

NOUN PHRASES

A noun phrase contains a noun and any modifiers (including determiners, adjectives, and adverbs).

AS SUBJECTS

The subject of a sentence may be a noun phrase. Furthermore, noun phrases may serve as subjects, objects, and complements.

EX:

The perfect day is Monday.

The dog ran after the postal worker.

The beautiful butterfly landed gracefully.

AS OBJECTS

When a noun phrase follows an action verb (e.g., jump, run, throw, etc.), typically it serves as the object.

EX:

I drove an old, crappy blue Chevy Nova.

I swam the muddy banks of the Mississippi.

AS COMPLEMENTS

When a noun phrase follows a non-action verb (a linking verb or a sensory verb), typically it serves as the subject complement.

EX:

David is a wonderful driver.

Mark is a deceitful liar.