**Larbi Ben M’hidi University, Oum El Bouaghi Module : CPE**

**Faculty of Letters and Languages Level : L1/ G.2 +G.10**

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**Lecture 02: From word to Sentence**

1. **Phrases**

A **phrase** is a group of words that acts as a particular part of speech or part of a sentence but doesn’t have a verb and its subject. These are the most common types of phrases:

**e.g.** a long day Enjoying the beautiful flowers In her way back to the new house

interesting deal very funny movie

These are the most common types of phrases:

**Verb phrases** are the most fundamental elements of the majority of languages in the world. In English, the verb phrase contains a main verb and other elements such as auxiliaries, modals, or adverbs.

**e.g.** will be burning might not have come. reads quickly

**Infinitive phrase:**

**e.g.** To go home to listen to music to make a cake to put make up

**Participial phrase:**

**e.g.** *Fleeing from the sudden storm*, many picnickers sought refuge in the shelter house at the park.

(*Fleeing* is a present participle describing the noun *picnickers; fleeing from the sudden storm*

makes up a participial phrase.)

**Gerund phrase:**

**e.g.** *Singing the night away* helped Joseph forget his troubles.

(*Singing* is a gerund; in this sentence, it acts as the subject. *Singing the night away* makes up a

gerund phrase.)

**Noun phrases** are also very important because they can be used in many constituents. In English head-nouns can be preceded by determiners and modifiers (of the head) and can be followed by postmodifiers that complement the head and can be complex phrases.

**e.g.** Peter my best friend a very good story

the house of the old man a house in the countryside

**Adjective phrases** contain an adjective as a head, which can be preceded or followed by modifiers.

**e.g.** very fast incredibly cold pleasant enough too hot

**Adverb phrases** are similar to adjective phrases but the head is an adverb rather than an adjective.

**e.g**. quite slowly incredibly stupidly

**Prepositional phrases** have a preposition as a head and are followed by a prepositional complement, which is most of the time a noun phrase in English.

**e.g**. on the sea to London by a strange coincidence

after our dinner for me with his son

A final type of phrase is an **appositive phrase**. An appositive is a noun (usually) or pronoun (rarely) that gives details or identifies another noun or pronoun.

**e.g**. My favorite book, ***a dog-eared copy of To Kill a Mockingbird****,* has accompanied me on many vacations.

*a dog-eared copy of* To Kill a Mocking bird is an appositive phrase that refers to the word *book*.