

1. (her interest in the coins of Roman Britain)
2. (the leader of the revolution in October)
3. (the courage of a stag at bay)
4. (a battle of words in Parliament)
5. (the fall of Rome in 1527)
6. (the highest rate of inflation in Europe)
7. (a father of ten children with a criminal record).

**Exercise 4c** (answers on p. 203)

The following are NPs in which the order of premodifiers is scrambled:

1. sisters, two, Cinderella's, ugly
2. jade, idol, carved, green, a, small
3. designs, interlocking, Chinese, intricate, old, those, all
4. old, disgusting, Victorian, a, drawings, few, quite
5. brilliant, new, Moldwarp's, hypothesis, geological
6. cylindrical, second, Morgan's, steam, condenser, revolutionary
7. a, tower, church, Gothic, grey, ancient
8. first, hundred, tourists, the, foreign, all, almost
9. responsibilities, moral, new, his, heavy
10. life, hectic, my, social, London.

- A. Unscramble the words into their correct grammatical order. (In some cases there may be more than one possible order.)
- B. In doing A, you have exercised your ability, as a speaker of English, to apply rules for ordering premodifiers in an NP. Try to formulate these rules. First, work out the order in which these classes normally occur if they are combined: N, e, GP, Adj, d, Av. Second, if there is more than one member of the same class in the same NP, are there any principles for deciding in which order to put them?

**Exercise 4d** (answers on p. 204)

In the following examples, give function labels and form labels for each of the words and phrases which are elements of each NP. For example, the NP *the new factory here in Lancaster* may be analysed:

(<sup>M</sup>the <sup>N</sup>new <sup>H</sup>factory <sup>M</sup>here <sup>M</sup>in <sup>PP</sup>Lancaster))

1. she
2. the skeleton in the cupboard
3. that strange feeling
4. half the people present
5. Stanley's historic meeting with Livingstone at Ujiji
6. all those utterly fruitless afternoon meetings of the committee last year.

**Exercise 4e** (answers on p. 205)

The most important category of pronouns is that of the **personal pronouns**. In Table 4.4 the personal pronouns are arranged according to distinctions traditionally known as **person** (first, second, third), **number** (singular, plural), **case** (subject, object, genitive, etc.),<sup>1</sup> and **gender** (masculine, feminine, neuter). Often these distinctions are **neutralised**, which means that the same form has to go in two different boxes (e.g. this is true of boxes 3 and 11). Complete the table by filling in the numbered gaps.

Table 4.4

Person	Number	Gender	Case	First		Second		Third		
				Sing.	Plur.	Sing.	Plur.	Singular		Plural
								Masc.	Fem.	Neut.
Subject	H	1	2	3	4	5	6	she	7	8
Object	H	9	us	11	12	him	14	15	16	
Reflexive	H	17	18	yourself	yourself	21	22	23	24	25
Genitive	M	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
	H	mine	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41

**Exercise 4f** (preliminary consideration of constructions to be re-examined later)

Examine these sets of sentences in which the VPs are italicised, and then describe as well as you can: (i) the rules for forming constructions b-f below, and (ii) the circumstances under which the dummy auxiliary *do* is used in English:

a. Ordinary Declaratives

- She *is working*.
- They *had eaten* them.
- She *works* hard.
- They *made* a mistake.

b. Negative Sentences

- She *is not working*.
- They *had not eaten* them.
- She *does not work* hard.
- They *did not make* a mistake.

c. Questions

- Is she working?*
- Had they eaten* them?
- Does she work* hard?
- Did they make* a mistake?

d. Emphatic Sentences

- Yes, she *IS working*.
- Yes, they *HAD eaten* them.
- Yes, she *DOES work* hard.
- Yes, they *DID make* a mistake.

- 1 The object form of the pronoun is not limited to pronouns functioning as object. In what other functions is the object form used? (See further section 11.4.)

- e. **Tag Questions**  
*She's working, isn't she?*  
*They'd eaten them, hadn't they?*  
*She works hard, doesn't she?*  
*They made a mistake, didn't they?*
- f. **Comparative Clauses**  
*She's working harder than Bill is.*  
*They'd eaten more than we had.*  
*She works harder than I do.*  
*They made more mistakes than we did.*

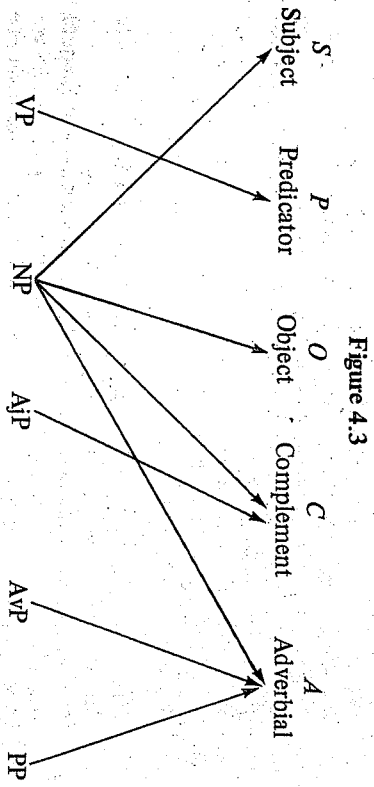
4.6 Summary

The following, then, are the formal structures of the six types of phrase:

- A. **Noun phrases (NP):**  $\{M^n\} H \{M^n\}$   
 where *H* (head) may be: N, pn, Ai, e, or GP  
*M* before *H* (premodifiers) may be: d, e, Ai, N, GP etc.  
*M* after *H* (postmodifiers) may be: PP, NP, AV, Ai, relative clause, etc.
- B. **Prepositional phrases (PP):**  $p \{M^n\} H \{M^n\}$   
 where *p* is a preposition, and  
*M, H, and M* are exactly as in noun phrases.
- C. **Genitive phrases (GP):**  $\{M^n\} H \{M^n\}'s$   
 where *'s* is the genitive particle, and  
*M, H, and M* are as in noun phrases (complex postmodifiers, however, are rare in GPs).
- D. **Adjective phrases (AJP):**  $\{M^n\} H \{M^n\}$   
 where *H* (head) is an Ai  
*M* before *H* (premodifiers) are normally Av  
*M* after *H* (postmodifiers) are PP, AV, and some clauses.

- E. **Adverb phrases (AVP):**  $\{M^n\} H \{M^n\}$   
 where *H* (head) is an Av, and  
*M* is as in AJP's.
- F. **Verb phrases (VP):**  $\{Aux\} \{Aux\} \{Aux\} M^v$   
 where all *Aux* are v (operator-verbs), and  
*M<sup>v</sup>* is either v (operator-verb) or V (full-verb).

The functions of these phrase classes in the clause can be summarised as shown in Figure 4.3. The arrow  $X \longrightarrow Y$  is to be interpreted: 'X may be a Y'. We turn in Chapter 5 to a more detailed description of how phrases behave in clauses.



EXERCISES

- Exercise 4a (answers on p. 203)  
 Which phrases, in the following, are main and which are subordinate?
1. [(Mary) (had) (a little lamb)].
  2. [(The fleece (of the little lamb)) (was) (as white (as snow))].
  3. [(Every one (in town)) (admires) (the whiteness (of the fleece (of (Mary's) little lamb)))].

- Exercise 4b (answers on p. 203)  
 Examples (24) and (25) on p. 62 illustrate a possible ambiguity of prepositional phrases. To which of the examples (p. 72) do these descriptions apply:
- (a) Two PPs postmodify the same head (...H (PP) (PP)).
  - (b) One PP is subordinate to another PP (...H (p...H (PP)).
  - (c) The interpretation is ambiguous between (a) and (b).