The Adjective Phrase

A prepositional phrase that modifies a noun or a pronoun is called an adjective phrase.

An adjective phrase tells what kind or which one.

**Examples**

1. My favorite writer for young readers is Beverly Cleary. [The adjective phrase modifies the noun writer, telling what kind.]
2. I have read most of Beverly Cleary’s books. [The adjective phrase modifies the pronoun most, telling which one.]

An adjective phrase usually follows the word it modifies. That word may be the object of another prepositional phrase.

**Example**

Jane read a book about the fall of Rome. [The adjective phrase of Rome modifies fall, which is the object of the preposition about. The adjective phrase about the fall modifies book.]

More than one adjective phrase may modify the same word.

**Example**

The bowl of fruit salad in the refrigerator is for the party. [The adjective phrases of fruit salad and in the refrigerator modify the noun bowl.]

**Exercise**

In each of the following sentences, underline the adjective phrase or phrases. Then, circle the word that each adjective phrase modifies.

**Example 1.** The town beyond those mountains to the east is no longer inhabited.

1. My favorite writer of science fiction is Ray Bradbury.
2. The pie needs four cups of fruit.
3. A student from Mr. Levy’s class won first prize.
4. The loud crash of the cymbal was deafening.
5. The directions for the assignment confused Gilbert.
6. The glass of water on the table is mine.
7. The play of the sunlight on the water was a beautiful sight.
8. Somebody with feet of large proportions has scuffed the gym floor.
9. Susie mowed the area around the trunk of the tree.
10. The house on the corner of Main and Elm has been abandoned.