

Expanded noun phrases

Watch this short clip again if you'd like a quick reminder : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4fCk8ye4jio>

Introduction

Use the options below to label each expanded noun phrase.

Determiner	Noun	Prepositional phrase	Adjective
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She had **an elderly neighbour** called Eustace.

The **bottle under the sink** smelled disgusting.

Around the corner, **several slobbering dogs** waited to ambush her.

Task 1

Alec strained with effort as the parasail filled with air and rose into the sky. His legs pounded a few final steps and then the ropes above him pulled tight and he was lifted up into space. The feeling of lightness was incredible. It never grew boring. It was, in his opinion, the closest thing to flying like a bird that a person could experience.

In the far distance he could see sunlight glinting off the smooth ocean. Beneath him, the lush, green valley ploughed its way out towards the coast. It was idyllic. A few wispy clouds hung high above him, making the sky appear even brighter. Alec smiled.

- a) The sentence below is from paragraph one.
List any adjectives and prepositional phrases which have been used to expand a noun phrase.

His legs pounded a few final steps and then the ropes above him pulled tight and he was lifted up into space.

- b) The first sentence of paragraph one has been rewritten below in two different ways.
Which version conveys extra information concisely?

- 1: Alec strained with effort as the parasail behind him filled with air and rose into the sky.
- 2: Alec strained with effort as the rising parasail filled with air and rose into the sky.

- c) Look at paragraph two. Which of the options below would be most suitable for concisely adding new information to the phrase 'the sky'?
1. azure
 2. around them

Task 2

No matter how hard or fast Wesley gulped in the air, his lungs still gasped for more. He had known the course would be a test of his fitness, but he had never imagined it would be this intense. His knees were bleeding from the scramble up the rock pile. The cliff climb had left his arms and back feeling somehow swollen and empty all at the same time. His legs felt like jelly. They felt wobbly with exhaustion. That was thanks to the long, two-mile run through the mud.

Stood at the top of another cliff, he was now facing not only tiredness, but fear. An enormous zip-line disappeared over the edge in front of him. An angry-looking man was shouting for him to strap himself in. Could he do it? Could he pass another test?

- a) Change the expanded noun phrases below. Your new expansions must provide similar information to the originals, and be concise.

an enormous zip-line

the edge in front of him

- b) 2. ...the mountain air, his aching lungs still gasped for more - because it does not repeat information.
- c) Rewrite the underlined sentences so they form one concise sentence.

ANSWERS

Use the options below to label each expanded noun phrase.

Determiner	Noun	Prepositional phrase	Adjective
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She had **an elderly neighbour** called Eustace.

Determiner

Adjective

Noun

The **bottle under the sink** smelled disgusting.

Determiner

Noun

Prepositional phrase

Around the corner, **several slobbering dogs** waited to ambush her.

Determiner

Adjective

Noun

Task 1

- Final – adjective
above him – prepositional phrase
- Sentence 1
- 1: azure

Task 2

- Various answers, for example: an expansive zip-line, the boundary ahead of him
- Which example below would be the most concise way to add detail to the opening sentence?
Explain your answer.
A. ...the cooling, cold air, his breathless lungs still gasped for more.
B. ...the mountain air, his aching lungs still gasped for more.
- Various answers, for example:
Thanks to the long, muddy run, his exhausted legs felt like jelly.