

Noun Phrase \ Determiners:

NP: it is that phrase that contains the noun as its head. It can be occupied by a pro-form like, he, him, that, mine, wh-Q ...etc. it can take many functions like: S, O, C and Adv. **Ex:** The man who put that box was a stranger. He did that every day. He was not the university teacher as you thought.

The noun and its phrase can be classified according to many criteria, like:

- Reference: proper n (Ali, Iraq, Asia....) . and common n (room, chair, water...).
- Tangibility: abstract n.(ex: happiness) and concrete n. (air, water)
- Countability: countable n (loaf, table). and uncountable n (bread, fish, air).
- Number: singular n (child, box). and plural (children, boxes).
- Gender: masculine n. (male like: man, father, king, uncle, bachelor, actor, bridegroom, duke. Emperor, god, hero, steward, host, waiter, widower, usher), feminine n. (female like: woman, aunt, queen, actress stewardess, spinster, lioness, bride, duchess, empress, goddess, heroine, waitress, widow, usherette, hostess), or neutral n (baby).

Also the NP can have many words inside it such as determiners and modifiers (adjectives or adverbs).

DETERMINERS are those words whose main role is to co-occur with a noun in its phrase to identify or determine who or what a noun refers to. They all occur before nouns in noun phrases. They are of three basic classes in an NP and all placed before the N:

(Pre det- central det.- post det.)+ (N.)= NP

1- Central determiners occur before the noun they determine. They are like:

- articles (the, a, an)ex: a man, the lady..etc.
- possessive adjective. (my, your, her, his, our...) ex: their rooms, my room,..etc.
- relative pron. (whose, which)ex: whose car, which man...etc.
- wh-det. (whoever, whichever, whatever...etc)ex: whatever idea,
- wh-Q (what man?)
- negative det. (no, neither)ex: no idea, neither Ahmad...etc.
- some, ex: some cakes, some boys, some day (to mean a certain day)...etc.
- enough, ex: enough time, enough size...etc.
- demonstrative det. (this, those...etc) ex: that boy, these chairs...etc.
- universal (every, each) ex: every year, each team...etc.

2- Pre determiner occurs before the central determiner (if any). They are like:

- All, both, half, ex: half my possessions, both my eyes. (of) can occur in these ones, like: half of my possessions, both of my eyes.

- Multipliers like: double, twice, three times...etc. ex: double their salaries, twice this amount...etc.
- The fractions: ex: third the time –(or third of the time).

3- **Post determiners:** they occur after the central determiner before the noun. They are like:

- Cardinal number: 0, one, two,...etc. ex: the two plans.
- Ordinal numerals: first, second,...etc, further, last, next, past, another, other, additional...etc. ex: the first two plans.
- Quantifiers: such as: many much, plenty (of), a lot of, lots of, a good deal of, quantity of, amount of, great number of, pieces of, spoonful of medicine...etc. ex: Their many ideas were unbelievable. A great deal of attention, a bit information.

A NOTE:

1- (the) is a definite article used with countable and uncountable nouns to refer to:

- a specific thing, mentioned earlier (I find a book. The book was hers.),
- body parts when being one only (the nose- *a nose) but if two: (the leg or- a leg),
- superlative degrees of adjectives (the best, the most beautiful),
- known between people (general knowledge) as in: the prime minister.
- the+ adj= plural- ex: the Japanese are..., the poor are.....
- the +abstract adj= (no np) ex: the happy....

(a or an) is indefinite article used to refer to things unknown or mentioned for the first time.

(zero art) where there is no article at all, is used to refer to a general thing of a class (Tigers are dangerous), seasons (winter, summer), meals (have breakfast), times of the day (at morning).

2- the noun can be a derived one that ends in: -tion, sion, ness, ance, ence, ty, al, ment, age, ee, ing, er, or, ist, cy, th, let, ship, dom, ism, hood, -ese.