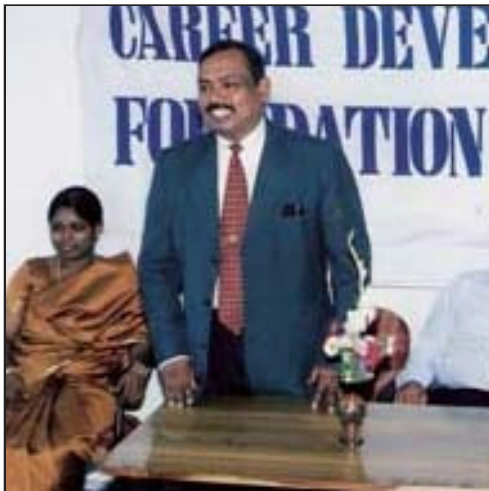


ENGLISH MANUAL



CHAPTER 14

GRAMMAR IN A GLIMPSE



ADVERBS

SINGULAR

ARTICLE

PREPOSITION



NOUN

GRAMMAR

IN A

VERB

GLIMPSE

PLURAL

ADJECTIVE

PRONOUN

TENSES



GRAMMAR IN A GLIMPSE

Grammar describes the nature, build and constitution of a language. It examines language from its smallest part, which is a letter, up to the complex organisation which is a sentence. We have thus the grammar of the letters (orthography), the grammar of words (etymology) and the grammar of the sentences (syntax).

To us, whose mother-tongue is not English, English grammar has a very important use.

We are able to know the relation between words as used in speech or writing. To know the language, grammar is essential; and so grammar in a nut-shell is undoubtedly a thing to be wished for. This little chapter supplies the long-felt want.

GRAMMAR AND USAGE

THE SENTENCE

(சென்டென்ஸ்)

‘சென்டென்ஸ்’ என்பது அர்த்தமுள்ள வார்த்தைகளுடைய தொடர். இதற்கு வாக்கியம் என்று பொருள்.

1. INTRODUCTION

A.1. The elephant.

2. Without health.

B.1. The elephant is very strong.

2. Without health there is no happiness.

We see from the above examples that the groups of words under **A** gives us no complete idea. Each of the groups under **B** is a sentence.

Thus, a sentence is a group of words which makes complete sense.

KINDS OF SENTENCES

1. Assertive sentence (அசர்டிவ் சென்டென்சஸ்)
உடன்பாட்டு வாக்கியம் என்று பொருள். மறுத்துக் கூறாமல் உடன்பாடாகச் சொல்வது.
Eg: Fortune save the brave.
2. Imperative sentences (இம்பரேடிவ் சென்டென்சஸ்)
இவ்வகையான வாக்கியங்கள் கட்டளைகளையும், வேண்டுகோள்களையும், மறுத்தல்களையும் வெளிப்படுத்த உதவும்.
Eg: Please keep quiet.
3. Interrogative sentences (இன்டெராகேடிவ் சென்டென்சஸ்)
கேள்வி வாக்கியம் என்பதை Interrogative sentence என்று கூற வேண்டும். கேள்விகளை கேட்க இந்த வாக்கியம் பயன்படும்.
Eg: Have you seen that?
4. Exclamatory sentences (எக்ஸ்கலமேட்டரி சென்டென்சஸ்)
Exclamatory sentence என்பது வியப்பு வாக்கியம் எனப்படும்.
Eg: How beautiful that place was!

It is possible to classify sentences in a number of ways. One way of classification is given below:-

1. (a) Fortune favours the brave.
(b) A courageous man does not fear danger.
2. (a) Fight on, brave knights!
(b) Oh! Save me, noble knight.
3. Why did the champions fight?
4. How beautiful that place was!

The different kinds of sentences are:-

1. *Assertive Sentences.*
2. *Imperative Sentences.*
3. *Interrogative Sentences.*
4. *Exclamatory Sentences.*

In 1, we have two sentences, *one stating a fact positively* and the other *making a denial*. The first is an *affirmative sentence* and the second is a *negative sentence*.

Since both are statements, they may be called *assertive sentences*.

Note:- { Affirm: to state a fact.
Negate: to deny something.

In 2, the first sentence gives an *order*, and the second makes a *humble request*. These are examples of *imperative sentences*. Under these, we may include *commands, requests and entreaties*.

In 3, we have a question. It is an *interrogative sentence*.

In 4, we have words expressing a sudden and strong feeling. It is an *exclamatory sentence*.



USAGE OF 'I'

A teacher said, “Mary, I’d like you to give me a sentence beginning with ‘I’, please.”

Mary thought for a few seconds and then said, “I is...”

The teacher interrupted her and said, “No Mary, you cannot begin a sentence with ‘I is’ - you must use ‘I am’.”

Mary looked upset and said, “But Miss...”

The teacher shouted, “Give me a sentence beginning with ‘I am’, please.”

Mary shrugged her shoulders and said, “I am the ninth letter of the alphabet.”



PHRASES AND CLAUSES

PHRASE (ஃபிரேஸ்)

முழுமையான அர்த்தம் கொடுக்காத சொற்றொடர் என்பது phrase ஆகும்.

The light of the Sun.

இதில் 'of the Sun' என்பது ஒரு phrase, ஏனென்றால் 'of the Sun' என்பதற்கு முழு பொருள் கிடையாது.

CLAUSE (க்ளாஸ்)

Clause என்பது ஒரு வாக்கியத்தின் பிரதான பகுதியாகும். இவ்வாக்கியத்தில் ஒரு முழுமையான அர்த்தம் இருக்கும்.

Eg: I came to your house.

- A. 1. The light *of the sun*.
2. Henry writes *like me*.
3. *Having done the work*
- B. 1. The light *which the sun gives*.
2. Henry writes *as I write*.
3. After *I had done the work*.

Examine the group of words in italics under A:- *of the sun; like me; and having done the work*.

Each group of words makes sense but not complete sense. So each group, which does the work of a single part of speech is called a *phrase*.

Examine the groups of words in italics under B:- *which the sun gives; as I write; and I had done the work*.

Each group forms part of a larger sentence and has a subject and a predicate. Such group of words is called a *clause*. In other words, a *phrase* has no *finite verb* while a *clause* has a finite verb.



PARTS OF SPEECH

Words are classified into eight different kinds or groups according to their functions. There are eight different parts of speech:-

THE SAME WORD USED AS DIFFERENT PARTS OF SPEECH:

(1) <i>Noun.</i>	(2) <i>Pronoun.</i>	(3) <i>Adjective.</i>	(4) <i>Verb.</i>
(5) <i>Adverb.</i>	(6) <i>Preposition.</i>	(7) <i>Conjunction.</i>	(8) <i>Interjection.</i>

The *function* or use of a word determines its part of speech. So, many words are used as different part of speech so as to convey different meanings. We shall give below some important words which are used as different parts of speech:-

ALL

Noun: Kirshna lost his **all** on the failure of the bank.
Pronoun: **All** voted in his favour.
Adjective: **All** children are pure at heart.
Adverb: Night came **all** too soon.

AS

Adverb: He is **as** blind as a bat.
Conjunction: Do **as** you are bidden
Relative Pronoun: Read such books **as** you like.

BUT

Adverb: He is **but** (only) young.
Preposition: None **but** (except) the brave deserves the fair.
Relative Pronoun: There is no rose **but** has (which has not) a thorn.

LIKE

- Noun:* He is a man of strong **likes** and dislikes.
- Adjectives:* **Like** poles repel.
- Verb:* Children **like** toys.
- Preposition:* The son is not **like** the father.

NEAR

- Adjective:* Govind is a **near** relation of mine.
- Verb:* The train **near**s the station.
- Adverb:* Come **near**.
- Preposition:* There is a house **near** the sea.

ROUND

- Noun:* The constable is going on his **rounds**.
- Adjective:* King Arthur and his knights sat at a **round** table.
- Verb:* The temple chariot **rounded** the street-corner.
- Adverb:* Send the wine cup **round**.
- Preposition:* The birds flew **round** the tower.

SINCE

- Adverb:* I have not seen him **since**.
- Preposition:* It has been raining **since** yesterday.
- Conjunction:* **Since** you wish it, it shall be done.

THAT

- Demonstrative Pronoun:* **That** is a book.
- Demonstrative Adjective:* Who is **that** boy?
- Relative Pronoun:* All **that** glitters is not gold.
- Conjunction:* You say **that** I am lazy.

WHAT

Interrogative Pronoun: **What** is your name?

Interrogative Adjective: **What** books do you require?

Adverb: **What** with eating and **what** with drinking, they wasted their family fortunes.

Relative Pronouns: **What** cannot be cured must be endured.

**NOUNS AND PRONOUNS****NOUNS (நெளன்ஸ்)**

- (1) Rama, Joseph, Sita, Mary, etc.— **Proper nouns.**
- (2) School, boy, teacher, meadow, etc.— **Common nouns.**
- (3) Flock, army, library, etc.— **Collective nouns.**
- (4) Oil, milk, rice, etc. — **Material nouns.**
- (5) Whiteness, goodness, bravery, etc.— **Abstract nouns.**

PRONOUNS (ப்ரோநெளன்ஸ்)

பெயர்ச் சொல்லிற்குப் பதிலாக பயன்படுத்தப்படும் சொல்லுக்கு
Pronoun / பிரதி பெயர்ச் சொல் எனப்படும்.

- (1) I, you, he, she, etc.— **Personal pronouns.**
- (2) This, that, such, etc.— **Demonstrative pronouns.**
- (3) Which, what, who, etc.— **Interrogative pronouns.**
- (4) Myself, yourself, themselves, etc.— **Reflexive or emphasizing pronouns**
(depending upon their usage.)
- (5) That, which, who, what, but, as, etc.— **Relative pronouns.**
- (6) One, any, some, anyone, etc.— **Pronouns denoting number or amount.**
- (7) Mine, ours, his, theirs, etc.— **Possessive pronouns.**



GENDER (ஜென்டர்)

Gender என்பதற்கு பால் என்று பொருள். இதில் Masculine gender, Feminine Gender, Neuter gender, Common gender என்று நான்கு வகை உண்டு.

Masculine Gender (மாஸ்குலின் ஜென்டர்)

ஆண்பாலை ஆங்கிலத்தில் Masculine Gender என்று கூறுவர்.

Eg: Boy, man, king.

Feminine Gender (பெஃமினைன் ஜென்டர்)

பெண்பாலை ஆங்கிலத்தில் Feminine Gender என்று கூறுவர்.

Eg: Girl, woman, queen.

Neuter Gender (நியூட்டர் ஜென்டர்)

அஃறிணை (உயிரற்ற பொருட்கள்) அனைத்தையும் Neuter Gender என்று குறிப்பிடுவர்.

Eg: Table, chair, pen.

Common Gender (காமன் ஜென்டர்)

எந்த ஒரு பொருளையோ, நபரையோ, வெவ்வேறு பாலாக இருப்பினும், பொதுவான ஒரு வார்த்தையால் அழைப்பது Common Gender ஆகும்.

Eg: Driver, pedestrian.



Among or between?

“*Between* is used in connection with two persons or things: ‘He divided the money *between* his two children.’ *Among* is used for more than two: ‘He divided the money *among* his three children.’ EXCEPTIONS: If more than two are involved in a united situation, *between* is used: ‘*Between* the four of us, we raised a thousand dollars.’ If a comparison or an opposition is involved, *between* is used: ‘There was great rivalry *between* the three colleges. It was difficult to choose *between* them.’”

- (1) **Masculine** – nouns that denote males.
- (2) **Feminine** – nouns that denote females.
- (3) **Neuter** – objects devoid of life, i.e., of neither sex.
- (4) **Common** – nouns that are common to both the sexes.

Example:-

- (1) Boy, actor, prince, priest, etc.— Masculine.
- (2) Girl, actress, princess, etc.— Feminine.
- (3) School, rock, gold, plain, water, etc.— Neuter.
- (4) Pupil, teacher, parent, etc.— Common.

METHODS OF FORMING FEMININE GENDER

	Masculine	Feminine	
(a)	Boy Horse Bull	Girl Mare Cow	} different words.
(b)	Prince Actor	Princess Actress	} by adding ess, sometimes, omitting the vowels of the last syllable.
(c)	He-goat Man-servant Peacock	She-goat Maid-servant Pea-hen	} by placing a word denoting the gender, before or after.



We just heard about the little boy who said to his teacher, “I ain’t got no pencil.”

She corrected him at once: “It’s I don’t have a pencil - You don’t have a pencil - We don’t have pencils - They don’t have any pencil”. “Is that clear?”

“No”, said the bewildered child, “What happened to all the pencils?”

Some nouns, strictly of the neuter gender, are generally looked upon as masculine or feminine.

Sun	Winter	}	Remarkable for strength or greatness regarded as masculine.
Summer	Ocean		
Wind	Death		

Earth	Fame	}	Remarkable for grace and beauty regarded as feminine.
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Ship and *train* are usually regarded as feminine.



NUMBER

A noun that denotes only one person or thing is in the *singular number*; and the one that denotes more than one person or thing is in the *plural number*.

METHODS OF FORMING PLURALS

SINGULAR (சிங்குலர்)

ஒரே ஒரு பொருளைப் பற்றி குறிப்பதை Singular என்று கூறுகிறோம். இதை 'ஒருமை' என்றும் கூறலாம்.

Eg: pen, star.

PLURAL (ப்ளூரல்)

பல பொருட்களைப் பற்றிக் குறிப்பதை Plural என்று கூறுகிறோம். இதை 'பன்மை' என்றும் கூறலாம்.

Eg: pens, stars.

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	
(a)	Boy	Boys	} merely by adding— s;
	Teacher	Teachers	
(b)	Potato	Potatoes	} by adding— es;
	Mosquito	Mosquitoes	

This is the case with most of the nouns that end in *o*, in the singular number.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------|--------|---|-----------------------------|
| (c) | Life | Lives | } | for 'fe' change into 'ves'. |
| | Wolf | Wolves | | |
| | Calf | Calves | | |
| | Chief | Chiefs | | |
- where *f* is preceded by a long vowel only *s* added.
- | | | | | |
|-----|-------|------|---|----------------------------------|
| (d) | Man | Men | } | by a change in the inside vowel. |
| | Louse | lice | | |

FORMATION OF NOUNS FROM ADJECTIVES AND VERBS

Adjectives

Kind
Swift
Quick
Good
Prompt

(By adding *ness* to adjective)

Nouns

Kindness
Swiftness
Quickness
Goodness
Promptness

Nouns formed irregularly

Brief
Stupid
Wise
Prudent
Brave
Strong
Efficient

Brevity
Stupidity
Wisdom
Prudence
Bravery
Strength
Efficiency

Verb

Please
Pray
Speak
Sit
Break
Live

Nouns

Pleasure
Prayer
Speech
Seat
Breach
Life



Amount or Number?

Amount should be used to refer to quantities that cannot be counted or cannot be expressed in terms of a single number.

Example: "Repairing the vehicle took a great amount of work." **Number** is used for quantities that can be counted. **Example:** "A large number of monkeys ate the peanuts."



ADJECTIVES

ADJECTIVE (அட்ஜெக்டிவ்)

ஒரு பெயர் சொல்லின் தன்மையைக் குறிப்பதற்கு பயன்படுத்தும் சொற்களை Adjective என்கிறோம். இதனை தமிழில் 'பெயரடை' என்று கூறுவர்.

Eg: Tom is a good boy.

- Big, small, red, young, etc. – Adjectives of quality-Descriptive adjectives.
- Much, little, one, two, first, second, etc. – Adjectives of quantity or number.
- My book, our books, his books, etc.— Possessive adjectives.
- My own books, his very brothers, etc.— Emphasising adjectives.
- That book, this book, those books, etc. — Demonstrative adjectives.
- Which books, what kind of man?, etc. – Interrogative adjectives.
- This is the man in whose business we are not interested. He will be coming in two days, within which time you may finish your work, etc. – Relative adjectives.
- Each boy will be given a book.
Every boy must bring his Atlas.
Either boy is as good as the other.
Neither view is correct, etc.— Distributed Adjectives.



DEGREES OF COMPARISON

இதில் Adjectives ஐ மூன்று வகையாக பிரிக்கலாம்: Positive (பாஸிடிவ்), Comparative (கம்பாரிடிவ்) and Superlative (சூப்பர்லேடிவ்).

(i) Positive degree

ஒரு விஷயத்தை நேர்மறையாகக் கூறுவது Positive degree எனப்படும்.

Eg: He is a good boy.

(ii) Comparative degree:

எப்பொழுதும் ஒரு பொருளை இன்னொரு பொருளுடன் ஒப்பிட்டுப் பார்க்கும் பொழுது இது பயன்படும். இதுவே Comparative degree எனப்படும்.

Eg: Ram is taller than Bharathi.

(iii) **Superlative degree:**

நிறைய பொருட்கள் இருக்கும் பொழுது ஒரு பொருள் மட்டும் சிறந்தது என்று கூறுவதற்கு Superlative degree என்று பொருள்.

Eg: Ramesh is the best athlete in our school.

He is a good boy – (**Positive** degree).

He is better than his brother – (**Comparative** degree: where two things are compared).

He is the best boy in class. – (**Superlative** degree; where more than two are compared).

METHODS OF FORMING THE COMPARATIVE AND SUPERLATIVE DEGREES

Words of one syllable:-

Big	Bigger	Biggest	}	Adding er and est
Long	Longer	Longest		
Thick	Thicker	Thickest		

Words of two syllables:-

Merry	Merrier	Merriest	}	Note that the final 'y' is changed into 'i' when adding 'er' and 'est'
Happy	Happier	Happiest		
Easy	Easier	Easiest		

Words of more than two syllables:-

Fertile	More fertile	Most fertile	}	by adding more, and most, if the words are long.
Fragile	More fragile	Most fragile		
Peaceful	More peaceful	Most peaceful		
Beautiful	More beautiful	Most beautiful		
Difficult	More difficult	Most difficult		



Among or amongst?

Both are correct and mean the same, but *among* is more common.

Some irregular comparisons:-

Good	Better	Best
Much	More	Most
Little	Less	Least
Bad	Worse	Worst



FORMATION OF ADJECTIVES FROM NOUNS OR VERBS

Nouns or verbs

Beauty
Silk
Air
Earth
Ether
Enemy

Adjectives

Beautiful
Silken
Airy
Earthen
Ethereal
Inimical

VERB (வெர்ப்)

Verb என்றால் வினைச்சொல் என்று பொருள். ஒரு வினையைக் குறிக்கும் சொல் வினைச்சொல் என்று ஆகும்.

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Past</u>	<u>Future</u>
Indefinite	He talks	He talked	He will talk
Continuous	He is talking	He was talking	He will be talking
Perfect	He has talked	He had talked	He would have talked
Perfect continuous	He has been talking	He had been talking	He would have been talking



A young lady asked by an annoying guest at a party if she had ever had her ears pierced, “No, but I have often had them bored.”



MOOD

The word *Mood* is really another form of the word *mode* which means way or *manner*. The mood of a verb is the form which shows in *what manner* the action is expressed by the verb.

Besides the *infinitive* mood, which will be treated separately, there are three moods in English, the *Indicative*, the *Imperative*, and the *Subjunctive*.

(1) The Indicative mood:

- (a) He will go to England
- (b) Rama is not working hard.

The Indicative mood is used to state facts or to ask questions.

(2) The Imperative mood:

- (a) Come here.
- (b) Bring the book here, please.

The Imperative mood expresses commands or requests.

(3) The Subjunctive mood:

- (a) God save us all.
- (b) Heaven grant that we be free.

In the above sentences, the verbs express a *wish* or *desire*.

- (i) If I were you, I would not do so.
- (ii) If to-day were yesterday, things would be different.

In the above sentences, the verbs express conditions either impossible of fulfilment or of very remote possibility.

- (i) He acted as if he *were* mad.
- (ii) If you went into the room, you would find an excellent collection of books.

The above verbs express *conditions in general or suppositions*.

- (i) I desire that all papers be placed on the table.
- (ii) Resolved that the President be authorized to communicate these views to the Cabinet.

The above verbs express desires or proposals.

In all these cases, the verb is in the *Subjunctive* mood.



THE INFINITIVE

Infinitive (இன்ஃபினிடீவ்)

To + verb is an infinitive.

Eg: To + meet.

- (a) He likes to read (object of the verb *likes*)
- (b) To come out victorious seemed impossible (subject to the verb *seemed*)
- (c) He seems to be a good man. (compliment of the verb *seems*.)

In the above cases, the Infinitive is either Adverbial or Adjectival. Such Infinitives are some times known as *gerundial or qualifying infinitives*.

- (a) He may go.
- (b) You must come.
- (c) I bid him to do so.
- (d) I made him read.
- (e) I let him go.
- (f) They dare not meet me.

The verbs italicized, are in the infinitive mood without the word 'to' and are the objects of the preceding verbs.



PARTICIPLES AND GERUNDS

GERUND (ஜெரன்ட்)

Gerund இதை நாம் Verbal noun என்று கூறலாம். Verb + ing வந்தால் அதை gerund என்போம். இதை நாம் வினையால் அணையும் பெயர் என்று கூறலாம்.

Eg: write + ing = writing.
walk + ing = walking.

- (a) *Going* along a road, I saw a juggler.
- (b) *Seeing* the poor beggar, he took pity on him.

The words italicized are instances of present participles, because they have the force of verbs as well as of adjectives.

- (a) The robber was caught yesterday.
- (b) Have you seen an aeroplane?

Here we have instance of past participles. In fact, to form the perfect tense of the passive voice of a verb, we invariably use a past participle.

- (a) *Reading* a book is pleasant – (subject of is)
 - (b) The *reading* of a book is pleasant – (subject of is).
 - (c) Stop *reading* that book – (Object of the verb 'stop').
- The italicized words partake of the nature of nouns and of verbs.
These are called gerunds or verbal nouns.



AUXILIARY AND DEFECTIVE VERBS

(ஆக்ஸிலியரி வெர்ப்ஸ்)

Auxiliary Verb என்பது முதன்மை வினைக்கு துணையாக இருக்கும். இதை helping verb என்றும் கூறலாம். Auxiliary verbஐ கேள்வி மற்றும் எதிர்மறை வாக்கியங்களைத் தவிர மற்ற வாக்கியங்களுடன் பயன்படுத்தலாம். Auxiliary verb என்பதை துணை வினைச் சொற்கள் என்று கூறலாம்.

Eg: can, could,
may, might
shall, should, etc.

Auxiliary verbs are helping verbs. Be, have, will, shall and do are the more important of auxiliary verbs. They help us to form tense and moods of verbs and interrogative and negative sentences.

Defective verbs are verbs which lack certain forms. Shall, will, can, may, dare, need, must and ought are some of the defective verbs. When these are used in their full meaning, the infinitive forms of other verbs, without the word 'to' (except in the case of ought) occur as objects.

- (a) I *will* go.
- (b) You *shall* pay a sum.
- (c) You *can* read a book.
- (d) You *may* go home, if you like.
- (e) I *dare* not call him a fool.

- (f) You *need* not learn it.
 (g) You *must* not say so.
 (h) You *ought* to think twice before you say so.



CONJUNCTION (கன்ஜங்ஷன்)

இரண்டு வாக்கியங்களையோ, சொற்களையோ இணைக்கும் சொல்லிற்கு conjunction என்று பெயர்.

Eg: Ram and Raja.

இங்கு and என்பது கன்ஜங்ஷன்.

CONJUGATION (கான்ஜுகேஷன்)

To conjugate a verb generally means to give its chief parts—present, past and participle. In a wider sense, the terms are used to mark all the changes and combinations employed to indicate voice, mood, tense, number and person.

(a) Conjugation of strong verbs:-

- (1) Past tense formed by a change of vowel inside.
- (2) Past participle formed by adding en, n, or ne, except in some cases where the final en, or ne is lost, e.g., fling, flung.

Examples:-

	Present	Past	Past Participle
(1)	Arise	Arose	Arisen
(2)	Bid	Bade	Bidden or bid
(3)	Fly	Flew	Flown

(b) Conjugation of weak verbs:-

There may or may not be any change in the vowel.

Examples:-

	Present	Past	Past Participle
(1)	Live	Lived	Lived
(2)	Clothe	Clothed	Clothed
(3)	Sleep	Slept	Slept

(c) **Mixed verbs:-** (having the characteristics of both the strong and weak verbs):-

(1)	Hang	{ Hung Hanged	Hung Hanged
(2)	Saw	Sawed	Sawn
(3)	Show	Showed	Shown
(4)	Thrive	Thrived Throve	Thrived Thriven



FORMATION OF VERBS

VERB (வெர்ப்)

Verb என்றால் வினைச்சொல் என்று பொருள். ஒரு வினையைக் குறிக்கும் சொல் வினைச்சொல் ஆகும்.

The formation of verbs may be illustrated by the following examples:-

- (1) By changing the vowel inside:
 - blood (n) - bleed (v)
 - food - feed
 - tale - tell
 - sale - sell
- (2) By changing the vowel-sound and adding 'e' at the end:
 - bath - bathe
 - breath - breathe
 - glass - glaze
- (3) By changing the vowel inside adjectives:
 - hot - heat
 - full - fill

ADVERBS

ஒரு செயலையோ அல்லது ஒரு வினையையோ சிறப்பிக்கும் சொல் என்று பொருள்படும். Adverbஐ ஒரு வினைச்சொல்லை மேற்கொண்டு விவரித்து கூறும் சொல் என்று கூறலாம். Adverbக்கு தமிழில் வினை உரிச்சொல் என்று பொருள்.

Eg: Tom is an excellent singer.

We know already that adverbs modify verbs, adjectives and other adverbs and in fact, any part of speech except a noun or a pronoun.

- (a) He writes well. (modifying a *verb*)
- (b) He writes very well. (modifying an *adverb*)
- (c) He writes very good books. (modifying an *adjective*)
- (d) He came long before the appointed time. (modifying a *preposition*)
- (e) I don't know exactly how he did it. (modifying the *conjunction* how)
- (f) He refused to be one of us simply because he differed in a single detail. (modifying the *conjunction* because)

COMPARISON OF ADVERBS

Adverbs are compared more or less in the manner of adjectives. The following are examples:-

- (1) He did it well, better than his brother; best of all.
- (2) He planned wisely; more wisely than his predecessor; most wisely.
- (3) He came near; nearer; nearest.
- (4) He went far; farther; farthest.

FORMATION OF ADVERBS

1. Some adverbs have the same form as adjectives.

- E.g.
- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------------|----------|
| (a) | This is a long piece of cloth. | (adj.) |
| | He stayed here long . | (adverb) |
| (b) | He came here at an early hour. | (adj.) |
| | You must start very early . | (adverb) |
| (c) | Rama is his only son. | (adj.) |
| | We can only do our best. | (adverb) |

2. Many adverbs are formed by adding *ly* to adjectives (adj.)

- E.g.
- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------|----------|
| (a) | He is a wise man. | (adj.) |
| | He acted wisely . | (adverb) |
| (b) | He is quietly. | (adj.) |
| | He did it quietly . | (adverb) |
| (c) | This is a rough piece of cloth. | (adj.) |
| | He talked very roughly . | (adverb) |

3. Some adverbs are formed from nouns:

to-day, yesterday, homeward, indeed, meantime, sometime, always, headlong, life long, etc.

4. Some adverbs are formed from Participles:

He did it very **devotedly**.
He spoke **soothingly**.



VERBS

Incorrect

1. He plays good.
2. He asked that what are you doing?
3. He asked why he did not read?
4. He told to Rama to come in evening.
5. When I went there, I found the man was disappeared.
6. He said that he saw him last year.
7. I could not see him because he went out already.
8. This was going on since a long time.
9. If I did this, I shall be wrong.
10. When I shall go to Madras, I shall see him.
11. I have left smoking.
12. I left playing cards.
13. I take your leave.
14. He knows to swim.
15. Later on he knew his mistake.
16. I said to him to go.
17. He is troubling me.
18. My leg is paining.
19. My tooth is paining.

Correct

- He plays well.
- He asked me what I was doing.
- He asked me why he did not read.
- He asked Rama to come in the evening.
- When I went there, I found the man had disappeared.
- He said that he had seen him last year.
- I could not see him because had already gone out.
- This has been going on for a long time.
- If I do this, I shall be wrong.
- When I go to Madras, I shall see him.
- I have given up smoking.
- I stopped playing cards.
- I take leave of you.
- He knows how to swim or knows swimming.
- Later on he realised his mistake.
- I asked him to go.
- He is giving me trouble.
- I have pain in my leg.
- My tooth is aching.