

Noun Phrases (Week 2)

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NLN 100 Language & Writing Skills – 1

1 Homework from last week

Copy the letter from *Inscrutable Americans* onto Chat GPT and ask it to correct it. What corrections do you see? We will discuss some of them in the next class. (The EPUB file is available on the class OneDrive folder)

2 Add more to the noun parts

- Try to use each of the four words on the top of the page provided to you to add to each noun part. Adding to the noun part should give you a larger noun part. But do not make a full sentence. See the illustration below to understand how to proceed.
 - Noun part provided: ‘the man’, Words at the top of the page: who, whom, on, that. Possible larger noun parts are then:
 - (1) the man **who** saw the ship sink
 - (2) the man **whom** I needed to meet
 - (3) the man **on** the mountain
 - (4) the man **that** I was
- You may also use all four words in a single structure you create.
- The large noun-like clusters, each of whose nucleus is a noun, are called noun phrases. Noun phrases are meaningful units of words centred around a ‘head’ noun.
- There is no main verb — a verb with tense information — in an NP, because it is not a sentence! If you find yourself having added a main verb you have crossed the boundary of the NP and entered the verb’s territory. This means you have accidentally created a sentence.

3 The ‘Make no Sentences’ game

1. The students sit in a long chain.
2. The first student from one end of the chain begins an NP.
3. The student next to her/him must add to the NP and make it larger.
4. Students continue to add to the NP to make it as heavy as possible. The goal is to not hit a main verb and consequently end up creating a sentence.
5. Anyone who ends up creating a full sentence is out.
6. The person next to her/him starts a fresh NP. The game continues until everyone but the last person is out.