

# 1.2.3 - EXERCISES

## EXERCISE 1

Find at least six (different) function words in the following text excerpt. Label each word's syntactic category. Also, list and label at least six different content words. What kind of information is lost when function words are omitted?

"Bilbo was very rich and very peculiar and has been the wonder of the Shire for sixty years, ever since his remarkable disappearance and unexpected return. The riches he had brought back from his travels had now become a local legend, and it was popularly believed, whatever the old folk might say, that the Hill at Bag End was full of tunnels stuffed with treasure."

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*The Fellowship of the Ring by J.R.R. Tolkien*



## EXERCISE 2

Find an example of a text that omits function words (the classified advertising section of any newspaper is a good place to look, and newspaper and magazine headlines provide good examples). Identify the syntactic category of each content word in your example, and list the function words that are missing. What effect does the lack of function words have on your understanding of the piece overall?