English Grammar 3rd Stage

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Chapter12: Part of speech: Form Classes

- In this section we are going to study the words that are referred to as form-classes. The term form-classes are used to show that the class of word is determined by the bound morpheme it has.

- Form-classes units can be subdivided into:
  - Nouns
  - Verbs
  - Adjectives
  - Adverbs
  - Uninflected words

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- **Nouns**
  - Nouns are identified by their **inflectional morphemes** and **derivational morphemes**.
- **Inflectional Morphemes:**
  - Any word that has the plural –s is perceived as a noun.
  - Any word that has the possessive –s is perceived as a noun.
  - **Note**: The position of the word is also important, For example:-
  - ➢The **author** seems happy.
  - ➢Our teacher may **author** a new book.

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- **Exercise:-**
- Underline the words that are nouns according to the inflectional criteria. Explain your choice by using the following:
    1. Has a possessive morpheme.
    2. Has a plural morpheme.
    3. Can take plural morpheme in the same position with or without readjustment.

a) Our president has a new plan.

b) The counsellor may plan a different approach.

c) Mother's cake never tasted so good.

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- **Derivational morphemes:**
- We can identify nouns by their derivational morphemes, especially those that change different word classes to nouns, for example:

1) -er: This suffix is added to a verb to create a noun that refers to a person or thing that performs the action of the verb. For example, "baker," "teacher," and "writer" are all nouns formed using the -er suffix.

2) -ist: This suffix is added to a noun to create a noun that refers to a person who practices or specializes in something. For example, "artist," "chemist," and "pianist" are all nouns formed using the -ist suffix.

3) -ment: This suffix is added to a verb to create a noun that refers to the result or process of the action of the verb. For example, "movement," "enjoyment," and "development" are all nouns formed using the -ment suffix.

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4) -ness: This suffix is added to an adjective to create a noun that refers to the quality or state of being that adjective. For example, "happiness," "kindness," and "rudeness" are all nouns formed using the -ness suffix.

5) -ity: This suffix is added to an adjective to create a noun that refers to the state or quality of being that adjective. For example, "diversity," "creativity," and "purity" are all nouns formed using the -ity suffix.

6) -ation: This suffix is added to a verb to create a noun that refers to the action or process of the verb. For example, "evaluation," "exploration," and "meditation" are all nouns formed using the -ation suffix.

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- **Exercises:**
- Underline the nouns and mention their root and derivational suffix:
    1) Jim was distressed by his failure.
    2) He was a cleaver sailor.
    3) The catcher missed the ball.
    4) Who made the discovery
    5) She is often troubled by sickness