

## Types of Phrases

A phrase is a group of related words within a sentence that complements the overall structure of the sentence. It lacks both the subject and the object. It does not give complete meaning.

**1-Noun Phrase** acts like a noun in the sentence. It contains a noun and other associated words (usually determiners and modifiers) which modify the noun. It acts as a noun in the sentence.

Exercise : Underline the noun phrases in the sentences below and give their function.

a-They bought a big beautiful house. b-She put on a nice black dress . c-One of our best employees got a promotion. d-A drowning kid near the beach shouted for help.

**2-Prepositional phrase** contains a preposition and object of preposition (noun or pronoun). It can contain other modifiers.

Exercise : Underline the prepositional phrases in the sentences below.

a-The children were laughing at the clown. b-He was standing on the stairs.c-Students were looking at the white-board.d-He drives the motorcycle in a high speed.e-They were applauding in a loud voice.

**3-Adjective phrase** acts like an adjective. It can comprise adjectives and other words modifying the noun or pronoun.

Exercise :Underline adjective phrases and say what words they modify.

a-A bird on the roof is looking for grains. b-The man in the white car is my teacher.c-She bought a beautiful red dress.d-The boy with blue eyes is my brother.e-She gave me a cup full of tea.f-A student from my faculty won the prize.

**4-Adverb Phrase** acts like an adverb. It modifies a verb or another adverb in the sentence. It contains an adverb and other words.

Exercise : Undeline adverb phrases and say which words they modify.

a-The man was driving in a very high speed .b-He always speaks in an eloquent way.c They went along the road.d-She welcomed her guests in a nice way.e-The kid stood behind his mother.f-They stayed at university for a few hours.

**5-Verb phrase** is the group of main verb and auxiliaries within a sentence.

Exercise : Underline verb phrases in the following sentences. a-She is reading a poem .b-He has obtained his driving licence.c-They must reach in time for the exam .d-They have been working all day.

**6-Infinitive Phrase** contains (to + base form of verb) and other words. It acts as a noun, adjective or adverb ; ex I enjoy to paint a picture b-The government made a plan to help the poor.c-She sang to please the audience.

**7-Gerund Phrase** contains a gerund(verb+ing), modifiers and other words. It functions as a noun in the sentence. Ex : He started writing the report/ Cheating in the exam is indecent .

**8-Absolute phrase** is also called a nominative phrase.It comprises a noun or pronoun, a participle and linked modifiers. It looks like a clause but lacks a finite verb. Ex : He, having books in his hand, was going to university / He, expressing a shine of happiness, won the competition.

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