

Expanded noun phrases

Expanded noun phrases are phrases that tell you more about the noun. These can be achieved by adding an adjective to a noun phrase.

'The scary monster'

The dinosaur had *sharp teeth*.

You can add a prepositional phrase in order to give additional detail to your expanded noun phrase.

'An enormous, menacing monster in the mouth of a dark cave'

Tense

Verbs are words which express actions and we must look at these to determine the tense of the sentence.

Past simple – the action took place in the past and is now finished.

I *walked* to my friend's house.

Past progressive – the action took place in the past over a period of time.

I *was walking* to my friend's house.

Past perfect – the action was completed by a particular point in the past

I *had walked* to my friend's house.

Present simple – the action takes place regularly.

I *walk* to my friend's house.

Present progressive – the action is taking place now.

I *am walking* to my friend's house.

Present perfect – the action is now completed.

I *have walked* to my friend's house.

The future tense also exists and explains that events have not happened yet but will happen soon or in the future.

Subjunctive form

The subjunctive is a verb form or mood used to express things that could or should happen. It is used to express wishes, hopes, commands, demands or suggestions.

I wish I *were* able to fly.

I suggest you *take* an umbrella with you.

Co-ordinating conjunctions

A co-ordinating conjunction joins two clauses of equal value or importance in a sentence. There are many co-ordinating conjunctions but some of the main ones can be remembered using the acronym FANBOYS.

F – for

A – and

N – nor

B – but

O – or

Y – yet

S – so

I like swimming *and* my brother likes football.

We might go to the cinema *or* we could go to the funfair.

I want to wear my sunhat *but* it is raining.

Subordinating conjunctions

A subordinating conjunction introduces a subordinate clause (a clause that does not make sense on its own). There are many subordinating conjunctions but some of the main ones can be remembered using the acronym A WHITE BUS.

A – although, after, as

WH – when

I – if

T – that

E – even though

B – because

U – until, unless

S – since

We couldn't do PE today *because* it was raining.

When playtime was over, the teacher rang the bell.

Make sure you wear your coat *if* it gets too cold.

We wanted to eat the cake *that* my mum made yesterday.

Relative clauses and relative pronouns

A **relative clause** is a specific type of subordinate clause that adapts, describes or modifies a noun. They add information to sentences by using a **relative pronoun** (who, that, which, when, where, whose, whom).

The book, *which is very popular with the class*, is unavailable in the school library.

Modal verbs

A modal verb is a special type of verb which changes or affects other verbs in a sentence. They are used to show the level of possibility, indicate ability, show obligation or give permission.

Examples: **will, must, should, would, could, might, ought to, can**

You *must* brush your teeth at least twice a day.

He *could* decide whether to do his homework now or later.

Sentence types

Statement – tells the reader something.

Tigers have sharp teeth.

Command – tells you to do something.

Go and look at the tiger.

Question – gains further information by asking something.

Did you see the tiger at the zoo?

Exclamation – makes a statement but is usually said with a strong emotion such as anger or surprise

What sharp teeth the tiger had!

Adverbs and fronted adverbials

Adverbs give you more information about a verb. They tell you where, why, how or when something happens or is done and can be remembered using the acronym TRaMP.

T – time (when) R – reason (why) M – manner (how) P – place (where)

Please make sure that you come home soon. (time)

The dog greedily ate its dinner. (manner)

Fronted adverbials are words or phrases at the beginning of a sentence, used to describe the action that follows.

As fast as he could, the little boy sprinted for the finishing line.

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