

# Noun Phrase

## Characteristics

English III.

Session 2.

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# Modifiers

Zero modifiers : Elephants (are intelligent)

Articles: Undefined a/an =one **One** Elephant / **An** Elephant (can kill you)

Defined = The **The** elephant / **The** elephants

Numbers: **Three** elephants

Demonstrative adjectives: **That** elephant (far, singular) / **Those** elephants (far, pl)

**This** elephant (near, sing.), **These** elephants (near, pl.)

Quantifiers: undefined quantity: **some** elephants, **some** pizza (also de...)

**more** elephants, **less** elephants

Adjectives: big **big** elephants, **A big** elephant, **The big** elephants, **That big** elephant, **some big** elephants.

# Modifiers (2)

Adverbs: very /so (intensifiers of adjectives) very elephants

very beautiful elephants / so beautiful elephants ; A very beautiful elephant

some beautiful elephants ; many beautiful elephants; The beautiful elephants.

Many intelligent people

Royal order of adjectives. Opinion, size, shape, edad (antigüedad), color, origin, materials.

A new small red American wooden chair.

opinion size color origin material

# DISGUISE

 A **Octopuses** are famous for their round bodies, big eyes, and eight arms. There are many different types of octopuses, but all are alike in one way: They are masters<sup>1</sup> of disguise. **Octopuses** can change their **appearance** in less than a second to look like rocks, plants, or even other animals. How do they do this?

B **An octopus** can disguise itself in three ways. One is by using color. **An octopus's** skin has special cells<sup>2</sup> called *chromatophores*. **These cells** are filled with yellow, brown, and red pigment.<sup>3</sup> When an octopus moves its **muscles** a certain way, the cells become large and **produce** colorful spots and other **patterns** on its skin. **Chromatophores** can also reflect light. In blue light, for example, an octopus's skin will look blue. In white light, its skin will look white. With these cells, an octopus can produce many different skin colors and patterns.

C **An octopus** can also change its skin texture.<sup>4</sup> When the octopus moves its muscles, its skin can go from smooth to spiky. It might then look like a plant, or coral. **Another way** an octopus disguises itself is by changing its **shape**. Some, for example, roll their bodies into balls so they look like rocks. **One type** of octopus can change its form to look like other sea **creatures**—especially dangerous ones, such as sea snakes.

D Why are octopuses so good at disguising themselves? They have to be. The ocean is not a safe place for them. Because they have no bones in their bodies, octopuses are like large pieces of meat. Many predators want to eat them—



D Why are octopuses so good at disguising themselves? They have to be. **The ocean** is not a safe place for them. Because they have no bones in their bodies, octopuses are like large pieces of meat. **Many predators** want to eat them—and they can eat them whole. To **survive**, octopuses have **developed** the amazing **ability** to change their appearance very quickly in order to **hide** from predators.

## Modifiers (3)

Prepositional phrase: preposition + noun of+noun, for+noun, about+noun etc.

A new small red American wooden chair of this institution.

noun phrase

prepositional phrase

# Noun phrase functions

Subject → The new American chair is .....

Predication → BE + NF (nominal phrase)

Direct object: I love new American chairs

Indirect object: I gave my mother flowers

# MASTER OF DISGUISE

Sujeto verbo complemento  
Be predication (FN)  
any verb FN (objeto)

subject



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predication

B An octopus can disguise itself in three ways. One is by using color. An octopus's skin has special cells<sup>2</sup> called *chromatophores*. These cells are filled with yellow, brown, and red pigment.<sup>3</sup> When an octopus moves its **muscles** a certain way, the cells become large and **produce** colorful spots and other **patterns** on its skin. Chromatophores can also reflect light. In blue light, for example, an octopus's skin will look blue. In white light, its skin will look white. With these cells, an octopus can produce many different skin colors and patterns.

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# THE INCREDIBLE DOLPHIN

S v C

Be Subj Predication

verbos objeto FN

Sentence (s v c)



A Many people say dolphins are **intelligent**.

They seem to be able to think, understand, and learn things quickly. But are they as **smart** as humans, or are they more like cats and dogs?

Dolphins use their brains quite differently from the way people do. But scientists say dolphins and humans are **alike** in some ways. How?

## Communication

B Like humans, every dolphin has its own “name.” The name is a **special** whistle.<sup>1</sup> Each dolphin chooses a whistle for itself, usually by its first birthday. Dolphins are like people in other ways, too. They “talk” to each other about a lot of things—such as their age, their

**feelings**, and possibly use a **system** of sounds to **communicate**. Conversation is not “speaks dolphin” yet trying to learn.

## Play

C Dolphins live in groups; they often join other pods to play games with people. Sometimes carrying objects (e.g., these objects back to playing together is animals do.

## Teamwork

Noun	Substituted by	Example
human, singular	I, you, he, she	I, Erika, love music. You, Juan, are my student. Juan is my friend. He is nice. Erika is my teacher. She is Mexican.
human, plural	you, we, they	Group of RC2: You all are welcome! We, UAM students, are learning to read in English. They, the people on the street, are dancing.
non-human, singular <b>Undefined, singular</b>	it	English is important. It is a foreign language. The cat is eating. It is cute. Love is a concept. It is interesting. <b>It</b> is said that nature is wise (se dice /es dicho que la naturaleza es sabia)
non, human, plural <b>Undefined, plural</b>	they	English and Spanish are important. They are global languages. The cats are eating. They are cute. Love and death are concepts. They are interesting. <i>They</i> are said that...

Noun	Substituted by	Possessive adjective + noun
human, singular	I, you, he, she	I = my I am Erika; My name is Erika Whose name? = Erika's You= your You are Fernanda; Your name is Fernanda He = His name She = Her name
human, plural	you, we, they	You = your <b>cat</b> We = our cat They = their cat
non-human, singular <b>Undefined, singular</b>	it	It = Its  The cat has a tail =it has a tail = It is its tail= It's its tail (es su cola).
non, human, plural <b>Undefined, plural</b>	they	Their  The cats have tails = They have tails = They are their tails=They're their tails (son sus colas)