

# Expanded Noun Phrases - Adjectives

## What is an expanded noun phrase?

An expanded noun phrase gives more detail or information about a noun than a simple noun phrase. This is usually done by adding adjectives to describe the noun in the noun phrase.

**Example:** She walked through **the dark, mysterious forest**.

In this example, the expanded noun phrase is 'the dark, mysterious forest'. The **adjectives** have been used to expand the simple noun phrase (**determiner** and **noun**). They make the sentence more interesting as they help the reader to build an image in their mind.

Read the following sentences. Underline or circle the **expanded noun phrase** in each sentence.

1 The brightly-coloured parrot flew through the canopy.

2 After his lunch, Harold ate a sweet, delicious chocolate brownie.

3 Under the waves, the stripy fish swam quickly through the reef.

4 In a forest clearing, a dark, mysterious jaguar sauntered by the water.

5 "Pass me the blue shoes please," Mum asked Sophia.

6 As John sat at the bus stop, he saw three large, black cars go past.

7 "These strawberry yoghurts are out of date!" complained the customer in the shop.

8 "Whose is this writing pencil?" asked the teacher as she held it in the air.

9 When he reached the top, the climber stared at the vast, breath-taking view.

10 Happy and elated, the winning team held their trophy in the air.

# Expanded Noun Phrases - Prepositional Phrases

## Prepositional Phrases

Another way to create an expanded noun phrase is to add a prepositional phrase. A prepositional phrase usually includes a preposition, a noun or pronoun and may include an adjective

behind the door

beyond the mountain range

under the wooden table

By using these to expand noun phrases, further information can be added and the writing can be made more efficient.

Example: **The man** sat on the beach. He was wearing a red hat.

This can be made more succinct by expanding the noun phrase (**determiner** and **noun**) with a **prepositional phrase**:

**The man with the red hat** sat on the bench.

Read the following sentences. Underline or circle the **expanded noun phrase** in each sentence that has been expanded with a prepositional phrase.

1 Under the waves, the fish with the jagged fins swam swiftly through the reef.

2 The cat under the bush was drenched and shivering.

3 From the cave, a dragon with deadly claws came crashing out.

4 At the stables, Aisha chose to ride the horse with a black mane.

5 Charlie reached for the chocolates on the top shelf.

6 The wizard in the purple robe waved his magic wand and they all disappeared.

7 Jason had always known that the house adjacent to the park was occupied by witches.

8 "Please pass me the keys from the top drawer," Dad said to Brian.

9 Make sure you water the plant on the windowsill whilst we are gone.

# Expanded Noun Phrases - Adjectives Answers

Read the following sentences. Underline or circle the **expanded noun phrase** in each sentence.

1. The brightly-coloured parrot flew through the canopy.
2. After his lunch, Harold ate a sweet, delicious chocolate brownie.
3. Under the waves, the stripy fish swam quickly through the reef.
4. In a forest clearing, a dark, mysterious jaguar sauntered by the water.
5. "Pass me the blue shoes please," Mum asked Sophia.
6. As John sat at the bus stop, he saw three large, black cars go past.
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8. "Whose is this writing pencil?" asked the teacher as she held it in the air.
9. When he reached the top, the climber stared at the vast, breath-taking view.
10. Happy and elated, the winning team held their trophy in the air.

# Expanded Noun Phrases - Prepositional Phrases Answers

Read the following sentences. Underline or circle the **expanded noun phrase** in each sentence that has been expanded with a prepositional phrase.

1. Under the waves, the fish with the jagged fins swam swiftly through the reef.
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7. Jason had always known that the house adjacent to the park was occupied by witches.
8. "Please pass me the keys from the top drawer," Dad said to Brian.
9. Make sure you water the plant on the windowsill whilst we are gone.

# Simple Noun Phrases

## What is a simple noun phrase?

A simple noun phrase is a group of words that includes a noun at its head - the noun is the main word in the phrase and other words give information about it.

## The examples in the boxes:

his toy

those shoes

the house

two children

These examples of simple noun phrases all contain a **determiner** and a **noun**.

## Example sentences:

Bring your children with you.

Come inside the house.

Can you put those shoes away?

In these sentences, the noun phrases have been underlined.

For more information on determiners,

## Remember...

A phrase is not a sentence. A phrase does not express a complete thought, whereas a sentence does. A sentence contains a subject (noun or pronoun) and a predicate (verb or verb phrase). A phrase does not have both of these - sometimes, it doesn't have either.

Read the following sentences. Underline or circle the **simple noun phrases** in each sentence.

1 The girl played at the park.

6 Early in the morning, a parrot landed on the balcony.

2 "My leg hurts!" shouted the boy.

7 Whose coat is this?

3 That's his bike over there.

8 That's his bike over there.

4 Three cats sat on the fence.

9 Their house is in Manchester.

5 An elephant was walking through the forest.

10 The car splashed through the puddle.

# Using Determiners

Try to use a range of determiners with the pictures below, rather than using 'the', 'a' or 'an' repeatedly. Here are some possibilities:

the

my

an

this

some

that

whose

her

your

which

those

many

our

their

his

these

enough

a

what

Write a sentence about each picture and underline the **simple noun phrase(s)** in each one.

1



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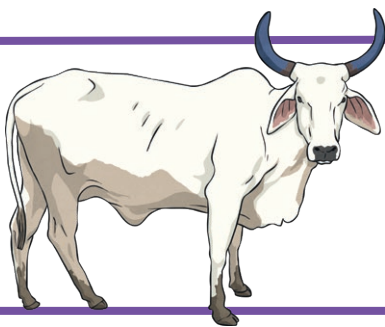


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# Using Determiners

Try to use a range of determiners with the pictures below, rather than using 'the', 'a' or 'an' repeatedly. Here are some possibilities:

the

my

an

this

some

that

whose

her

your

which

those

many

our

their

his

these

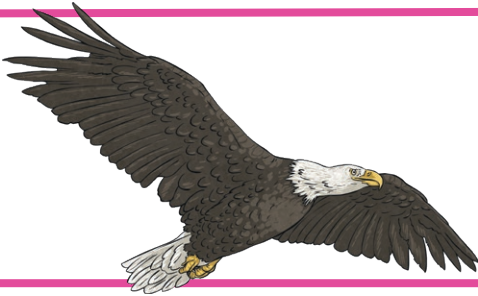
enough

a

what

Write a sentence about each picture and underline the **simple noun phrase(s)** in each one.

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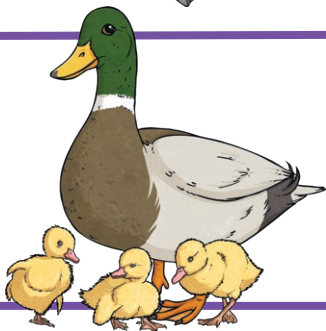


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# Simple Noun Phrases - Answers

Circle or underline the **simple noun phrases** in each sentence below.

1. **The girl** played at **the park**.
2. "**My leg** hurts!" shouted **the boy**.
3. That's **his bike** over there.
4. **Three cats** sat on **the fence**.
5. **An elephant** was walking through **the forest**.
6. Early in **the morning, a parrot** landed on **the balcony**.
7. **Whose coat** is this?
8. **Their house** is in Manchester.
9. **The car** splashed through **the puddle**.

# Using Determiners - Answers

Example sentences:

1. **Those shoes** are lovely!
2. **Three cats** sat on **the wall**.
3. **The cow** ate **the grass**.
4. **Some clothes** hung in **a wardrobe**.
5. **An eagle** flew through **the sky**.
6. **Whose keys** are they?
7. **Some ducks** are yellow.
8. That is **my toy**.

# Titanic Expanded Noun Phrases

## What is an expanded noun phrase?

An expanded noun phrase gives more detail or information about a noun. This can be done by adding adjectives to describe the noun or by adding a prepositional phrase to give further information about the noun.

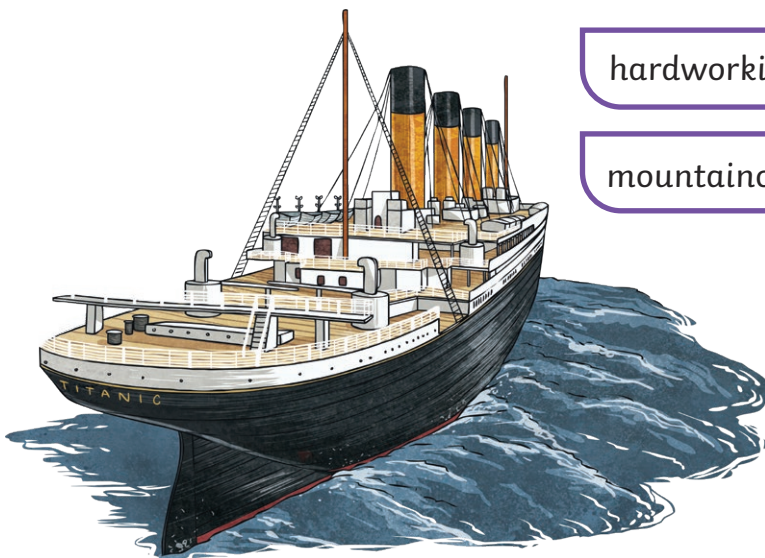
## Examples

She walked through **the dark, mysterious forest.**

**The tall man with the wooden walking stick** strolled slowly across the road.

Check out the Expanded Noun Phrases resource in this pack for lots of examples and information.

Read the newspaper extract below. It has lots of **simple noun phrases** in it and is a very boring article. Please improve the article by **expanding the noun phrases**. Use the adjectives next to the picture to help you to improve the text.



hardworking

cold

unsinkable

mountainous

monstrous

experienced

deadly

mighty

frightened

vast

confused

terrified

On that night, the Titanic hit an iceberg that was floating through the North Atlantic. Ignoring several warnings about icebergs, the captain ordered his crew to sail at full speed which caused several sections of the ship to come apart upon impact. At first, passengers did not realise what a situation they were in. But gradually, water began filling the decks of the ship which could not be ignored. Many passengers placed their life jackets on and headed towards the ship's deck. Faces looked around in shock whilst some passengers began to get into the lifeboats...





# Under the Sea Expanded Noun Phrases

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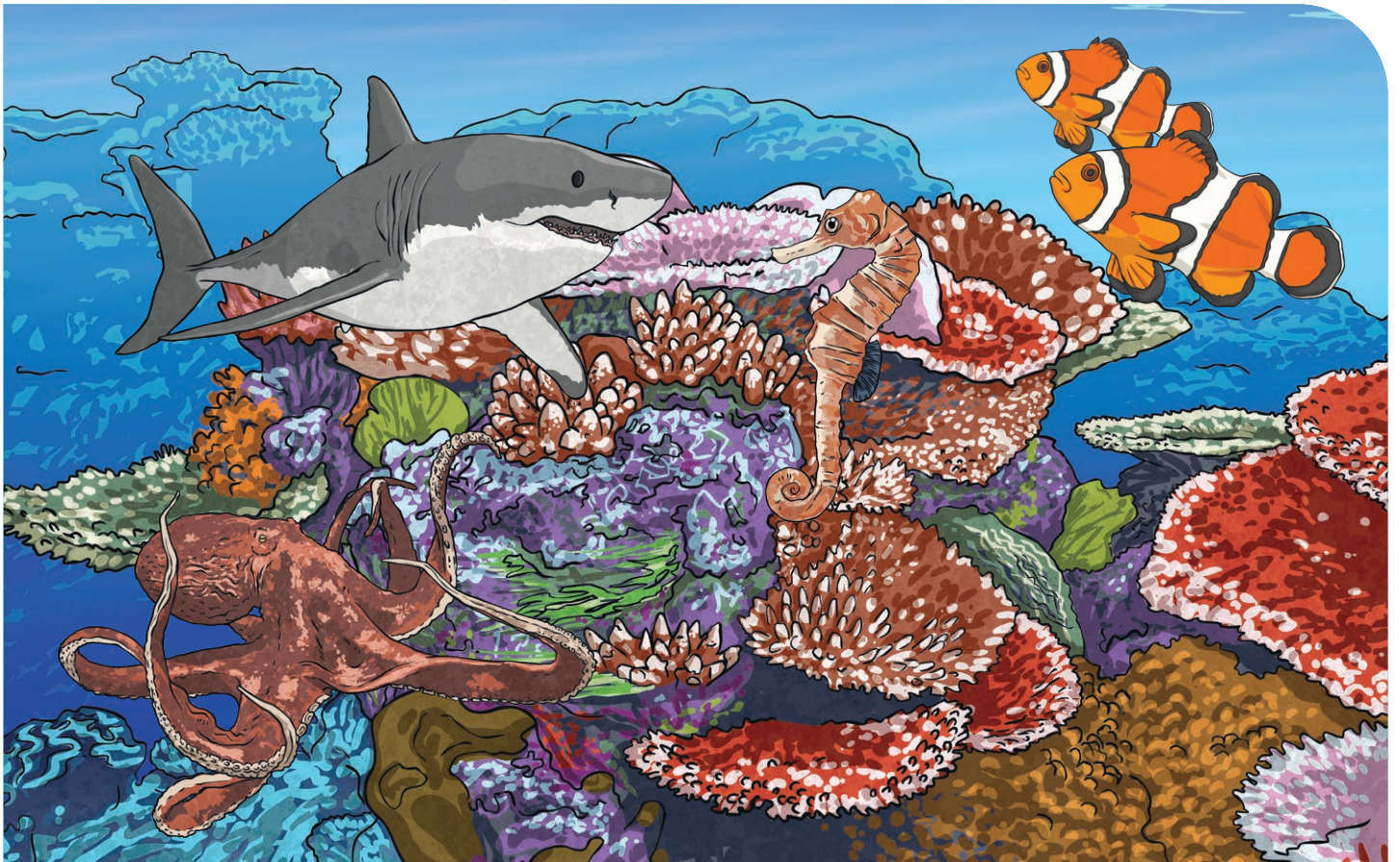
## Examples

She walked through **the dark, mysterious forest**.

**The tall man with the wooden walking stick** strolled slowly across the road.

Check out the Expanded Noun Phrases resource in this pack for lots of examples and information.

Look at the picture of the underwater scene below. Dori has been writing some sentences about the picture. Can you improve her sentences by expanding the underlined **simple noun phrase** in each sentence by adding an adjective(s) or prepositional phrase? The first one has been done for you.



# Under the Sea Expanded Noun Phrases

1 The shark swam below the waves.  
**The shark swam below the crashing waves.**

2 The shark swam below the crashing waves.  
\_\_\_\_\_

3 In the distance, an octopus meandered through the reef looking for prey.  
\_\_\_\_\_

4 On the bottom of the ocean, the seaweed gently drifted in the warm currents.  
\_\_\_\_\_

5 Covering the ocean floor, lots of coral glittered in the sun's rays.  
\_\_\_\_\_

6 Unaware of the shark, two clownfish drifted by.  
\_\_\_\_\_

7 Unaware of the shark, two clownfish drifted by.  
\_\_\_\_\_

8 Dappled light broke through the surface of the sea.  
\_\_\_\_\_

9 A seahorse hovered above the reef catching plankton as it passed.  
\_\_\_\_\_

10 A seahorse hovered above the reef catching plankton as it passed.  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Under the Sea Expanded Noun Phrases

Next, write three sentences of your own about the picture. Your sentences must include expanded noun phrases.

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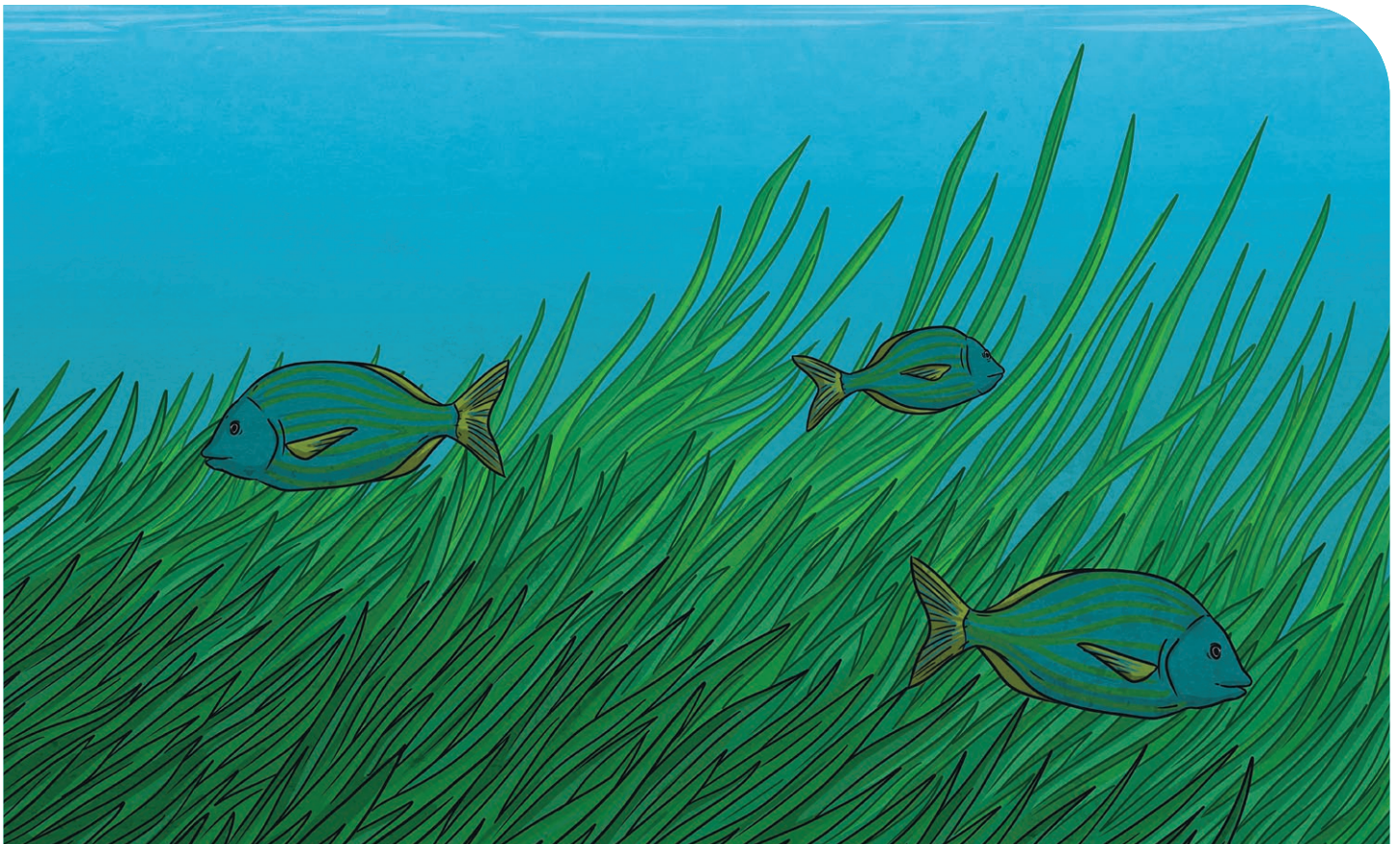
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# Vikings Expanded Noun Phrases

## What is an expanded noun phrase?

An expanded noun phrase gives more detail or information about a noun. This can be done by adding adjectives to describe the noun or by adding a prepositional phrase to give further information about the noun.

## Examples

She walked through **the dark, mysterious forest.**

**The tall man with the wooden walking stick** strolled slowly across the road.

Check out the Expanded Noun Phrases resource in this pack for lots of examples and information.

Below the picture, you will see some sentences describing this Viking scene. Underline a **simple noun phrase** in each sentence and then rewrite each sentence with an **expanded noun phrase**. The first has been done for you.



# Vikings Expanded Noun Phrases

1 In the distance, the sound of waves could be heard crashing against the shore.  
**In the distance, the gentle sound of waves could be heard crashing against the shore.**

2 The Viking raised his sword in the air whilst marching forward.

3 The tower stood in the background, watching as the Vikings marched on.

4 In his hand, he held a shield which was used for protection.

5 Below the helmet, his eyes were intensely staring at the monastery.

6 Ragnor held his shield aloft in one hand and an axe in the other.

7 Behind the warriors, Eldrid held a spear ready to throw at the enemy.

8 Canute wore chainmail armour over his tunic.

# Vikings Expanded Noun Phrases

Next, write two sentences of your own about the picture. Your sentences must include expanded noun phrases.

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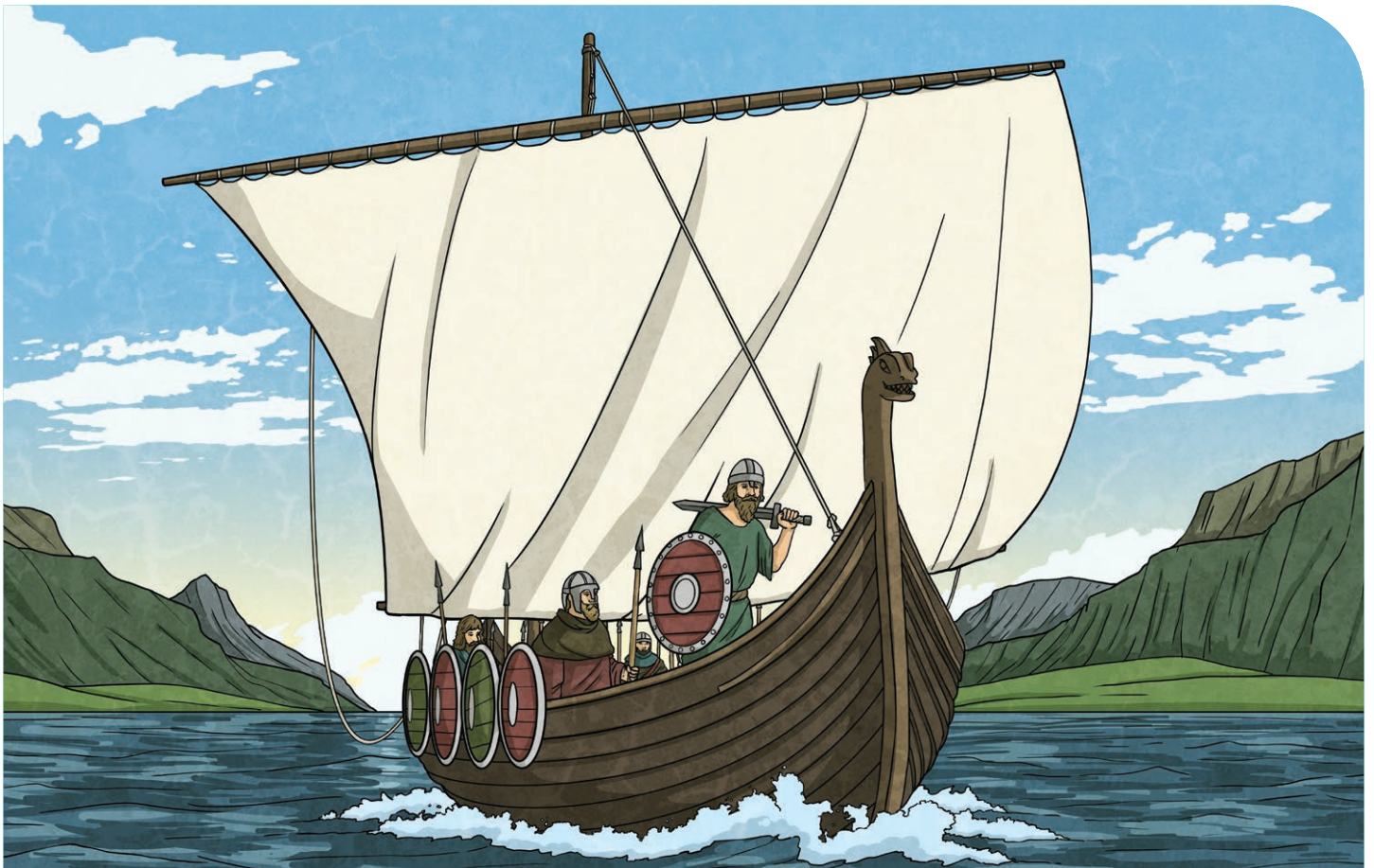
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# Writing Expanded Noun Phrases

## What is an expanded noun phrase?

An expanded noun phrase gives more detail or information about a noun. This can be done by adding adjectives to describe the noun or by adding a prepositional phrase to give further information about the noun.

## Examples

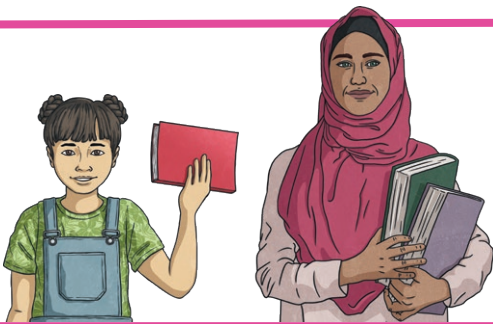
She walked through **the dark, mysterious forest.**

**The tall man with the wooden walking stick** strolled slowly across the road.

Check out the Expanded Noun Phrases resource in this pack for lots of examples and information.

Look at each of the images below. Write a sentence for each one that contains an expanded noun phrase. The first one has been done for you.

1



The kind girl with a huge smile impressed the teacher by carrying the books.

2



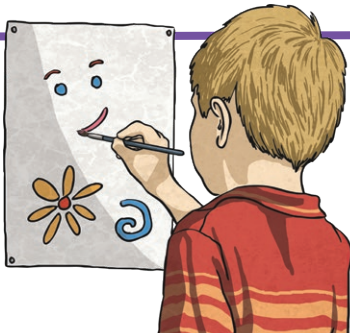
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# Writing Expanded Noun Phrases

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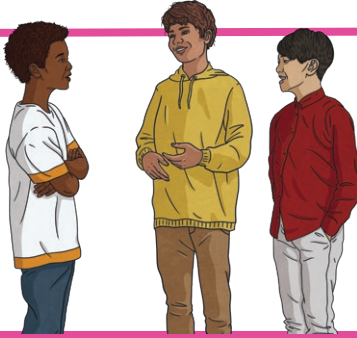
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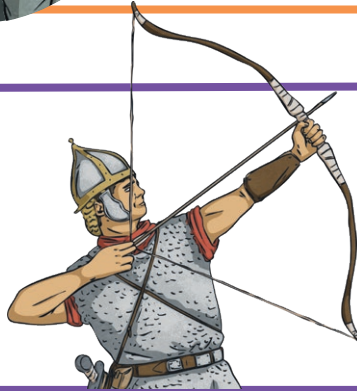
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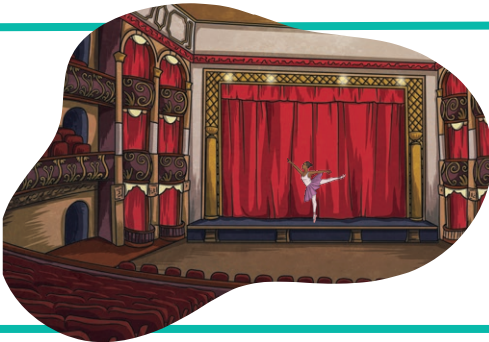
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