



ENGLISH LANGUAGE

FORM TWO

GRAMMAR



THE TOPIC FOR THE DAY
PHRASES



INTRODUCTION

FINITE VERBS

- A finite verb can be defined as a verb that has a corresponding subject or doer matching it.
- It's a verb whose structure changes according to the subject with which it goes or the time it refers to.

>A subject is the doer of an action or the verb in the expression.

Examples:

- i. The lady is preparing for the party
- ii. The ladies are preparing for the party.
- iii. Dan is dancing

PHRASES

- A phrase can be defined as a group of words without a finite verb which functions as a single part of speech
- This means phrases do not have a subject

Example

- i. A bucket of water
- ii. The class prefect of 3B
- iii. In the garden

CLASSIFICATION OF PHRASES

The major classifications of phrases are:

- a. **NOUN PHRASE**
- b. **ADJECTIVAL PHRASE**
- c. **ADVERBIAL PHRASE**
- d. **VERB PHRASE**
- e. **PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE**

NOUN PHRASES

A noun phrase can be defined as a group of words without a finite verb which functions as a noun.

- A noun phrase has a noun as its head word.
- It answers the question who or what?
- A noun phrase is usually introduced by determiners such as 'a, an, the.

Examples :

a. The spread of the corona virus worries everyone

b. A blessed thought entered my head

c. The man in the blue car is the minister of energy

FUNCTIONS OF THE NOUN PHRASE

- ▶ The noun phrase can function as a
- ▶ As a subject of the verb
- ▶ An object of the verb
- ▶ Complement of a verb
- ▶ Object of a preposition
- ▶ In apposition to a noun

AS A SUBJECT OF THE VERB

- Normally comes before the main verb in the sentence.
- It becomes the doer of the action in the sentence.

Examples:

1. The rise in fuel prices is making life unbearable

- i. Noun phrase
- ii. subject of the verb “is making”.

2. The minister of God attended the ceremony

- i. Noun phrase
- ii. Subject of the verb ‘attended’

NOUN PHRASE FUNCTIONING AS AN OBJECT OF A VERB

- Directly or indirectly receives the action of the verb.
- Note that the type of verb that comes before the phrase should be an action verb such as dance, eat, sleep, etc.
- Examples:
 1. The police arrested the defaulters of the lockdown.
 - i. Noun phrase
 - ii. Object of the verb “arrested”.
 2. The hunter killed the dog in the cage
 - i. Noun phrase
 - ii. Object of the verb ‘killed’

NOUN PHRASE FUNCTIONING AS A COMPLEMENT OF A VERB

- > Just follows the verb to make the sentence complete
- Note that the types of verbs that should come before the phrase should not be an action verb.
- Complements follows linking verbs such as is, are, was, were, become, seems, appears, etc.
- Examples:
 1. Pollution has become a threat to our environment.
 - i. noun phrase
 - ii. Complement of the verb “has become”.
 2. The three ladies are junior nurses
 - i. Noun phrase
 - ii. Complement of the verb “are”.

NOUN PHRASE FUNCTIONING AS AN OBJECT OF A PREPOSITION

- > completes the sentence in the predicate position.
- It is always preceded by a preposition such as to, from, about, for, by, etc.

Examples:

a. The bus was arranged for all the students.

i. Noun phrase ii. Object of the preposition “for”.

b. The goods were returned to the general manager.

i. Noun phrase ii. Object of the preposition “to”.

➤ NOUN PHRASE FUNCTIONING AS AN APPOSITION TO A NOUN

- Merely expands the noun or pronoun already mentioned as subject.
- Thus, the noun phrase does not refer to a different person other than the one already mentioned.

Example:

a. Nigeria, the leading producer of crude oil in West Africa is in crisis.

i. Noun phrase ii. In apposition to the noun “Nigeria”.

b. Nana Addo, the president of the republic of Ghana is addressing the nation tonight.

i. Noun phrase ii. In apposition to the noun “Nana Addo”.

ASSIGNMENT

IDENTIFY THE GRAMMATICAL NAME AND FUNCTIONS OF THE UNDERLINED EXPRESSIONS

1. The quest for quick money is bad.
2. Sally is the newly elected girl's prefect.
3. The headmaster gave the best student's cash prizes.
4. He gained nothing by going abroad.
5. Asamoah Gyan, Ghana's best striker has retired.

THANK YOU

