

Mastering Expanded Noun Phrases with Pip the Bookworm

Learning objective: To understand and construct expanded noun phrases by adding adjectives and prepositional phrases to nouns.

Use these flashcards to practise adding descriptive detail to your writing. Read the front of the card, then check the back to see how Pip the Bookworm would expand the noun phrase.

What is a noun phrase?

A noun phrase is a group of words built around a noun, such as 'the book' or 'a hungry caterpillar'.

What is an expanded noun phrase?

It is a noun phrase that has been expanded by adding adjectives or extra information to make the description more detailed.

Expand the noun: 'The forest' using two adjectives.

The dark, mysterious forest.

Expand the noun: 'The owl' using a prepositional phrase.

The owl with the golden feathers.

Add two adjectives and a prepositional phrase to: 'The monkey'.

The energetic, playful monkey in the leafy tree.

Why do we use expanded noun phrases in our writing?

To help the reader create a clearer and more vivid picture in their mind.

Expand the noun: 'A cupcake' with an adjective.

A sweet, sugary cupcake.

Expand the noun: 'The sea' with a prepositional phrase.

The sea beneath the bright moon.

Expand the noun: 'The bridge' using two adjectives and a prepositional phrase.

The ancient, stone bridge over the flowing river.

Identify the adjectives in: 'The fluffy, white kitten'.

Fluffy and white.

Identify the prepositional phrase in: 'The star in the night sky'.

In the night sky.

True or False: An expanded noun phrase must always contain a verb.

False. It is built around a noun, not a verb.