

Creating Concise Noun Phrases

An **expanded noun phrase** is a **phrase** made up of a **noun** and at least one adjective. If one or more adjectives are listed to describe the **noun**, a comma should be added to separate the sentence.

Introduction

Underline the adjectives in the sentences below.

Adjectives describe the noun (the object).

In winter, I love the cold, dark nights and frosty mornings.

The young, playful dog ran after the ball in the grassy meadow.

Make sure you wash your hands in the small sink.

Introduction

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Varied Fluency 1

Underline the adjectives that do not give extra information.

A. These wet, scaly fish have fins and gills.

B. The cute, hairy chimpanzee jumped off the branch.

Varied Fluency 1

Underline the adjectives that do not give extra information.

A. These wet, scaly fish have fins and gills.

We know fish are wet and scaly so this is not new information.

B. The cute, hairy chimpanzee jumped off the branch.

Have you ever seen a chimp that wasn't hairy? Me neither.

Varied Fluency 2

True or false? Removing the underlined adjectives below changes the meaning.

The rare, meat-eating carnivore was spotted in the wild.

Varied Fluency 2

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False

Carnivore means meat-eating so nothing has changed in the sentence. In the original sentence the same information has been given twice.

Varied Fluency 3

Which noun phrase below gives you the most information?

A. The delicate, lilac flowers on the plant.

B. The purple, lilac flowers on the plant.

Varied Fluency 3

Which noun phrase below gives you the most information?

A. The delicate, lilac flowers on the plant.

B. The purple, lilac flowers on the plant.

Purple and lilac are the same (nearly) colour.

Varied Fluency 4

Use the most useful adjectives from the word bank to fill the blanks in the sentence below.

rude	polite	frail
tall	old	French

The _____ gentleman offered his seat to the _____
lady.

Use the most useful adjectives from the word bank to fill the blanks in the sentence below.

rude	polite	frail
tall	old	French

Various answers, for example:

The tall gentleman offered his seat to the frail lady.

We already know the gentleman is polite because he offered his seat to the lady, this also means he isn't rude. Because of this, he won't be frail or old either. We have no idea whether he is tall or French but tall gives us more information than French.

If the lady is being given a seat then she must be frail or old; frail gives us more information than old.



Application 1

Change the noun phrases to make them more concise.

Concise means- short and to the point (cuts out the waffle).

They live in a huge, vast mansion in the next village.

The ancient, bony skeleton of the man was found underground.

Application 1

Change the noun phrases to make them more concise.

Various answers, for example:

They live in a huge, vast mansion in the next village.

They live in a mansion in the next village.

Huge and vast mean the same thing

The ancient, bony skeleton of the man was found underground.

The ancient skeleton of the man was found underground.

Skeletons are bony so bony doesn't need to be there.

Application 2

Rewrite the sentence to add more detail to the noun phrase.

Some people like to parachute.

You must include two adjectives, a noun and a preposition.

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Various answers, for example:

Some young, adventurous people like to parachute over land and sea.

Reasoning 1

Which sentence gives you the most information?

A. The main character in the book was an evil, mean villain.

B. The main character in the book was a hostile, misunderstood villain.

Explain how you know.

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Sentence B because...

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B. The main character in the book was a hostile, misunderstood villain.

Explain how you know.

Sentence B because the adjectives reveal more about this particular character. In sentence A, the adjectives 'evil' and 'mean' are unnecessary as the word 'villain' already tells us these things.