How the Bumble-Bee Got His Stripes

On the day that the world began,
Each of the creatures was shown
All the colours of the universe;
And all were told to choose
Which of these they wanted for themselves.



Well, that day the elephant
Thought carefully and chose to be grey,
But the bumble-bee
Just bumbled around and buzzed around
And couldn't make up his mind
And the yellow sun shone so brightly
That the bumble-bee's bum became yellow

And that night the goldfish
Thought carefully and chose to be golden,
But the bumble-bee
Just bumbled around and buzzed around
And couldn't make up his mind
And the black night grew so dark
That the bumble-bee's hips became black

And the next day the cricket
Thought carefully and chose to be green,
But the bumble-bee
Just bumbled around and buzzed around
And couldn't make up his mind,
And the yellow sun shone so brightly
That the bumble-bee's waist became yellow

And that night the owl
Thought carefully and chose to be brown,
But the bumble-bee
Just bumbled around and buzzed around

And couldn't make up his mind, And the black night grew so dark That the bumble-bee's chest became black.

And next day the polar bear
Thought carefully and chose to be white,
But the bumble-bee
Just bumbled around and buzzed around
And couldn't make up his mind,
And the yellow sun shone so brightly
That the bumble-bee's shoulders became yellow.

And that night the jay
Though carefully and chose to be blue,
But the bumble-bee
Just bumbled around and buzzed around
And couldn't make up his mind,
And the black night grew so dark
That the bumble-bee's neck and head and legs became black.

And next day the bumble-bee
Began to be thoughtful,
He bumbled around and buzzed around
But thought carefully,
And chose the colours he wanted to be,
He said, I've made up my mind.
I want to be all the colours of the rainbow
But it was too late
Because the bumble-bee
Had already become
Black-striped
And yellow-striped,
From the top of his head

To the tip of this toes

Nick Toczek – The Works p60

Nouns

A noun names a person, place, idea, thing or feeling.



a bumble-bee the universe a question an answer



In front of a **noun**, we often have

Adjectives

An **adjective** is a describing word. It tells you more about a **noun**.



the <u>sweet</u> nectar an <u>intricate</u> tongue an <u>elegant</u> creature a <u>contented</u> buzz



The flower was perfect.

<u>Adjectives</u> sometimes come next to 'their' nouns... but sometimes they do not.

Noun Phrases

A noun phrase adds extra detail to the noun.



the sweet, sugar-filled nectar the intricate, hollow tongue the elegant bumble-bee a contented buzz



It can be made by adding an adjective or two.

Spotting a Noun Phrase

A noun phrase can be replaced by a pronoun.

The sweet sugar-filled nectar attracted the bee. The intricate hollow tongue reached the nectar. The elegant bumble-bee flew through the air. The bee made the contented buzz.

It attracted the bee.
It reached the nectar.
It flew through the air.
The bee made it.

















Prepositions

Prepositions tell us how words are related.

above

over

of

from

without

with

outside

outside between

from

inside

on

under

below

Prepositions are useful for adding extra information about a noun.

Expanded Noun Phrases

You can develop an expanded noun phrase by using a prepositional phrase.

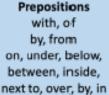
He saw the wild, fierce dragon.

He saw the wild, fierce dragon from a land far-away.

He saw the wild, fierce dragon inside the school.

He saw the wild, fierce dragon next to the broken windows.

The prepositional phrase modifies the noun.





Building Expanded Noun Phrases

Prepositions

with, of by, from on, under, below, between, inside, next to, over, by, in



She ate the colourful, striped gates

She ate the tall, brick wall

She ate a parked car

She ate the terrified teacher

Choose a noun phrase to expand using a preposition.





