

# ENGLISH GRAMMAR 1

## PHRASE STRUCTURE

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- Greenbaum and Quirk, 1990: pp. 11–23; 205–214
  - Blaganje and Konte, 1998: pp. 12–27
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# Types of phrases in English

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- ❑ verb phrase (VP)
  - ❑ noun phrase (NP)
  - ❑ adjective phrase (AdjP)
  - ❑ adverb phrase (AdvP)
  - ❑ prepositional phrase (PP) – there is always a preposition
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# Sentence elements

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- subject (S) - [osebek]
  - predicator/verb (P) - [povedek]
  - objects (DO, IO) - [predmet]
  - complements (SC, OC) - [določilo]
  - Adverbials / Adjuncts (A) - [prislovno določilo]
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# Sentence analysis

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They are eating.

NP                      VP  
They |are eating.

NP                      VP  
They |are eating.  
S                      P

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# Sentence analysis

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They are eating lunch.

NP                      VP              NP  
They | are eating | lunch.

NP                      VP              NP  
They | are eating | lunch.  
S                      P              DO

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# Sentence analysis

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John looks happy.

NP      VP      AdjP  
John| looks |happy.

NP      VP      AdjP  
John| looks |happy. = John is happy.  
S      P      SC

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# Sentence analysis

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She considers him mature.

NP	VP	NP	AdjP
She	considers	him	mature.

NP	VP	NP	AdjP
She	considers	him	mature.
S	P	DO	OC

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# Phrase analysis

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NP

VP

They |are eating.

NP: they: simple (head)

VP: are eating: complex (PreM-H)

Headword is obligatory in a phrase! (carries the lexical meaning, modifiers are optional and can be many of them)

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# Head

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NP

I

H

they

VP

I

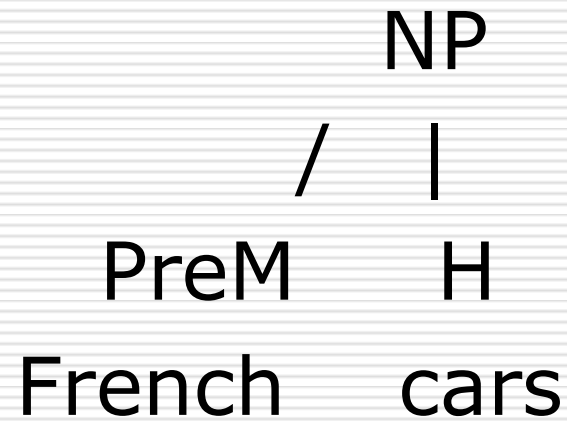
H

look

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# Premodification

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# Postmodification

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VP

| \

H PostM

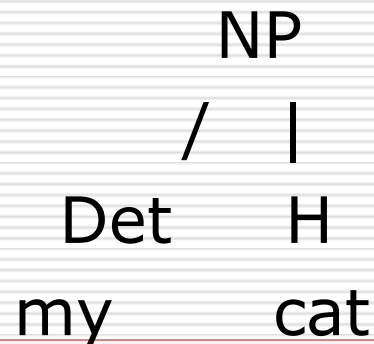
look up

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# Determiners

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- Determiner: look like modifier, but it isn't. Can be:
  - Article (*the, a, an*)
  - Possessive pronoun (*my, his, our, their*)
  - Demonstrative pronoun (*that, these, those, this*)



# Analysis

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NP	VP	NP	NP
The young man	has given	her	a ring.
S	P	IO	DO

NP	VP	NP
The man in the blue shirt	is	Tom.
S	P	SC

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# Analysis

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NP/ S

VP/ P

The woman working in the garden| has  
seen| the thief. NP/ DO

NP VP AdjP

It| is| very warm.

S P SC

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# Phrase analysis

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NP

|

H

her

NP

/

|

\

Det

PreM

H

The

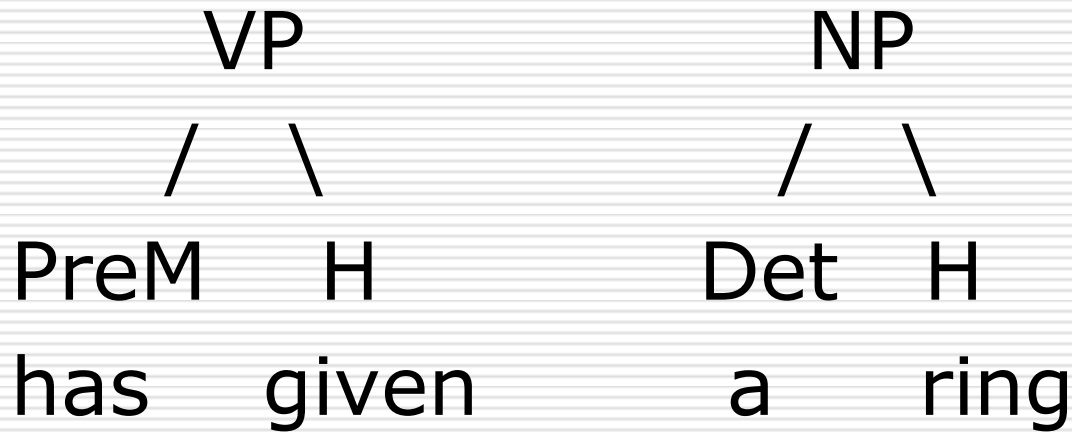
young

man



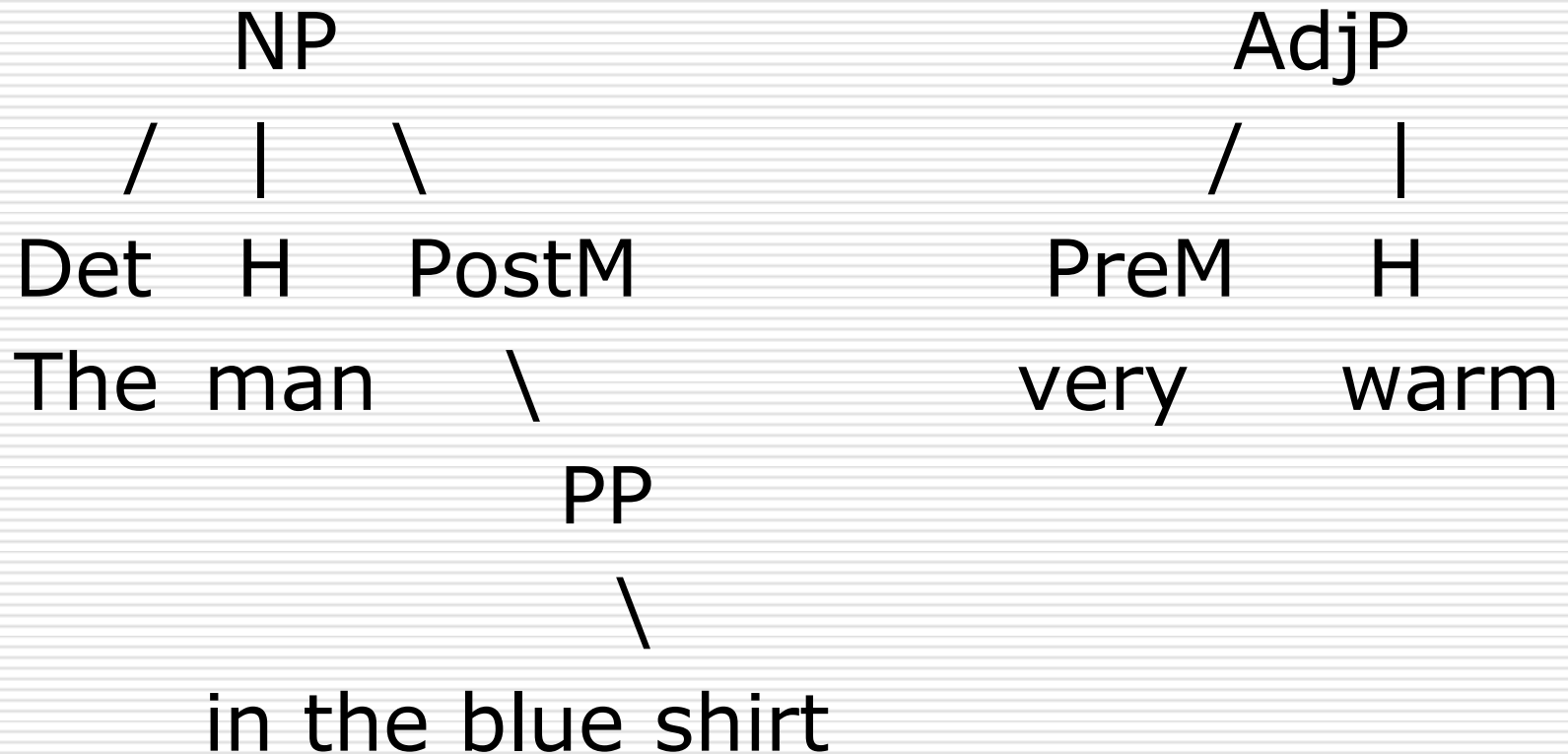
# Phrase analysis

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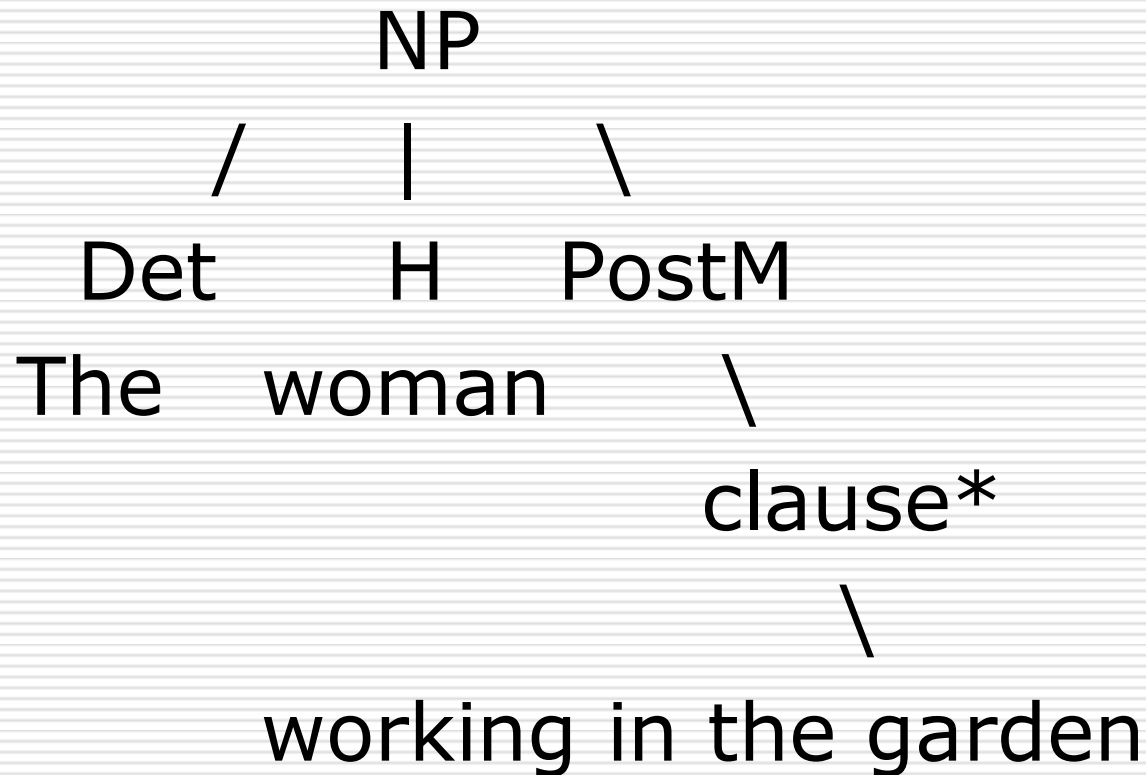
# Phrase analysis

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# Phrase analysis

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\* clause, not phrase = because it has a predicator

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