

D.P.I. Ed 1st year (19-21)

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Content words & Function words

Content words :- content words are words that have meaning. They can be compared to grammatical words, which are structural. Nouns, main verbs, adjective and adverbs are usually content words.

Auxiliary verbs, Pronouns, articles and prepositions are usually grammatical words.

⇒ Content = information, meaning

In other words, content words give us the most important information. ~~While function~~

In linguistics, (शब्द विज्ञान) content words are words that name objects of reality and their qualities. They signify actual living things (dog, cat, etc), ~~the~~ family members (mother, father, sister etc.), natural phenomena (snow, sun, etc), common action (do, make, come, eat etc.).

They consist mostly of ~~the~~ nouns, lexical verbs and adjectives, but certain adverb can also be content words.

Function words :- Function words are words that exist to explain or create grammatical or structural relationships into which the content words may fit. Therefore, we refer to function words as a "closed" class.

⇒ Function words = necessary words for grammar.

In other words, function words are used to stitch those words together.

In linguistics, function words are words that have little lexical meaning or have ambiguous meaning and express grammatical relationship among other words within a sentence or specify the attitude or mood of the speaker.

They signal the structural relationship that words have to one another and are the glue that holds sentence together.

Content word types — Function word types

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noun = Person, Place or thing • Verb = Action, state • Adjective = describes an object, Person Place or thing. • Adverb = tells us how, where or when something happens. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auxiliary verbs = do, be, have. • Prepositions = show relationship in time and space • Conjunctions = words that connect. • Pronouns = refer to other nouns. • Articles = used to indicate specific or non-specific nouns. |
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