Big Four Word Classes

The four word classes every sentence is built from. Each has its own colour - the same colours on every sheet.

Noun



My job: I name a person, place, thing or idea.

🔍 **Ask:** Can I put "the" or "a" in front of it?

teacher · beach · kite · London · friend · happiness

The **teacher** read a **story.**

Verb



My job: I tell you what someone does or is. I show when: past or present.

🔍 **Ask:** Can I put "I" or "they" in front of it?

run / ran · play / played · is / was · sing / sang

We **played** outside yesterday.

Adjective



My job: I describe a noun. I can make a noun phrase.

🔍 **Ask:** What is the noun like?

shiny · gigantic · gloomy · brave · sticky · fluffy

a **fluffy** **white** kitten

Adverb



My job: I tell you how, when or where something happens. Lots of us end in -ly.

🔍 **Ask:** How? When? Where?

quickly · slowly · loudly · soon · later · outside

The owl hooted **softly.**

Top tip: a word's class depends on its **job**. "Fast" is an **adjective** in "a fast car" but an **adverb** in "she ran fast".

Big Four Word Classes

All of them in one sentence

The	brave	knight	rode	bravely	to	the	dark	castle.
	ADJECTIVE	NOUN	VERB	ADVERB			ADJECTIVE	NOUN

Four kinds of sentence

Type	Its job	Example
Statement	tells you something.	The bus is late.
Question	asks something?	Is the bus late?
Command	tells you to do something.	Hurry up and get on the bus.
Exclamation	starts with **What** or **How**!	What a long wait that was!

Past or present?

Present (now)	Past (already happened)	
I **play**	I **played**	most verbs: add **-ed**
I **am playing**	I **was playing**	still going on
I **run**	I **ran**	some verbs change
she **is**	she **was**	

Quick sort: which one is it?

puppy · shouted · sparkly · gently · garden · hide · muddy · later

Noun	Verb	Adjective	Adverb

Answers: noun - puppy, garden verb - shouted, hide adjective - sparkly, muddy adverb - gently, later