

In this chapter, we will learn about noun phrases.

Let us observe the following sentences.

The girl with the umbrella is my friend.

The pastry on the table is mine.

I met the new employee who joined our team recently.

In the first sentence, the phrase acts as a noun where the head word is *girl*. The phrase is in the subject position of the sentence. The phrase answers the question, *who is my friend?* and can be replaced with a noun or pronoun. Similarly, in the second and third sentences, the phrases act as nouns and are placed in the subject and object positions, respectively. Their head words are *pastry* and *employee* and they answer the questions: *what is yours?* and *who did you meet?* Such phrases that act as a noun in a sentence are called **noun phrases**.

A phrase that functions as a noun in a sentence is called a **noun phrase**. The head word of a noun phrase is a noun with other modifiers before or after it.

Examples:

That is a picture of my mother.

I want to avoid rush hour traffic.

The boy with the guitar is my brother who has been part of a lot of concert.

1. Underline the noun phrases in the following sentences and circle the head word in each.

(a) The elderly man in white shirt will play the piano.

(b) Ms Sangeeta is a successful entrepreneur.

(c) Have you ever tried to learn a new language?

(d) The class teacher was very upset with his class.

(e) Did someone log into my computer?

(f) The extra class held yesterday was really boring.

(g) The arrested attacker refused to answer the question.

(h) The woman standing next to the counter is an actress.

A noun phrase can contain the following:

- **Adjectives:** They modify or describe the head word in the noun phrase.

Examples:

Will you have fresh lemon juice?

Please pick up the empty plates.

The cat sat on the wooden chair.

Exercise - 1 Noun Phrases

(a) The elderly man in white shirt will play the piano.

(b) Ms Sangeeta is a successful entrepreneur.

(c) Have you ever tried to learn a new language?

(d) The class teacher was very upset with his class.

(e) Did someone log in to my computer?

(f) The extra class held yesterday was really boring.

(g) The arrested attacker refused to answer the question.

(h) The woman standing next to the counter is an actress.

Done