

For updated version, please click this link
<http://ocw.ump.edu.my>

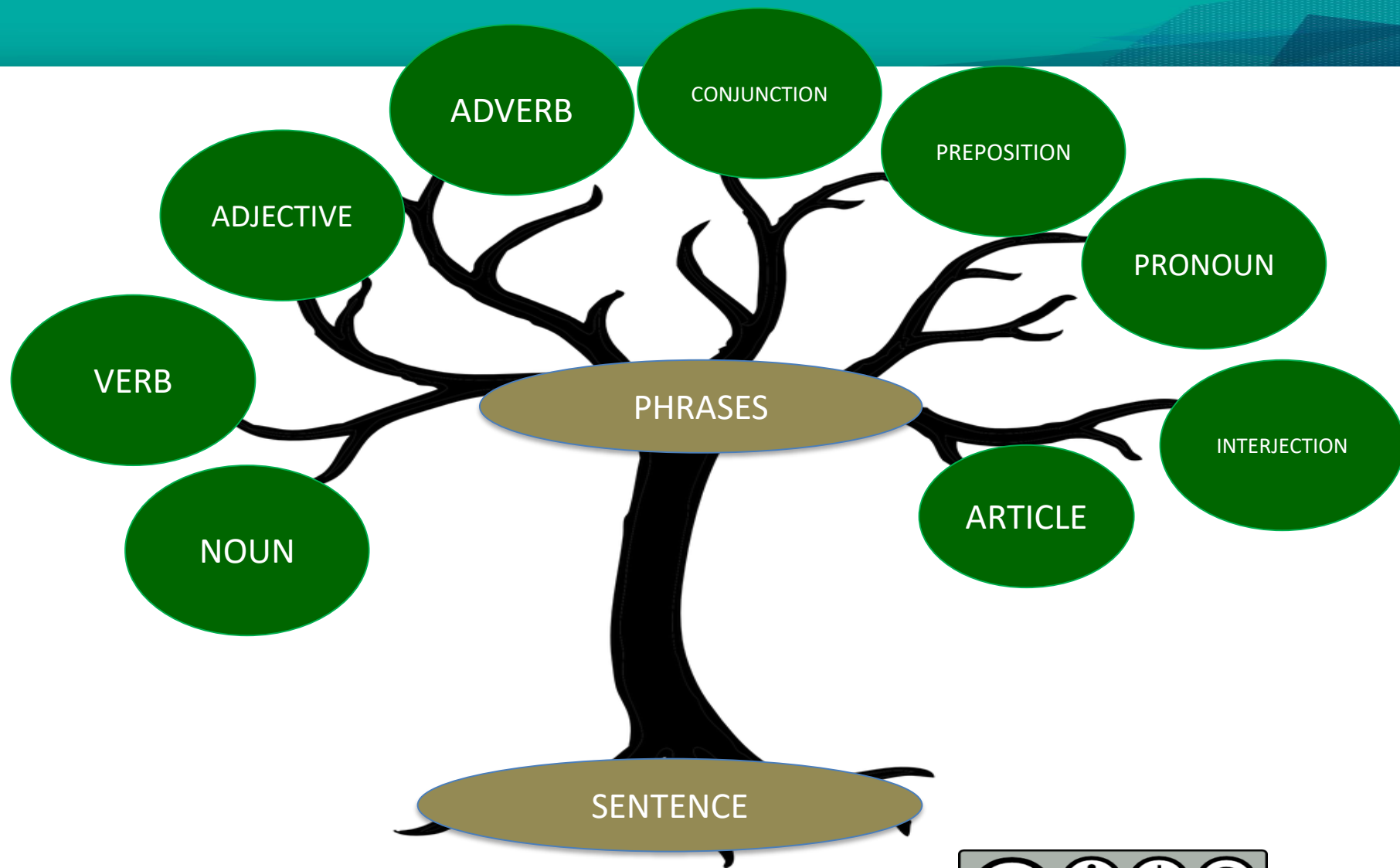
UHE3092 ENGLISH MECHANICS

TREE DIAGRAMS PART 3

by

Siti Norzaimalina bt Abd Majid
Centre for Modern Languages & Human Sciences
norzaimalina@ump.edu.my





How to build a tree diagram

First, you have to know the basic structure of a sentence. Sentence is made of phrases and words. The rules that we use to build tree diagram is called Phrase Structure Rules. Below are the common phrases in a sentence.

1. $S \rightarrow \text{SUBJ PRED}$
2. $\text{SUBJ} \rightarrow \text{NP}$
3. $\text{PRED} \rightarrow (\text{AUX}) \text{VP} (\text{NP})(\text{PP})$
4. $\text{NP} \rightarrow (\text{det})^3 (\text{AP}) \text{N} (\text{PP})$
5. $\text{NP} \rightarrow \text{pro}$
7. $\text{AUX} \rightarrow \text{-past}$
8. $\text{AUX} \rightarrow \text{-present}$
9. $\text{AUX} \rightarrow \text{modal}$
- 10. $\text{PP} \rightarrow \text{Prep NP}$**
- 11. $\text{AP} \rightarrow (\text{intens})^n \text{ADJ}^n (\text{PP})$**



PP → Prep NP

Prepositional phrase is a group of word that begins with a preposition and ends with a noun or pronoun.

Prepositional phrase can function as an adjective or an adverb.

For example:

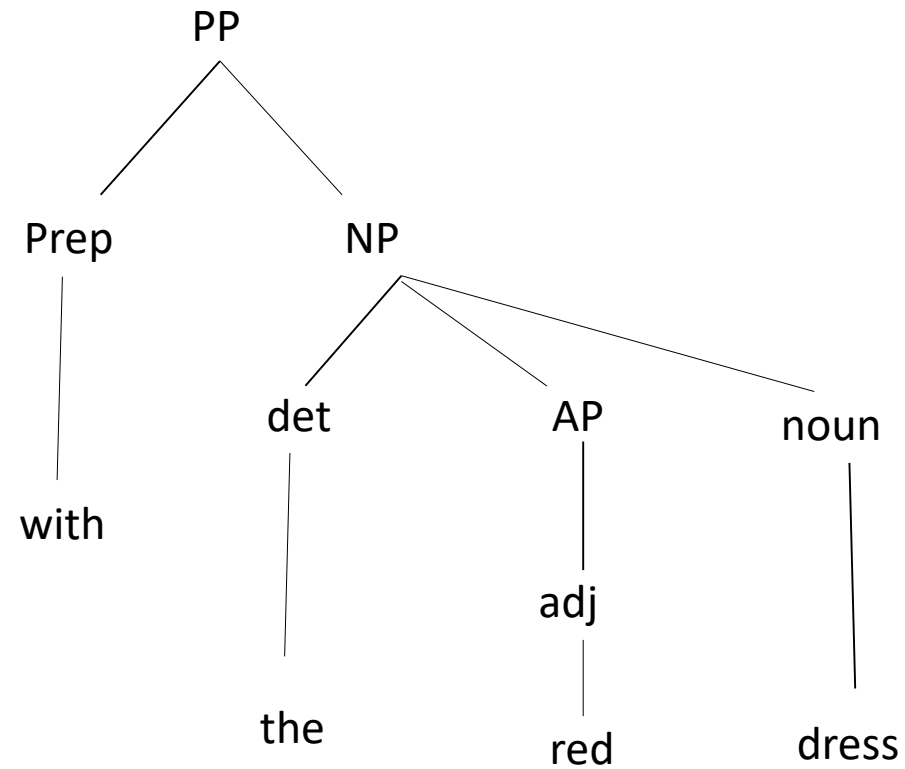
The girl **with the red dress** is my cousin.

↓
Prepositional Phrase –
functions as an adjective.
It modifies the noun “The
girl”.

with – preposition
the red dress – noun
phrase

How to build PP → PREP NP tree diagram?

Eg: with the red dress



AP → (intens)ⁿ ADJⁿ (PP)

- Adjective phrase is a phrase that has adjective as the head word. These group of words should describe the noun or pronoun.

For example:

Tina looked **extremely worried at the party.**

↓

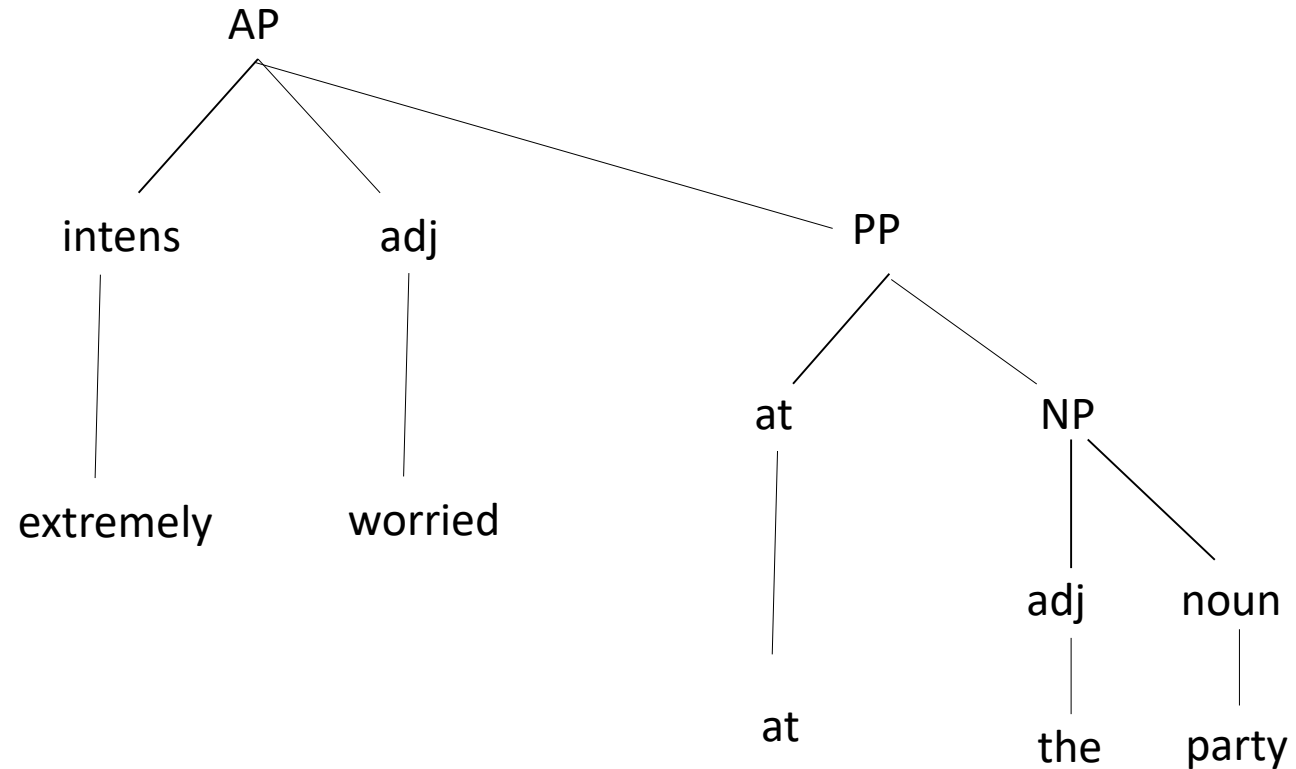
Adjective Phrase

extremely – intensifier/adverb
worried – adjective, described
Tina

- () parentheses is an optional item in AP.
- The power of n means, you can add infinite number of intensifier or adjective in an adjective phrase

How to build AP → (intens)ⁿ ADJⁿ (PP) tree diagram?

Eg: extremely worried at the party



More References

Celce-Murcia, M., & Larsen-Freeman, D. (1999). *The grammar book : An eSL/EFL teacher's course* (2nd ed. ed.). Boston, MA: Heinle & Heinle.

O'Grady, W., Archibald, J., Aronoff, M., & Rees-Miller, J. (2005). *Contemporary linguistics, an introduction* . (5th ed.). Boston, MA: Bedford/St. Martin's.

<http://people.umass.edu/scable/LING201-SP13/Slides-Handouts/Syntactic-Trees.pdf>

