

# Improve your English for students

Alps Academy

<https://www.alps.academy/improve-english-chinese/>

# Noun Phrases 1

Alps Academy

## SVO

Sentences in English have a S-V-O structure

subject	verb	object
John	played with	the ball
He	was sleeping in	the bed
A woman	is watching	TV

Subject - is doing something (the verb)

Object - (verb) is doing to this

## sentences

SVO subject - verb - object

(Thai, Chinese & English)

The boy kicked the ball

The boy (S) kicked (V) the ball (O)

nouns - boy, ball      verb - kicked

## Sentence SVO

### Subject

The boy

The boy

The boy

The boy

The boy

The boy

article + noun

### Verb

kicked

hit

caught

punched

threw

ran with

### Object

the ball

the ball

the ball

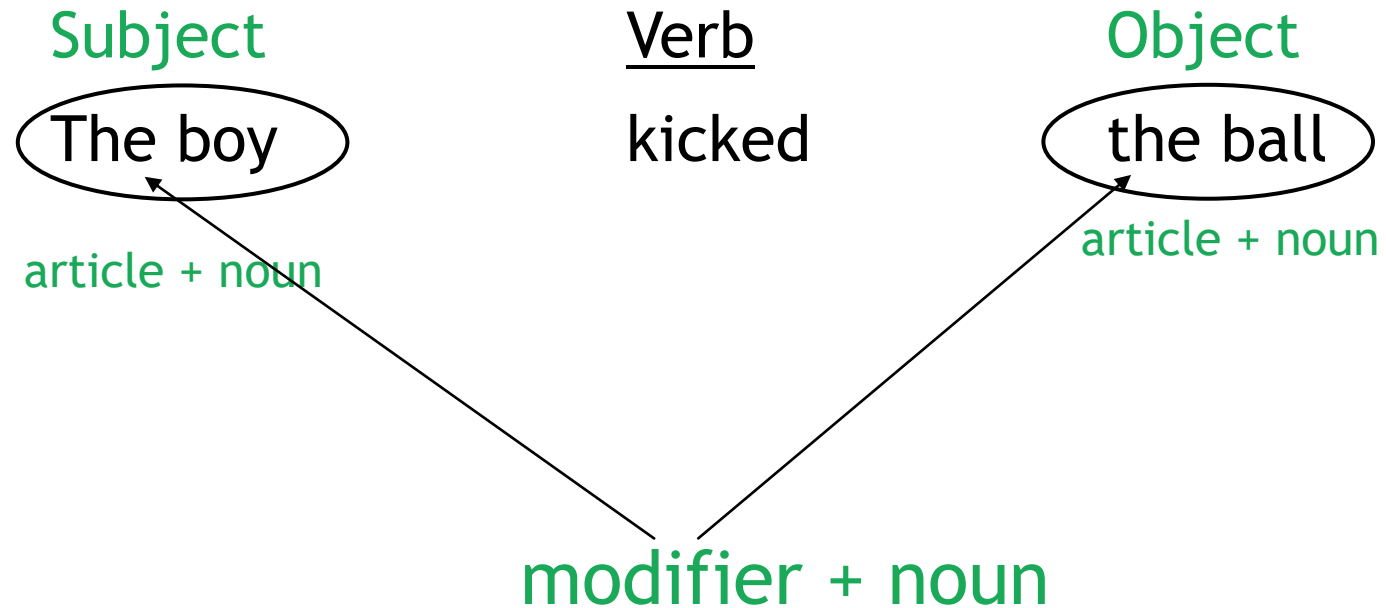
the ball

the ball

the ball

article + noun

## Sentence SVO



modifier = modifies the noun  
modifies = changes or 'adds to'

## noun phrases

- A noun phrase consists of a noun and its modifiers.
- Modifiers include articles, adjectives, and other elements that provide more information about the noun.
  - **The happy cat**
  - **Two delicious slices of pizza**

## verb phrases

- A verb phrase includes the main verb and its auxiliary (helping) verbs, if any. It represents the action or state of being in a sentence.
  - **Is studying** for the exam
  - **Will have completed** the project

verb phrases later in the course



## prepositional phrases

- A prepositional phrase begins with a preposition and includes a noun (or pronoun) called the object of the preposition.
- It provides information about the relationship of the noun to the rest of the sentence.
  - **on the table**
  - **under the bridge**

prepositional phrases later in the course

# Noun Phrases

what is a noun phrase?

A noun phrase is a group of words related to a noun

*The big red ball* rolled down the hill

noun phrases can include:

articles (**the**) - adjectives (**big, red**) - nouns (**ball**)

but do not include the verb

*The big red ball* ~~rolled~~ down the hill

## noun phrases

These are the **noun phrases**

- Article + noun (**the boy, the ball, a boy, a ball, an artist, an apple**)
- Adjective + noun (**small boy, new ball**)
- Article + adjective + noun (**the small boy, a new ball**)
- Article + adjective + adjective + noun
  - **the small Indian boy**
  - **a big, new ball**

# articles in noun phrases

articles

~~"I have car"~~

"I have a car."

## Articles - what we know

Refer to specific or general

A blue pen

could be any pen that is blue

The blue pen

is a specific pen

articles - what we know

definite article

the

indefinite articles

a

an



## Articles - what we know

articles are:

- a type of determiner
- they modify nouns
- a, an, the

examples:

- the blue pen
- John is a good friend
- the big park was fun

# adjectives in noun phrases

adjectives:

- describe
- add more information to a word

examples:

- the blue pen
- John is my best friend
- The big park was fun

# What is an Adjective

The Adjective is one of the parts of speech that describes some extra information about the noun or a pronoun in a sentence.

Size	Texture	Shape	Fellings	Time
✓ Big	✓ Smooth	✓ Circle	✓ Angry	✓ Ancient
✓ Small	✓ Soft	✓ Square	✓ Happy	✓ Early
✓ Large	✓ Hard	✓ Flat	✓ Funny	✓ Fast
✓ Huge	✓ Woven	✓ Sphere	✓ Kind	✓ late
✓ Little	✓ Rough	✓ Round	✓ Silly	✓ quick
✓ Short	✓ Slippery	✓ Cone	✓ Sweet	✓ Rapid
✓ Tall	✓ Fuzzy	✓ Oval	✓ Gentle	✓ Slow
✓ Tiny	✓ Crunchy	✓ Wide	✓ Sad	✓ Swift

## Adjectives - order

The big old white house



big  
old

white



order

Determiner

Opinion

Size

Age

Shape

Color

Origin

Material

purpose

add a modifier (adjective) to complete these sentences

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ *naughty* \_\_\_\_\_ child was disruptive at the restaurant.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ horse galloped around the track.
3. I took the ball from the \_\_\_\_\_ child.
4. We walked to the \_\_\_\_\_ farm on the weekend.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ park was open until the afternoon.



simple  
noun phrase  
exercises

find the  
noun phrase

underline the noun phrases

1. The teacher helps students with their homework.
2. A cat sleeps on the windowsill.
3. The children play in the playground.
4. A cook prepares delicious meals in the restaurant.
5. A car waits at the traffic light.
6. A girl dances in the park.
7. A dog greets visitors at the front door.



underline the noun phrases

1. The teacher helps students with their homework.
2. A cat sleeps on the windowsill.
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## noun phrases

A noun phrase often includes a modifier like an adjective.

*Structure:*

Article + Adjective + Noun

Example: The *happy* children played.

## noun phrases

1. The patient teacher helps students with their homework.
2. A fluffy cat sleeps on the windowsill.
3. The noisy children play in the playground.
4. An experienced cook prepares delicious meals in the restaurant.
5. A red car waits at the traffic light.
6. An energetic girl dances in the park.
7. A friendly dog greets visitors at the front door.

order the  
noun phrase

change the noun phrases to the correct order

1. mountains the snowy are busy this time of the year
2. I hope you had happy a Christmas.
3. Don't touch boiling the pot.
4. table table the tennis is now available.
5. Can you afford tickets the train expensive?
6. I used to go to work on old an bicycle.
7. We enjoyed decorating tree Christmas the beautiful

change the noun phrases to the correct order

1. the snowy mountains are busy this time of the year
2. I hope you had a happy Christmas.
3. Don't touch the boiling pot.
4. The table tennis table is now available.
5. Can you afford the expensive train tickets?
6. I used to go to work on an old bicycle.
7. We enjoyed decorating the beautiful Christmas tree.

speaking / pronunciation  
practice

## words with initial stress

- big
- dog
- car
- cold
- coffee
- book
- table
- happy
- house
- noisy



## words with stressed endings

- above
- aside
- become
- between
- overbook
- overflow
- provide
- understand

where is the stress?

- single
- ticket
- local
- platform
- standard
- return
- direct
- express

where is the stress?

- Monday
- Saturday
- February
- April
- plumber
- birthday
- September
- November
- eleven
- appointment
- receptionist
- engineer

- Monday
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# listening practice

## Prepositions - Sisters are doing it for themselves

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=drGx7JkFSp4>

Listen to the song and fill in the blanks with these prepositions

Now there was a time, when they used to say  
That 1 \_\_\_\_\_ every "great man", there had  
to be a "great woman"  
But 2 \_\_\_\_\_ these times of change, you  
know that it's no longer true  
So we're coming 3 \_\_\_\_\_ of the kitchen,  
'cause there's something we forgot to say to you

We say sisters are doing it 4 \_\_\_\_\_ themselves  
Standing 5 \_\_\_\_\_ their own two feet  
And ringing 6 \_\_\_\_\_ their own bells  
We say sisters are doing it 7 \_\_\_\_\_ themselves

Now this is a song 8 \_\_\_\_\_ celebrate, the  
conscious liberation 9 \_\_\_\_\_ the female state  
Mothers, daughters and their daughters too, woman 10  
\_\_\_\_\_ woman we're singing 11 \_\_\_\_\_ you

The "inferior sex" got a new exterior, we've got doctors,  
lawyers, politicians too  
Everybody, take a look 12 \_\_\_\_\_  
Can you see? Can you see? Can you see? There's a woman  
right 13 \_\_\_\_\_ you

Sisters are doing it 14 \_\_\_\_\_ themselves  
Standing 15 \_\_\_\_\_ their own two feet  
And ringing 16 \_\_\_\_\_ their own bells  
Sisters are doing it 17 \_\_\_\_\_ themselves

Now we ain't making stories, and we ain't laying plans  
Don't you know that a man still loves a woman, and a  
woman still loves a man  
Just the same though  
Sisters are doing it 18 \_\_\_\_\_ themselves

Now there was a time, when they used to say  
That behind every "great man", there had to be a "great woman"  
But in these times of change, you know that it's no longer true  
So we're coming out of the kitchen, 'cause there's something we forgot to say to you

We say sisters are doing it for themselves  
Standing on their own two feet  
And ringing on their own bells  
We say sisters are doing it for themselves

Now this is a song to celebrate, the conscious liberation of the female state  
Mothers, daughters and their daughters too, woman to woman we're singing with you  
The "inferior sex" got a new exterior, we've got doctors, lawyers, politicians too  
Everybody, take a look around  
Can you see? Can you see? Can you see? There's a woman right next to you

Sisters are doing it for themselves (oh yes we are)  
Standing on their own two feet  
And ringing on their own bells  
Sisters are doing it for themselves

Now we ain't making stories, and we ain't laying plans  
Don't you know that a man still loves a woman, and a woman still loves a man  
Just the same though

Sisters are doing it for themselves  
Sisters are doing it for themselves (yeah, yeah)  
Sisters are doing it, doing it for themselves (doing it, doing it)  
Sisters are doing it for themselves

# prepositions with noun phrases

## using prepositions

prepositions help answer questions like "where," "when," and "how."

- where is the cat?

The cat is on the roof

- where is the book?

The book is on the shelf



## using prepositions - examples

- on
  - "The cat **on** the mat."
- in
  - "The book **in** the bag."
- above
  - "The sun **above** the clouds."
- under
  - "The ball **under** the chair."
- beside
  - "The flower **beside** the vase."
- between
  - "The car **between** the trees."
- on
  - "The cup **on** the table."
- in
  - "The bird **in** the sky."
- under
  - "The fish **under** the water."
- above
  - "The clock **above** the door."

## insert the preposition

1. The picture is \_\_\_\_\_ the wall.
2. The computer is \_\_\_\_\_ the desk.
3. The park is \_\_\_\_\_ our house.
4. The cat is \_\_\_\_\_ the sofa.
5. The coffee shop is \_\_\_\_\_ the street from the office.
6. The supermarket is \_\_\_\_\_ the bank and the library.
7. The playground is \_\_\_\_\_ the school building.

## constructing noun phrases

1. The picture is \_\_\_\_\_ **on** \_\_\_\_\_ the wall.
2. The computer is \_\_\_\_\_ **on** \_\_\_\_\_ the desk.
3. The park is \_\_\_\_\_ **near** \_\_\_\_\_ our house.
4. The cat is \_\_\_\_\_ **under** \_\_\_\_\_ the sofa.
5. The coffee shop is \_\_\_\_\_ **across** \_\_\_\_\_ the street from the office.
6. The supermarket is \_\_\_\_\_ **between** \_\_\_\_\_ the bank and the library.
7. The playground is \_\_\_\_\_ **behind** \_\_\_\_\_ the school building.

near, by, next to, behind, in front of, close to, far away from

## propositions - time

1. We have a meeting **at** 10 AM.
2. The concert starts **at** 7 PM.
3. I usually have lunch **around** noon.

## propositions - place

1. The children played **in** the playground.
2. The cat is hiding **under** the table.
3. We had a picnic **by** the river.

## propositions - direction

1. The hikers walked **toward** the mountain.
2. The arrow points **to** the left.
3. She looked **across** the street before crossing.

## propositions - relationship / location

1. The cat is **next to** the dog.
2. The brothers stood **beside** each other.
3. We sat **between** Tom and Emily during the movie.

## constructing noun phrases in or on?

1. The students like to study \_\_\_\_\_ the library on campus.
2. The chef is cooking \_\_\_\_\_ the kitchen with stainless steel appliances.
3. The family enjoys picnics \_\_\_\_\_ the weekends at the nearby park.
4. The cat likes to sleep \_\_\_\_\_ the warm sunlight on the windowsill.
5. Our team practices soccer \_\_\_\_\_ the large field behind the school.
6. The old bookstore is located \_\_\_\_\_ the historic downtown area.
7. We planted flowers \_\_\_\_\_ the small garden near the front porch.



## constructing noun phrases in or on?

1. The students like to study **in** the library on campus.
2. The chef is cooking **in** the kitchen with stainless steel appliances.
3. The family enjoys picnics **on** the weekends at the nearby park.
4. The cat likes to sleep **in** the warm sunlight on the windowsill.
5. Our team practices soccer **on** the large field behind the school.
6. The old bookstore is located **in** the historic downtown area.
7. We planted flowers **in** the small garden near the front porch.

# using prepositions exercises

## constructing noun phrases in or on?

1. The cat is \_\_\_\_\_ the roof.
2. The book is \_\_\_\_\_ the shelf.
3. We play games \_\_\_\_\_ the park.
4. The ball is \_\_\_\_\_ the box.
5. The flowers are \_\_\_\_\_ the vase.
6. The sun is \_\_\_\_\_ the sky.
7. The pencil is \_\_\_\_\_ the desk.

Choose the correct preposition to complete the sentences.

1. The restaurant is located \_\_\_\_\_ the corner.

- a) in
- b) at
- c) on

2. We have a meeting \_\_\_\_\_ 2 PM.

- a) on
- b) at
- c) in

3. The movie starts \_\_\_\_\_ 7 PM.

- a) in
- b) at
- c) on

4. She stood \_\_\_\_\_ the bus stop.

- a) on
- b) at
- c) by

5. The cat is sleeping \_\_\_\_\_ the bed.

- a) on
- b) at
- c) in

6. They live \_\_\_\_\_ the third floor.

- a) on
- b) at
- c) in

7. The gift is \_\_\_\_\_ the table.

- a) on
- b) at
- c) in

## constructing noun phrases with the words in the box

above   across   at   for   near   within   up

1. The plane flew \_\_\_\_\_ the clouds.
2. The restaurant is famous \_\_\_\_\_ its delicious desserts.
3. She walked \_\_\_\_\_ the street to the other side.
4. The treasure is hidden \_\_\_\_\_ the ancient castle.
5. We waited for the bus \_\_\_\_\_ the bus stop.
6. The hiking trail leads \_\_\_\_\_ the mountain.
7. The bakery is located \_\_\_\_\_ the busy intersection.