

What is a phrase? (Beginner level)

We have already learned that a word is a group of letters arranged in such a way that they make sense. Examples are: flower, book, tree and apple.

A phrase is a group of words that make sense. Examples are: the book, on the table, in the corner and under the tree.

We cannot make a phrase by simply putting two or more words together. For a group of words to be a phrase, they must make sense. For example, the following word combinations are not phrases.

On table the

Sky in the

Books two

Exercise 1

Put a tick mark against the group of words that are phrases.

1. On land
2. On the roof
3. book a
4. girl beautiful
5. clever boy
6. a glass of water
7. a pair of shoes
8. a story interesting
9. crow clever the
10. a hardworking animal

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Solution

1, 2, 5, 6, 7 and 10 are phrases because they make sense.

Exercise 2

The groups of words given below are not phrases because they do not make sense. Rearrange them in such a way that they make sense.

1. a cake of piece
2. a song lovely
3. picture beautiful a
4. an old man wise
5. monkey clever a
6. a milk of glass
7. a garland flowers of
8. soap a bar of
9. car my uncle's
10. woman old an

Answers

1. A piece of cake
2. A lovely song

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3. A beautiful picture

4. A wise old man

5. A clever monkey

6. A glass of milk

7. A garland of flowers

8. A bar of soap

9. My uncle's car

10. An old woman