

Expanded Noun Phrases

A note to parents: An **expanded noun phrase** gives more detail or information about a noun in a simple noun phrase. This is usually done by adding adjectives to describe the noun in the noun phrase, for example:

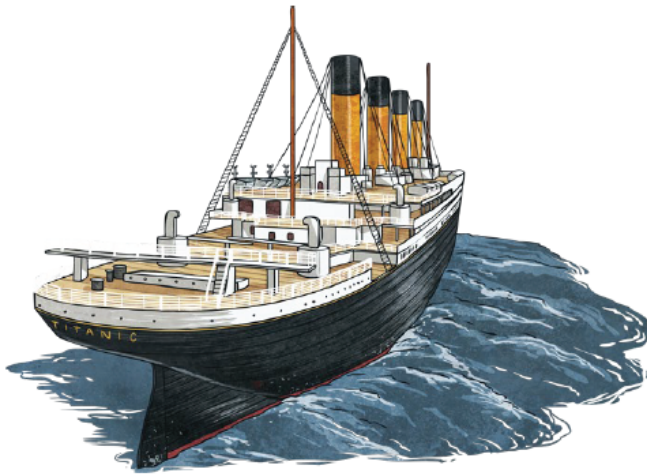
She walked through the dark, mysterious forest.

In the example above, the expanded noun phrase is 'the dark, mysterious forest', the words 'dark' and 'mysterious' have been used to expand the noun phrase. They make writing more interesting as they help the reader to build an image in their mind.

Read the following sentences. Underline or circle the **expanded noun phrase** in each sentence.

1. The brightly-coloured parrot flew through the canopy.
2. After his lunch, Harold ate a sweet, delicious chocolate brownie.
3. Under the waves, the stripy fish swam quickly through the reef.
4. In a forest clearing, a dark, mysterious jaguar sauntered by the water.
5. "Pass me the blue shoes please," Mum asked Sophia.
6. As John sat at the bus stop, he saw three large, black cars go past.
7. "These strawberry yoghurts are out of date!" complained the customer in the shop.
8. "Whose is this writing pencil?" asked the teacher as she held it in the air.
9. When he reached the top, the climber stared at the vast, breath-taking view.
10. Happy and elated, the winning team held their trophy in the air.

Read the newspaper extract below. It has lots of **simple noun phrases** in it and is a very boring article. Please improve the article by **expanding the noun phrases**. Use the adjectives next to the picture to help you to improve the text.



unsinkable deadly
cold mighty
hardworking terrified
confused frightened
monstrous vast
mountainous
experienced

On that night, the Titanic hit an iceberg that was floating through the North Atlantic. Ignoring several warnings about icebergs, the captain ordered his crew to sail at full speed which caused several sections of the ship to come apart upon impact. At first, passengers did not realise what a situation they were in. But gradually, water began filling the decks of the ship which could not be ignored. Many passengers placed their life jackets on and headed towards the ship's deck. Faces looked around in shock whilst some passengers began to get into the lifeboats...

