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MODIFIERS

[Special stress has been given on the use of 'ing-phrase + by/without', '-ing/-ed within a clause', 'be + adj. + phrase' and 'be + adj. + to + verb'.]

Read the following sentences. (নীচের বাক্যগুলি পড়ো) :

Any one can learn a foreign language *by practising* it regularly.

Without doing any physical exercise, you cannot keep good health.

Doing home work at the right time is a good habit.

A *blooming* flower is beautiful to look at.

A *growing* child needs nutritious food.

A *sleeping* lion cannot catch a prey.

Don't put your hand in *boiling* water.

Don't sit on a *broken* chair.

The girl is nursing the *wounded* bird.

They bade good bye to the *departed* guest who came to visit them.

We saw the men *looking out hopelessly*.



The words or phrases *by practising*, *without doing*, *doing*, *blooming*, *growing*, *sleeping*, *boiling*, *broken*, *wounded*, *departed* and *looking out hopelessly* are used here to modify the nouns. These are called **Modifiers**. These may be placed before or after the nouns. Hence these are also called **Noun Modifiers**.

যে সব word বা phrase Noun-এর আগে বা পরে বসে Noun-কে modify (বিশেষিত) করে, সেগুলিকে **Modifier** বা **Noun Modifier** বলে।

There are two types of Modifiers (দুইরকম Modifier আছে) :

MODIFIERS

1. Premodifier

2. Postmodifier

[1] A modifier which precedes a Noun is called **Premodifier**.

যে modifier Noun-এর পূর্বে বসে তাকে Premodifier বলে।

যেমন—A *blooming* flower. A *broken* chair.

[2] A modifier which follows a Noun is called **Postmodifier**.

যে modifier Noun-এর পরে বসে তাকে Postmodifier বলে।

যেমন—We saw the men *looking out hopelessly*.

VARIOUS TYPES AND USES OF PREMODIFIERS

There are different types of Premodifiers.

[i] Determiners as Premodifiers :

The boys and girls are walking side by side.

Those boys and girls are very intelligent.

[ii] Predeterminers as Premodifiers :

All the boys were present in the class.

Both the books are out-of-print.

[iii] Present participle(ing-participle) as Premodifiers :

A *darkening* sky may bring showers.

The cloud brings showers for the *thirsting* (= thirsty) flowers.

A life of *increasing* labour and *decreasing* leisure is the characteristic of modern civilization.

[iv] Past Participle (ed/en-participle) as Premodifiers :

The *injured* cat is limping.

A *burnt* child dreads the fire.

The ants eat their *stored* food in winter.

The *worried* man could not attend the guests.

After six deaths it became a *haunted* house.



[v] Adjectives as Premodifiers :

A *lazy* man cannot be an early riser.

A *clever* boy like you cannot do such a foolish work.

An *intelligent* girl worked out the sum in a few minutes.

[vi] Noun for a Noun Modifier :

The *School Inspector* came on a *surprise visit*.

I'm going to my *country-house*.

[vii] Nominal Compound as Premodifiers :

She is a *record-breaking* typist.

Mark the *wheat-producing* countries in the map.

Try to use this *labour-saving* method.

You should be aware of the *Kolkata bus routes*.

A *low cost* house is not easily available in Kolkata.



VARIOUS TYPES AND USES OF POSTMODIFIERS

There are different types of post-modifiers.

[i] Present Participle phrases as postmodifier :

The students saw their teacher *coming*.

I found an old woman *standing* at the door.

I used to watch the flower plant *growing* everyday.

We saw the beggar *looking out hopelessly*.

The student *working in the laboratory* is very brilliant.

[ii] Past Participle phrases as Postmodifier :

I saw a man *injured by an accident*.

A tiger *killed by the hunter* was left in the jungle.

He has got the money *sent by his father*.

I have got the letter *written by you*.

[iii] 'To' Infinitive phrase as Postmodifier :

Fatima was surprised *to hear the news*.

She got a nice bat *to play with*.

Here is a chair *to sit on*.

I am the last man *to leave the place*.

Juthi was glad *to know her SSC result*.

[iv] Adjective phrases as Postmodifier :

Mr. Ali is *experienced in teaching English*.

A man *with white beard* came here yesterday.

He is a man of *great honour*.

[v] Nominal clause as Appositive used as Postmodifier :

The report *that he was murdered* is true.

Our hope *that he would come back home* proved false.

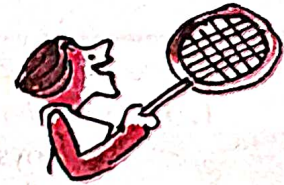
[vi] Relative clause as Postmodifier :

The boy *who saved the girl* is a scout.

This is the place *where he was born*.

This is the pen *which I lost yesterday*.

I want a car *that I can drive*.

**NOUN MODIFIERS AND HEAD NOUNS**

Now, we see a **Noun** may be modified by :

[i] the words **before** the Head Noun—**Premodifiers**.

[যে বিশেষণগুলি Noun-এর আগে বসে সেগুলি **Premodifier**]

[ii] the words **after** the Head Noun—**Postmodifiers**.

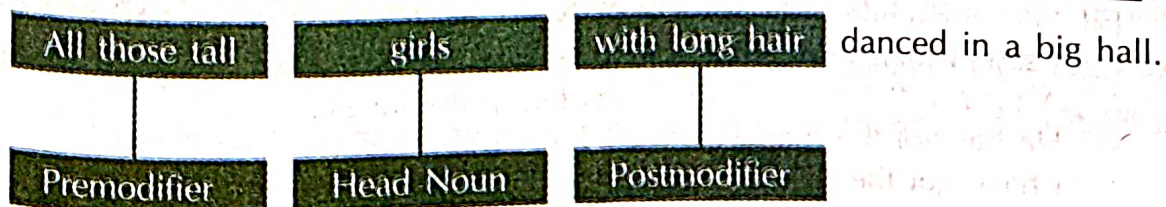
[যে বিশেষণগুলি Noun-এর পরে বসে সেগুলি **Postmodifier**]

Premodifier	Head Noun	Postmodifier
(i) Predeterminers	←O→	(i) Present Participle Phrases
(ii) Determiners		(ii) Past Participle Phrases
(iii) Present Participles		(iii) 'To' Infinitive Phrases
(iv) Past Participles		(iv) Adjective Phrases
(v) Adjectives		(v) Nominal Clauses
(vi) Nouns		(vi) Relative Clauses
(vii) Nominal Compounds		

NOMINAL GROUP/NOUN CLUSTER

The whole group of words having the Head noun with its modifier(s) is called a **Nominal Group** or a **Noun Cluster**.

[মুখ্য Noun এবং তার Modifier-কে একত্রে Nominal Group বা Noun Cluster বলে।]

NOUN CLUSTER**REMAINING PART**

EXERCISE

1. Fill in the blanks with 'ing'-participles which are used as Modifiers (Premodifier or Postmodifier) :

Verbs to be used are given in the list below :

[stand, walk, run, work, boil]

- (i) Don't try to get into a train.
- (ii) The farmers in the field are very poor.
- (iii) I found the girl at the door.
- (iv) We saw a girl on the ropes.
- (v) Only hard students will succeed.
- (vi) Don't put your hand in water.



2. Use Past Participle forms of the verbs given in the list as Modifiers :

[burn, speak, read, wound, balance, break, worry]

- (i) A diet is required for a growing baby.
- (ii) Why have you such a look?
- (iii) They took the man to hospital.
- (iv) You should learn English too.
- (v) Good books in childhood are the real guides.
- (vi) Don't sit on a chair.
- (vii) A child dreads the fire.



3. Use appropriate words, phrases or clauses or infinitives as Modifiers. Root verbs are given in the brackets :

- (i) Look at the cows (graze) in the field.
- (ii) The girl came here (dance) joyfully.
- (iii) If she catches you (read) her diary, she'll be furious.
- (iv) The picture (paint) by the artist is wonderful.
- (v) He advised me to apply for the post (vacate).
- (vi) She is busy (write) some letters.
- (vii) He fell down while (board) a bus.
- (viii) We should avoid (waste) of money.

4. Write in your own English using Modifiers :

ঘুমন্ত সিংহ শিকার ধরতে পারে না। বাড়ন্ত শিশুর পুষ্টিকর খাদ্য প্রয়োজন। ভাঙা চেয়ারে বোসো না। ফাটা রেকর্ড চালিও না। ফুটন্ত জলে হাত দিও না। চলন্ত বাসে উঠতে যেও না। ফুটন্ত ফুল দেখতে খুব সুন্দর। ছেলেটি একটি আহত পাখিকে শুশ্রূষা করছে। বাবার পাঠানো টাকা আমি খরচ করে ফেলেছি। তৃষ্ণার্ত ফুলের জন্য মেঘ বৃষ্টি নিয়ে আসে। ভীত ছেলেটি চীৎকার করে উঠল। ভাঙা পাত্রের জল ঢেলো না। ম্যাপে চা-উৎপাদক অঞ্চলগুলি চিহ্নিত করো। মাঠে যে কৃষকেরা কাজ করছে, তারা ক্লান্ত হয়ে পড়েছে। আমার একটি সুন্দর লেখার কলম আছে। কালো দাড়িওয়ালা লোকটিকে আমি চিনি। সে যে টাকা কুড়িয়ে পেয়েছে, তার এই কথা বিশ্বাস করা যায় না।