**ASV 1 – WEEK 5**

**5.1 PREMODIFIERS IN NOMINAL PHRASES**

Premodifiers in a nominal phrase are divided into four main sub-classes which normally occur in the following order:

1. determiners and predeterminers

2. numerals (cardinal and ordinal)

3. adjectives (including participles in adjectival function)

4. nouns

**Determiner Numeral Adjective Noun Headword**

the two new grammar books

his first steady girl friend

those three hardworking science students

the first two commercial jet planes

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5.29 **4. Nouns**

Nouns frequently function as premodifiers of nouns.

Structures of this kind are:

a) those in which the premodifying noun occurs in the inflected (possessive) case:

a ***dog's*** life

a ***day's*** work

that ***woman's*** doctor

b) those in which the premodifying noun occurs in the common case:

a ***dog*** biscuit

a ***day*** shift

that ***woman*** doctor

**NOTE:**

A premodifier expressed by a noun in the inflected case usually corresponds to Slovene possessive adjectives in *-****ov****, -****in****,* and those in

*-****ski*** *(****ški****)*:

my ***father's***brothers – očetovi bratje

the ***girl's***mother – dekličina mati

***England's***greatest dramatist – največji angleški dramatik

Noun premodification is alien to Slovene; English noun premodifiers are usually translated as **adjectives** or as **nouns in the oblique case**:

an *iron* bridge železen most

a *timber* merchant lesni trgovec

*security* council varnostni svet

a *paper* mill tovarna papirja

a *pay* agreement sporazum o plačah

a *wood* merchant trgovec s kurivom

Premodifying nouns should not be regarded as nouns converted into adjectives since unlike premodifying adjectives, they cannot be premodified by adverbs of degree (intensifiers) nor can they be inflected for the comparative or superlative degree:

\* a very church wedding

\* a most church wedding

**EXERCISE 4**

**Identify the sentence elements and the phrases which realize them:**

1. The old man spoke quietly.

2. John is a student.

3. John is at home.

4. John is in a hurry.

5. They made dinner.

6. They made me dinner last week.

7. She has lent them some money.

8. They elected her president.

9. It is very cold here.

10. They painted the room white.

11. We led Tom home.

12. You look very tired.

13. Can you see a bird?

14. The baby is in good health.

15. Be quiet!

**EXERCISE 5**

**1. Ways of realizing sentence elements - THE SUBJECT (S)**

**The old woman living in the basement** needs help.

**Mrs. Brown and her daughters** arrived first.

**There** has been **some interesting news** on the radio.

**Now** is the time to make holiday plans.

**To have seen him lose his temper** was shocking for all of us.

**Writing a letter of application** proved difficult.

**Why he has sold all his property** is a mystery.