So why parts of speech? It sounds rather old fashioned, doesn’t it? Well, we need to get the building blocks in place, so that later on we can confidently use the terms knowing what they mean. I can’t talk about dangling participles if we’re not really sure what a verb is. So that’s where we start; we start with nouns and verbs, which you actually may remember from school. Then we’ll move on to pronouns, adjectives and adverbs, perhaps getting slightly hazier at this point. And usually when I ask people, they don’t have a clue what prepositions and conjunctions are. Most of us have forgotten it (if we ever knew it).