y

Add -s to the end of the singular form.

- day → day**s**
 - toy → toy**s**
 - alley → alle**s**
 - donkey → donkey**s**
-

NOUNS ENDING IN F OR FE

Change the ending to -ves.

- wolf → wol**ves**
- knife → kni**ves**
- half → hal**ves**
- shelf → shel**ves**

IRREGULAR PLURAL NOUNS

Some nouns have a special plural form.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| • man → men | • sheep → sheep |
| • woman → women | • deer → deer |
| • child → children | • fish → fish |
| • tooth → teeth | • moose → moose |
-

POSSESSIVE NOUNS

Nouns that describe ownership of something are possessive nouns. Generally, singular nouns can be made possessive by adding an apostrophe and an s to the end of the noun. Plural nouns can usually be made possessive by adding only an apostrophe.

SINGULAR NOUNS

If a noun is singular, add an apostrophe and an s to the end to make the noun possessive:

- David's shoe
- the bird's wing
- a tree's branches
- a cliff's edge
- the box's size
- my friend's house
- James's bike
- a bass's stripes
- a church's steeple

PLURAL NOUNS THAT END IN S

If a noun is plural and ends in s, add an apostrophe after the s to make the noun possessive:

- the puppies' paws
- the babies' cries
- the planets' orbits
- the teachers' classrooms
- the shelves' strength
- my friends' laughter
- the tomatoes' color
- the boxes' contents
- the houses' doors

PLURAL NOUNS THAT DO NOT END IN S

If a noun is plural and does not end in s, add an apostrophe and an s to the end to make the noun possessive:

- the children's toys
- the sheep's bleating
- the geese's pond
- the mice's tails
- the oxen's strength
- the men's hats
- the people's choices
- the women's shoes
- the deer's antlers

JOINT POSSESSION vs. SEPARATE POSSESSION

If something is owned by two people, only the second person mentioned should be made possessive. If two things are owned by two people, both people mentioned should be made possessive:



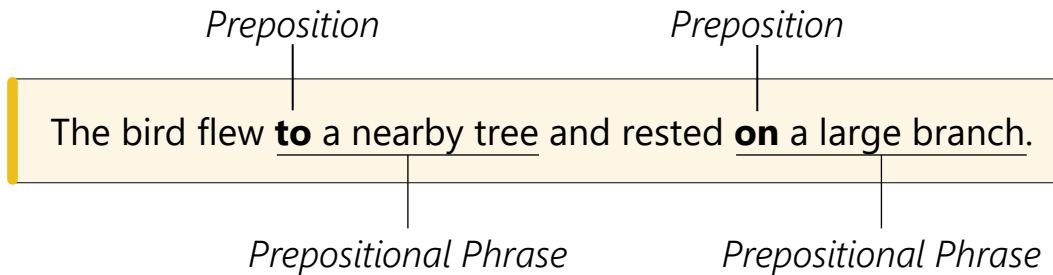
My aunt and uncle's house



My aunt's and uncle's cars

PREPOSITIONS

A **preposition** is a word that comes before a noun or pronoun to describe location, direction, and spatial relationships. The second noun connected with the preposition is called the object of the preposition. Together with the preposition, they form a **prepositional phrase**.



In the example above, the preposition *to* describes the direction in which the bird is flying, and *on* describes the bird's location. In both cases, the preposition is connecting the bird and another object.

Since prepositions specify how something is related to something else in time and space, it's important to be familiar with them:

aboard	beneath	minus	underneath
about	beside/besides	near	unlike
above	between	of	until
according to	beyond	off	unto
across	by	on/onto	up
after	concerning	opposite	upon
against	despite	out	with
along	down	outside	within
amid	during	over	without
among	except	past	
around	for	regarding	
as	from	since	
at	in	through	
because of	inside	throughout	
before	instead of	to	
behind	into	toward	
below	like	under	

PERSONAL PRONOUNS

A **pronoun** is a word that takes the place of a noun in a sentence. For example, instead of saying, "When Tina walked in the house, Tina took off Tina's shoes," you could use the pronouns *her* and *she* to replace the noun Tina: "When Tina walked in the house, she took off her shoes." The noun that a pronoun replaces is called an **antecedent**.

SUBJECTIVE AND OBJECTIVE

Pronouns that refer to people are called personal pronouns.

When acting as the subject of a sentence or phrase, a **subjective** personal pronoun is used. When acting as the object of a sentence or phrase, an **objective** personal pronoun is used.

In the example below, the pronoun *they* is used as the subject, and the pronoun *us* is used as the object:

They won't spot us hiding behind this tree.

		Subjective	Objective
Singular	1st Person	I	Me
	2nd Person	You	You
	3rd Person	He, She, It	Him, Her, It
Plural	1st Person	We	Us
	2nd Person	You	You
	3rd Person	They	Them

POSSESSIVE

A **possessive** personal pronoun can help show a noun's ownership, or possession.

In the example below, the pronoun *yours* replaces the noun *notebook*:

It looks like this notebook is yours.

	Singular	Plural
1st Person	Mine	Ours
2nd Person	Yours	Yours
3rd Person	His, Hers, Its	Theirs

It is important to know the difference between possessive pronouns and possessive adjectives. A possessive pronoun takes the place of a noun, while a possessive adjective describes a noun. For example, the word *my* is a possessive adjective ("I'm reading my book"), but the word *mine* is a possessive pronoun ("The book is mine").

OTHER PRONOUNS

DEMONSTRATIVE PRONOUNS

Demonstrative pronouns are used to refer to things that are either near or far away.

	Singular	Plural
Near	This	These
Far	That	Those

This is my favorite pair of sandals.

Can you put those on Mark's desk?

Be careful to not confuse demonstrative pronouns with demonstrative adjectives. Remember, a demonstrative pronoun takes the place of a noun, while a demonstrative adjective describes a noun.

INTERROGATIVE PRONOUNS

Interrogative pronouns are used to refer to nouns in the form of a question.

what
which
who
whom
whose

What is the name of that desert?

Who invented the microwave oven?

Which one of you used my pencil?

I found a jacket. Whose is this?

Be careful to not confuse interrogative pronouns with interrogative adjectives. Remember, an interrogative pronoun takes the place of a noun, while an interrogative adjective describes a noun.

INDEFINITE PRONOUNS

Indefinite pronouns are used to refer to non-specific people, things, or amounts.

all	everyone
another	few
any	many
anyone	neither
anything	several
each	some

We can start the meeting now that everyone has arrived.

I keep telling Eve and Jeremy but neither believes me.

VERBS

A **verb** is a word that expresses an action or state of being. For example, the words *run*, *think*, and *is* are all verbs. There are a few main types of verbs that are commonly used:

ACTION VERBS

Also called “dynamic verbs,” action verbs are pretty self-explanatory: They are words that describe a physical action.

Donna rides her bike to school.

Marcus hit a home run.



STATE-OF-BEING VERBS

Also called “stative verbs,” state-of-being verbs are the opposite of action verbs. These verbs are used to describe the subject’s state or feeling.

Connie understood her math homework.

Leyni likes chocolate bars.



HELPING VERBS

Also called “auxiliary verbs,” helping verbs are always paired with a main verb that describes the main action. The helping verb changes the main verb’s tense or voice.

I watch TV every night.

— Adding the helping verb *have* changes the tense. →

I have watched TV every night this week.

I ate that piece of pizza.

— Adding the helping verb *was* changes the voice. →

That piece of pizza was eaten by me.

VERB TENSES

A **verb tense** shows when an action or state of being takes place and how long it occurs. There are many different tenses in English, but there are four main tenses that we'll cover here.

PRESENT TENSE

The present tense is the standard tense in English. It's used to describe things that are currently happening.

play	eat	say	catch
jump	read	push	keep
kick	sit	throw	wait

I patiently wait for my food.
She throws the ball to her dog.

PAST TENSE

The past tense is used to describe things that have already happened and have finished happening.

played	ate	said	caught
jumped	read	pushed	kept
kicked	sat	threw	waited

Mom said I need to clean my room.
Isaac jumped into the pool.

FUTURE TENSE

The future tense is used to describe things that will happen at some point in the future.

will play	will eat	is going to eat
will jump	will read	is going to read
will kick	will sit	is going to sit

Josh is going to sit on the front row.
He will read two books this month.

PERFECT TENSE

The perfect tense is used to describe things that relate to other points in time.

have played	will have said
have jumped	will have pushed
have kicked	will have thrown

I have played basketball since I was a child.

This indicates that the action started in the past and is still happening in the present.

Callie will have walked 12 miles by noon.

This indicates that the action is happening in the present and will end in the future.