Index

Page numbers for tables are in **boldface**. Words or word fragments discussed as topics are in *italic*.

absolute phases, 251
abstract nouns, 25
accents (pronunciation), 18–19
accusative case, 31
acronyms, 35
active voice, 7
adjective phrases (AP)
  as complements of verbs, 148, 246
  linking verbs and, 160
  as modifiers of nouns, 56–57, 248
  movable modifiers, 250
  postnominal, 148
  in predicate position, 160–161
  prenominal and postnominal, 157–159
  as subjective complement, 159–163
  tensed clause, complements of, 221–222
adjectives
  classes of, 149
  comparative and superlative, 152–154
  complementary, 156
  complements of, 247
  degree words modifying, 58, 147, 154
  degree word test, 155–156
  derivational affixation, 151, **151**
  eponymous, 151
  gradable, 156
  inflectional affixation, 152–154
  as lexical category, 56, 147
  modifiers of, 154–156
  as modifiers of nouns, 55–57, 147
  morphology, 151–154
  order of, 150
  participial, 152
  position of, 148
  prepositional phrase complements, 197
  seem test for, 162–163
  semantics, 16, 148–151
  syntax, 154–164
adverb phrases (AdvP)
  as complements, 181, 246
  degree words modifying, 176–177, 180
  diagramming of, 179–181
  in middle voice, 181
  as modifiers, 178–181, 245
  adjectives, 155, 180, 249
  noun phrases, 171–172, 180–181
  prepositional phrases, 180–181
  verbs, 171–172
  positions of, 178–181
  transportable, 178, 245
adverbs, 171–186
  conjunctive, 174
  as degree words, 154–155, 180
adverbs (cont.)
flat, 174–175
forms of, 174
manner, 171
as modifiers, 173, 176–177, 180
morphology, 173–176
negative, 173
as open class, 174
semantics, 172–173
syntax, 176–181
affixation, 13–14, 30, 69
see also derivational affixation;
inflectional affixation
African American English, 98–99, 100
agreement, subject–verb, 45–46, 72
Aickin, Joseph, 9
ambiguity, 16–17
analytic languages, 14
apostrophe, use of, 32–33
appositive noun phrase, 265
arguments, of verbs, 17, 103
Arte of English Poesie,
The (Puttenham), 8
articles, definite vs. indefinite, 43
aspect, 96–100
future perfect, 97
future progressive, 96
grammatical, 96
habitual, 99–100
markers in African American
English, 98–99
perfect, 97
perfect progressive, 97–99
progressive, 96–97
attributive noun modifiers, 32–33
auxiliary verbs, 86–90
be and have as, 87–90
do as, 121–125
as helping verbs, 68, 86
subject–auxiliary inversion, 117–121
tensed, in separate position, 116–117
backformation, 35
bare infinitives, 71–72, 223–224
be (verb)
auxiliary, 88, 89–90, 138–139
forms of, 81, 89
in habitual aspect, 99–100
as main verb, 89–90, 137–141
in other languages, 80
suppletion and, 79, 79–80
because, prohibition against, 219–220
Beowulf, 3
blending, 35
bring, forms of, 81
Canterbury Tales (Chaucer), 3
capitalization, 25, 26
Caxton, William, 8
Chaucer, Geoffrey, 3, 8
Chomsky, Noam, 15, 20
Churchill, Winston, 203
clauses (CL), 113–145
complementizers, 232–233
as complement of preposition, 192
coordinate, 211–213
definition, 114, 217
as movable modifiers, 251
negation, 132–137
prepositional phrases
modifying, 194–195
subject–auxiliary inversion, 117–121
as subjects, 125–129, 233–236
tag question formation, 129–132
TENSE position in, 114–117
types of, see subordinate clauses
see also subordinate clauses
clipping, 35, 151
coining, 35, 151
collective nouns, 28–29, 51
common nouns, 25–27
comparative affix, 152
complementary adjectives, 156
complementizers, 232–233
complements and complementation
adjective phrases as, 148
adverb phrases as, 181
bare infinitival clauses as, 223–224
direct object, 101
indirect object, 197–199
object of preposition, 197–199
participial clauses as, 227–229
prepositional phrases as, 195–197
of prepositions, 191–193
review of, 244–248
subjective, 159–163
tensed clause as, 222
to-infinitival, 224–227
of verbs, 12, 148, 245
wh-clause, 229–230
compounding
adjectives, 151
adverbs, 174
compound words vs. noun modifiers of nouns, 58–59
in word formation, 35
concrete nouns, 25
conjunctive adverbs, 174, 212
constituents (phrase), 11–12
contractions, 19, 94
conversion, in word formation, 35
coordination, 211–213
count nouns
  collective nouns as, 28–29
  mass nouns vs., 16, 27–28
  quantifiers and, 28

definite articles, 43
defense of the Epilogue (Dryden), 9
Defoe, Daniel, 9
degree words (DEG)
  adverbs as, 154–155
  as closed class, 176
  as modifiers
    adjectives, 56, 154, 249
    adverbs, 176–177, 249
    prepositions, 161, 192–193
degree word test, 155–156
demonstratives, 43–44
dependent clauses, see subordinate clauses
derivational affixation
  about, 13, 13, 14
  adjectives, 151, 151
  adverbs, 173–175
  nouns, 33–34, 34
  verbs, 69, 69
descriptive grammar, 6–8
determiners (D)
  definite vs. indefinite, 43
  demonstratives, 43–44
  in noun phrases, 42–47
  possessive, 44, 44
diagrams, tree, 12
dialects, English, 2, 8, 29, 190
dictionaries, 8–9
Dictionary of the English Language, A (Johnson), 8–9
direct object
  passive movement as test for, 162
  subject complements vs., 161–162
  as syntactic subject in passive, 104
  transitive verbs and, 101–102
ditransitive verbs, 198
do (verb)
  auxiliary (pleonastic), 121–125, 130–132
  do-insertion, 123–125
  as emphatic, 123
  inversion in earlier English, 122
  as main verb, 123
double negatives, 4
drink, forms of, 81
Dryden, John, 9
durative aspect, 96

embedded clause, see subordinate clauses
English Grammar, The (Aickin), 9
English language
  accents, 18–19
  African American, aspectual markers in, 98–99, 100
  airline English, 9–10, 124
  change and variation in, 2–4, 77–79, 91, 122, 190
  dialects, 2, 8, 29, 190
  Early Modern English, 3–4
  Latin vocabulary in, 8
  Middle English, 3
  Old English, 2–3
  Standard English, 8, 9–10
  see also grammar
eponyms, 35, 151
extraposition, 235–236

flat adverbs, 174–175
focus adverbs, 173
fragments, sentence, 218–219
functional categories, syntactic, 11, 11, 14
future perfect aspect, 97
future progressive aspect, 96
future tense, modals and, 94
generalizations, 99
generic nouns, 29–30, 99
generic sentences, 99
genitive case, 30, 31
see also possessives
gonna (going to), 94
Gowers, Ernest, 203
gradable adjectives, 156
grammar
  components of, 10–19
  descriptive, 6–8
dictionaries standardizing, 8–9
good vs. bad, 4–5
morphology, 13–14, 15
Index

grammar (cont.)
phonetics and phonology, 18–19
prescriptive, 5–6, 8–10
semantics, 15–18
social acceptance and, 9–10
syntax, 10
grammatical, defined, 6
Grammatica Linguae Anglicanae (Wallis), 91
grammatical tense, 95
Green, Lisa, 98
habitual aspect, 99–100
Hamlet (Shakespeare), 3–4
have
as auxiliary, 87, 87, 89–90
forms of, 81
as main verb, 87–88, 88
head (main word), 11
headless relative clauses, 264–265
helping verbs, see auxiliary verbs
hierarchical structure, 12
indefinite articles, 43
independent clauses
coordination, 211–213
definition, 115, 210, 216
sentences vs., 215–216
subordination, 214–215
tense required for, 73–74, 116
Indirect Object Movement, 197–199
indirect objects, 197–200
indirect speech, 221
infinitival clauses
bare infinitival clause, 223–224
as movable modifiers, 251
as relative clauses, 259–261
to-infinitival complements, 224–227
infinitives, 71–72
infixed, 13
inflectional affixation
about, 13–14, 14
adjectives, 152–154
adverbs, 175–176
nouns, 30–33
plurals, 30–31
possessives, 31–32
variations by language, 14, 70–71
verbs, 69–79
interrogative words and phrases, 229–232, 257
intransitive verbs, 101, 115
invariant tags, 133
irregular plurals, 30–31
irregular verbs, 75
Johnson, Samuel, 8–9
language, scientific study of, 19–20
Latin, 8
lexical categories, 11, 11, 14
lexicalization, 35
like, quotative, 221
linking verbs, 160
logical subject, 104
manner adverbs, 171
mass nouns
count vs., 27–28
determiners with, 43
quantifiers and, 28
McWhorter, John, 9–10
measure noun phrases, 51
middle voice, 181
modals, 90–95
as closed class, 68, 90
future tense and, 94
meaning and, 90–92
morphology and tense, 92–94
semi-modals, 93–94
tense of, 92–93
modifiers and modification
categories, 182
function, 245
movable, 250–255
review of, 244–245, 248–249
see also modifiers under specific terms
morphemes, 13, 74, 137
morphology
adjectives, 151–154
adverbs, 173–176
auxiliary verbs, 86–90
main verbs, 68–80
modals, 92–94
nouns, 30–35
prepositions, 190–191
suffixation and prefixation, 13–14
suppletion, 79–80
vowel mutations, past tense verbs, 74
word formation processes, 15, 35
see also derivational affixation; inflectional affixation
movable modifiers, 250–255
adjective phrases as, 250
clauses as, 251, 254
diagramming, 251–254
noun phrases as, 250
prepositional phrases as, 250
punctuation and, 254–255
relative clauses vs., 263–264
verb phrases as, 251

nationality adjectives, 156
negative clause, 132–137
nominalization, 33
nominative case, 31
non-agentive subjects, 126–127
not (adverb), 132–137
noun phrases (NP), 41–65
adverbs modifying, 171–172
agreement and, 45–46
appositive, 265
categories preceding nouns, 42–50
collective, 51
as complements of prepositions, 191, 196
as complements of verbs, 245–246
constituents, 11–12, 49–50
coordination, 211
determiners in, 42–47
direct objects vs. subjective complements, 161–162
indirect object complements, 197
measure, 51
movable modifiers, 250
numerals, 47–48
partitive, 50–51
phrase structure rule, 42
possessive, 31, 52–55
pronoun substitution test for, 53–55
quantifiers in, 48–49
relative clauses in, 228–229, 255–257
single words as, 46–47
as subject, 12, 53–54
as subjective complements, 160–161
tensed clause complements of, 222
nouns, 23–39
abstract and concrete, 25
collective, 28–29
common and proper, 25–27
count and mass, 16, 27–28
determiners preceding, 42–47
generic, 29–30
as modifiers of, 55–60, 248–249
morphology, 30–35
semantic features, 24–30
null subject languages, 24, 236
numerals (NUM), 47–48

Oxford English Dictionary, 9, 10
parallelism, in coordination, 211–212
participial adjectives, 152
participial clauses, 227–229, 251
participial phrases, 264
participles, 76–79, 227–229
particles, 200–204
Particle Shift, 201
question, in non-English languages, 137
semantics, 200–201
syntax, 201–203
verb–particle combination, 200
partitive noun phrases, 50–51
parts of speech (syntactic categories), 2, 10–11, 11
passive voice, 103–107
passive verb string, 105–106
syntax/semantics interaction in, 104
test for direct object, 162
in writing, 106–107
past participle, 76, 77
past perfect aspect, 97
past progressive aspect, 96
past tense verbs, 74–76
perfect aspect, 97
perfect progressive aspect, 97–99
phonetics and phonology, 18–19
phrasal verbs, 200
phrases, constituents of, 11–12
see also specific phrase types, e.g., noun phrases (NP)
phrase structure trees (tree diagrams), 12
Plain Words (Gowers), 203
pleonastic subjects, 127–129, 235–236
plurals and pluralization, 28–31
possessives
noun phrases, 32, 52–55
possessive affixes vs. word order and prepositions, 31–32
possessors, 52
pronouns vs. determiners, 44, 44
possibility, adverbs expressing, 172
postnominal position, 148
predicate, 12, 114
predicate adjectives, 160–161
prefixes and prefixation, 13, 69
prenominal position, 55, 148, 164
prepositional phrases (PP)
adverb phrases modifying, 180
ambiguity of, 16
as complements, 195–197, 246
prepositional phrases (PP) (cont.)
degree words modifying, 161, 249
grammatical functions, 193–199
indirect object in, 197–199
as modifiers of nouns, 194, 248
as movable modifiers, 250
noun phrase as complement of, 191
possessives and, 32
as subjective complement, 160–161, 196, 246
syntax, 191–200
tensed clause complements of, 222
prepositions
as closed class, 187
complements of, 191–193, 247–248
function of, 188–189, 190
indirect object complements of, 197–199
morphology, 190–191
objects of, 191–192
replacing case endings, 190
semantics, 188–190
stranded, 203
subordinating, 192, 247–248
syntax, 191–200
variation by dialect, 190
see also particles
prescriptive grammar, 5–6, 8–10
present participle, 77
present perfect aspect, 97
present progressive aspect, 96
present tense verbs, 72–74
progressive aspect, 96–97
pronouns
indefinite, 128
personal and possessive, 54
possessive, vs. determiners, 44, 44
relative, 256, 257
substitution, 53–55, 256
pronunciation (accents), 18–19
proper nouns, 25–27, 28
proximity, 43–44
punctuation, 4, 254–255
Puttenham, George, 8
quantifiers (Q)
count and mass nouns, 28
in noun phrase, 48–49
number agreement, 45–46
question particles, 137
quotatives and quoted material, 221
recursion, 214–215
reduced relative clauses, 228, 260–261
referents, noun, 26
relative clauses
diagramming, 257
headless, 264–265
infinitival, 259–261
as modifiers of nouns, 148–149, 255–257
movable modifiers vs., 263–264
reduced, 228, 260–261
restrictive vs. nonrestrictive, 260–264
tensed, 256–257
which vs. that, 263
wh-movement, 257–259
relative pronouns, 256, 257, 262–263
Salish language, nouns in, 24–25
see, forms of, 81
semantics, 15–18
adjectives, 16, 148–151
adverbs, 172–173
ambiguity, 16–17
nouns, 16
particles, 200–201
quantification, 48–49
thematic roles and, 17–18
verbs, 16–18
semantic tense, context and, 95
semi-modals, 93–94
sense verbs, 160
sentence
fragments, 218–219
independent clause vs., 215–216
Shakespeare, William, 3–4, 8
shall (verb), 91
speaker attitude, adverbs expressing, 172
spelling rules, 4, 8
stranded prepositions, 203
subject–auxiliary inversion
identifying syntactic subject, 125–129
tensed auxiliary in separate position,
117–121
yes/no questions with auxiliary do, 121–125
subjective complements
adjective phrases, 159–163
direct objects vs., 161–162
noun phrases, 160–161
parallelism violations, 211–212
prepositional phrases, 160–161, 196, 245
subjects
as agents, 18
of clause, 114
clauses as, 233–236
logical (syntactic) subject, 104
non-agentive, 126–127
noun phrases as, 12, 53–54
null subject languages, 129
pleonastic, 127–129
subject–auxiliary inversion identifying, 125–129
thematic roles, 18
subordinate clauses
definition, 214
infinitival, see infinitival clauses
participial, 227–229
tensed, 217–218, 220–222
to-infinitival, 224–227
types of, 216–218
wh-clause complements, 229–230
subordinating prepositions, 192, 247–248
subordination, 214–215
suffixes and suffixation
as affixes, 13
-ass, 153–154
derivational, 33–34, 34
-ly, in Germanic languages, 178
verbs, 69
superlative affix, 152
suppletion, 79–80
Swift, Jonathan, 9
syntactic categories (parts of speech),
2, 10–11, 11
syntactic subject, 104
syntax, 10–13
see also grammar
synthetic languages, 14
tag question formation, 129–132
tense
grammatical vs. semantic, 95
independent clause requiring, 73–74, 116
modal morphology and, 92–94
past tense verbs, 74–76
present tense verbs, 72–74
realization of, 136
see also TNS and TENSE position
that, usage rule, 263
thematic roles, 17–18, 102–103
time, adverbs expressing, 172
TNS and TENSE position
auxiliary do and, 121–125
features of, 116–117
negative clauses and, 132–137
rules summary, 137
subject–auxiliary inversion and, 117–121
subordinate clauses and, 217–218
tag question formation and, 129–132
to-infinitival clause complements, 224–227
transitive verbs, 101, 115
transportable phrases, 178
tree diagrams, 12
ungrammatical, defined, 6
verb phrases (VP), 85–112
arguments in, 103
aspect, 96–100
auxiliaries and modals, 94–95
auxiliary have and be, 89–90
auxiliary verbs, 86–90
as complement of preposition, 192
as complements, 246–247
constituents, 11–12
direct objects and transitivity, 101–103
grammatical vs. semantic tense, 95
main verb, 68
as movable modifiers, 251
in passive voice, 103–107
as predicate, 12
thematic roles, 102–103
see also clauses (CL); verb strings
verbs, 67–83
arguments of, 17
auxiliary, 68, 86–90
clause complements of, 247
ditransitive, 198
forms of, 69–70
infinitives, 71–72
intransitive, 101, 115
irregular, 75
main verb, 68–80, 101
modals, 68, 90–95
as modifiers of nouns, 59–60
participles, 76–79
past tense, 74–76
present tense, 72–74
raising to TNS, 138–141
suffixes and prefixes, 69
suppletion, 79–80
transitive, 101, 115
verb–particle combination, 200
see also verb strings
verb strings
bare infinitive in, 72
main verb in, 68
passive, 105–106
present and past participles in, 76–79
tensed auxiliary in, 116, 120
verb strings (cont.)
  with auxiliaries and modals, 94–98
  with auxiliary do+infinitive, 116, 120–123
  with auxiliary have and be, 89–90
vocabulary rules, 4
voice, 100–107
  active, 7
  definition, 103
  direct objects and transitivity, 101–103
  middle, 181
  see also passive voice
voicing assimilation, 19
vowel mutations, 74–75

walk (verb), 81
Wallis, John, 91
Webster’s American Dictionary of the English Language, 9
wh-clause complements, 229–230
which, usage rule, 263
wh-movement, 230–232, 257–259
whom (pronoun), 258–259
will (verb), 91
word formation processes, 15, 35
word structure, see morphology
writing, 4, 106–107