Testing Your Understanding: The Eight Parts of Speech

The *part of speech* indicates *how* the word functions in meaning as well as grammatically within the sentence. Remember that an individual word can function as more than one part of speech when used in different circumstances. An answer key follows theses questions. Choose **True or False** or **fill in the blanks** as called for in the following sentences.

1) _______ is the part of speech which answers the question of *what kind, which one, or how many?*

2) Proper nouns always start with a capital letter. True or False

3) Articles such as *[a, an, the]* are usually classified as ________.

4) An ________ is a word used to express emotion. It is often followed by an exclamation point.

5) A ________ is the name of a person, place, thing, or idea and is often used with an article (*the, a, an*), but not always.

6) Verbs take different forms to express ________.

7) A ________ is a word used in place of a noun and is usually substituted for a *specific noun*, which is called its antecedent.

8) A preposition is a word placed before a noun or pronoun to form a phrase *modifying* another word in the sentence. Therefore, the prepositional phrase almost always functions as an ________ or as an ________.

9) The verb in a sentence expresses ________ or being.

10) There is always a *main* verb and one or more *helping* verbs. True or False
11) A ________ joins words, phrases, or clauses, and indicates the relationship between the elements joined.

12) *Possessive* pronouns indicate ownership. True or False

13) ________ pronouns refer to specific persons or things.

14) A ________ must agree with its subject in number (both are singular or both are plural).

15) ________ often end in -ly.

Answers below.

**Answer Key:**

1) Adjective
2) True
3) Adjectives
4) interjection
5) noun
6) tense
7) pronoun
8) adjective, adverb
9) action
10) False (*sometimes* not always)
11) conjunction
12) True
13) Personal
14) verb
15) Adverbs