**Noun Phrases**

Worksheet Video: <https://youtu.be/zQrrgcifXJo>

Two types of noun phrase:

* **Pre-modifying words:**

*articles, quantifiers*, *adjectives and noun + noun.*

* **Post-modifying words:**

*prepositional phrases and noun clauses.*

**Pre-modifying words**

**Articles** in English are a / an / the

A or an are generally used to introduce a new idea or refer to an indefinite example and the is used to refer to a definite thing, either when there is only one in existence or the reader / listener know that specific thing.

Example: *A new policy is being created by the government to improve air pollution.*

**Quantifiers** describe nouns in terms of quantity.

1. The most inclusive: all, both, every, each.

2. Large and small quantities: many, much, some, few, little.

3. Negative forms: any, either, neither, none.

**Adjectives**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Compound adjectives | Adverb + adjective combinations  |
| 1. Adjective + past/present participle *Ready-made / best selling* | 1. Adverb with past participle *Highly educated / well-planned* |
| 2. Adjective + noun*Free market / hi-tech* | 2. Adverb + adjective*Highly sensitive / extensively researched* |

**Noun + Noun**

A noun can pre-modify another noun by acting like an adjective.

*Examples:* *Train timetable*

**Post-modifying words**

**Prepositional phrases** are phrases that begin with a preposition; for, in or of…

*Examples:* *A sharp rise in inflation*

**Nouns clauses** are a single complex idea controlling the main verb. There are many comment nouns (assumption, belief, claim, conclusion, hypothesis, probability, proposition, statement, etc..) that are often proceeded by a noun clause.

Example: *Most economic theories are based on the assumption that people tend to act rationally.*

**Reference:** The above noun phrase theory was adapted from

Paterson, K. and Wedge, R., 2014. Oxford grammar for EAP. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp.28-37.

**Noun Phrases Exercise**

**1. Quantifiers**

All, both, every, many, much, some, few, little, any, either, neither, none, each

Choose the correct quantifier:

**i.** Each / any / every of the buildings is surrounded by high security fencing.

**ii.** Every / both / much of the proposed bills were refused by the public.

**2. Adjective + Nouns**

Identify the adjective + noun form:

Example: An experiment done on a small scale = *a small-scale experiment*

**i.** Unemployment over a long term can affect a person’s mental health.

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**ii.** An element of pay that is led by performance can be appropriate in some professions.

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**3. Noun + Noun**

Identify the noun+ noun form:

Example: Gas that comes from Shale = *Shale gas*

**i.** Systems that used for defence: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**ii.** A manager who is in charge of accounts: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Noun + Preposition Phrases**

Put in the correct preposition:

Example: Public protests can sometimes lead to a **change in** the law.

**i.** A majority of those taking part expressed a **preference \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** the conservative electoral system.

**ii.** Sustainable development should form the **basis\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** a corporate vision of the future.

**5. Noun + Noun Clauses**

+ noun clause

Example: The fact [noun] that *the enquiry raises a number of serious issues* should surprise no one.

Put in the underlined words into the correct order:

**I.** Wilson (2019) has *hypothesis Mars criticized that**the* is able to sustain life.

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All answers in video: <https://youtu.be/zQrrgcifXJo>

Want more exercises go here: [www.academic-englishuk.com/noun-phrases](http://www.academic-englishuk.com/noun-phrases)