

## ON PSEUDO-PARTICIPIAL IN NOMINAL GROUP

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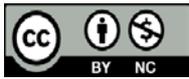
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### Abstract:

In nominal group, noun is the central word or as a modified word. It can be modified by several elements. One modification of a noun is by a noun added with -ed ending, then labelled pseudo-participial. Pseudo-participial as modifier is not frequently used, but it exists. The objectives of this study are to identify the formation and to find out the meaning of pseudo-participial. The method used in this study is descriptive qualitative. She analyzed the data and described them based on the theories of Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG). The data were collected from Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA). The results reveals that the formation of pseudo-participial is placed before head named as pre-head modifier, it can be preceded by its own sub-modifier, such as intensifier or adjective, and it functions as epithet in nominal group structure. Pseudo-participial means having which can be elaborated using finite clause, non-finite clause, or prepositional phrase.

### Keyword:

pseudo-participial, modifier, nominal group



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## INTRODUCTION

To get deep comprehension about nominal group, it is necessary to know the components structuring it. There are several components contributing to form a nominal group, and each component has different function and expresses different meanings. Nominal group can be a single word that is a noun or consist of several words. A noun modified is labelled head, and a word or several words preceding or following head are labelled modifiers. Modification of noun in nominal group can be done in some ways including modification using pseudo participial.

Noun modification with pseudo-participial is rarely applied, but it occurs. Pseudo-participial is derived from a noun not from a verb. We often use participles to modify a noun orally or in written, they are present participles or past participles. Participles are formed from verbs added -ing and -ed forms. In nominal group, a noun modifies a noun can be done, the noun as modifier is called classifier. However, a noun is modified with another noun which is added -ed ending, such as: hearted, bodied, handed, faced, etc. is another fact that needs to be identified. As adjective pseudo-participial in nominal group has specific formation and expresses meaning, for examples in the highly skilled professionals and their skinny diseased friend.

According to this phenomena, the writer is interested to do a research about the existence of pseudo-participial in nominal group. She would like to identify the formation of pseudo-participial in nominal group, and describe the meaning expressed by pseudo-participial. In this study she prefers using the term -ed ending to -en ending.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

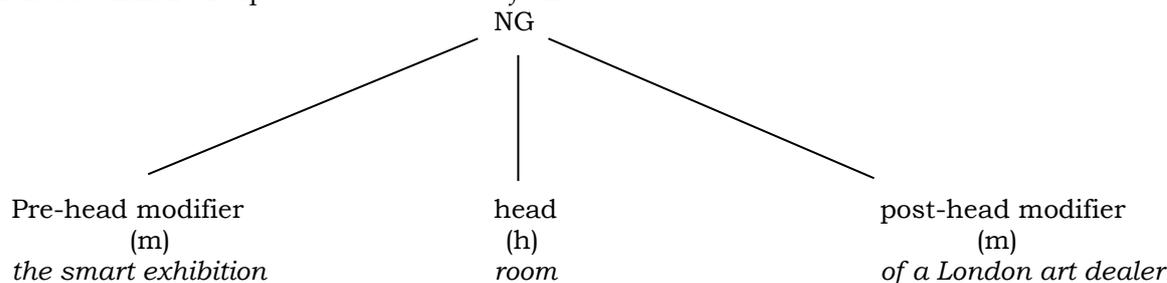
### Nominal Group

Nominal group can be a single word which is noun or group of words which is noun as modified word, then called head. As Downing and Locke (2006: 401) write that Nominal Groups refer semantically to those aspects of our experience that we perceive as entities. The noun as an entity

in nominal group may stand alone, it does not have any additional description or it is described by other elements that give more explanation about it. Noun as head is modified by other words, the words modifying head can have position before and after the head. Each modifying word has function and meaning. Explained by Downing and Locked (2006: 402) that when we name an entity, we usually add some information about it which shows how we 'experience' or perceive it. In expressing this 'experiential' information about an entity, some of it is placed before the noun and some after it.

According to Downing and Locke (2006: 402) the nominal group has four primary elements or structural functions: the **head**, which is the central element, the **determiner** and the **pre-modifier functions** in the pre-head position, and **post-modifier function** in post-head position.

Illustration of Nominal Group: *the smart new room of a London art dealer*



The elements of Nominal Group Structure

1. Head

The most important element in nominal group structure is head, a word which is modified by other elements. It is realized by a noun or pronoun. Noun is also termed as entity, the entities can be concrete, such as person, objects, places, institutions, or abstraction, such as swimming, thought, beauty, anger, success.

2. Pre-head modifiers

Pre-head modifiers are placed before head, they function to particularize, to describe and to classify head. The pre-head modifiers are determiner, epithet and classifier.

1) Determiner

Determiner is the element particularizing head. Determiner is realized by:

- Articles indicate that the head is definite or indefinite, e.g. *a book, an actor, the book/the actor*.
- Demonstratives or deictics (pointing words) *this, that, these*, those signal that the referent is near or not near the speaker in space or time, e.g. *this book, that occasion*.
- Possessives signal the person to whom the referent belongs, e.g. *my book, the minister's reasons*.
- Distributive: *each, every, all, either, neither*
- Quantifiers: *one, seven, a hundred, the first, the next (exact); many, a lot, a few, some (inexact)*.

2) Epithet

Epithet is the element which describe the quality of head. The description of head quality can be objective based on the experience by anyone in some cultural norm, for examples: *round table, blue box, old newspaper*, or can be subjective based on the writer's or speaker's attitude toward head, for examples: *good, bad, nice, stupid*. Epithet is realized by adjectives and participles.

3) Classifier

Classifier is the element which classify head. It limits head to its subclass in relation to affiliation (*French window*), quality (*poisonous snake*), norm (*standard size*), process (*growing population*), society and institution (*football club*), and technology (*solar energy*). Classifier is realized by adjectives, noun and participles.

3. Post-head modifier

Post-head modifier is placed after the head, it functions to characterizes the head. This element is called qualifier. It is represented by by finite and non-finite clauses (the film *we saw*, a man *reading newspaper*), PPs (*in February 1893*), and to a lesser extent, by other groups: NGs (*shoes that size*) and adverbial groups (*the car outside*).

When there are more than one elements involved in modifying head, each element has relation of dependency. The relation begins from the more permanent element move to the less permanent element: start from head, go leftward to classifier, proceed to epithet, end to determiner, and then return to head, go rightward to qualifier. To see the semantic relation between the elements, it can be followed the relation of dependency.

Relation of Dependency

*the* ← *smart* ← *exhibition* ← *room* → *of a London art dealer*  
(d) (e) (c) (h) (q)

### Pseudo-participial with -ed ending

Participle is derived from a verb, then the verb is added -ing or -en ending. Participle with -ing ending is labelled present participles, and participle with -en ending is labelled past participle. Present and past participles can function as verb in progressive aspects or as adjective describing or classifying a noun in nominal group structure. However, there is another participle used and it is rarely discussed, it is labelled pseudo-participial.

Pseudo-participial is formed from noun added -ed ending. This participial has function as epithet. As Downing and Locked (2006: 436) state the true -en participial epithet derived from a verb, such as broken in *broken cup*, must be distinguished from 'pseudo-participials', which are derived from noun, as in: *a dark-green, big-leaved, long-stemmed plant with orange flowers*. In addition, Downing and Locke (2006: 478) also describe that an increasing number of adjectives are coined by adding -ing or -en to verbs but to noun. These are termed pseudo-participial adjectives, such as: -ing: *enterprising, neighboring, appetising*; -en: ***talented, skilled, gifted, bearded, detailed***.

It is labelled pseudo-participial since it is false modifier. We don't say *\*bodied workers, \*hearted person*, because all workers have bodies and all people have hearts. However not all workers are able, and not all hearts are kind, the word able and kind are modifiers for pseudo-participial *workers* and *person*, so we can say *able-bodied workers*, and *a kind-hearted person*. This case is explained by Downing and Locked (2006: 436) that such pseudo-participials are often modified, as the modification represents some nonessential feature.

### METHODS

The method used in this study is descriptive qualitative. The data were collected from Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA). The data were identified, classified, and then analyzed based on the theories from Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG). The grand theories were taken from Angela Downing and Philip Locke, the title of their book is English Grammar, published in 2006. After being analyzed, the data were described.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### Pseudo-participials with -ed ending

Data 1

***The pink-haired girl*** ran to her grandma and smiled, .....

The nominal group in the clause is *The pink-haired girl*.

Formation of Nominal Group

<b>The</b>	<b>Pink</b>	<b>haired</b>	<b>girl</b>
pre-head modifiers			head
article	Epithet	epithet	
	sub-modifier	sub-head	

The nominal group consists of *girl* as head and *the, pink-haired* as modifier. Since *the* and *pink-haired* come before head, they are labelled pre-head modifiers. Each element in the pre-head modifiers has different function: *the* as determiner, it indicates definite *girl*; *pink* as epithet, and it is sub-modifier of its own head *haired*, it tells color of *hair*; *haired* as epithet, it describes *girl* objectively, that is *girl* has hair; *girl* as head, it is the thing being talked.

Pseudo-participial in the nominal group is *haired*, it is derived from a noun *hair* added -ed ending. *Haired* means having hair.

To understand the semantic relation of the nominal group *the pink-haired girl*, it starts from *the* modifies *girl*, *pink* modifies *haired*, and *haired* modifies *girl*. Thus the nominal group *the pink-haired girl* can be interpreted with finite clause: *the girl who has pink hair*, non-finite clause: *the girl having pink hair*, and with prepositional phrase: *the girl with pink hair*.

### Data 2

*I think he's a very-talented football player.*

The nominal group in the clause is *a very-talented football player*.

Formation of Nominal Group

<b>a</b>	<b>Very</b>	<b>talented</b>	<b>football</b>	<b>player</b>
pre-head modifier				head
article	Intensifier	epithet	classifier	
	sub-modifier	modifier		

The nominal group consists of *player* as head and *a, very-talented, football* as modifiers. Since *a, very-talented, football* come before head *player*, they are labelled pre-head modifiers. Each element in the pre-head modifiers has different function: *a* as determiner, it indicates indefinite player; *very* as intensifier and sub-modifier of its own head *talented*, it shows degree of talented; *talented* as epithet, it describes the quality of the player, that is player who has talent; *football* as classifier, it classifies player into its sub-class that is player of football; *player* as head, it is the thing being discussed.

Pseudo-participial in the nominal group is *talented*, it is derived from a noun *talent* added *-ed* ending. *Talented* means having talent.

To understand the semantic relation of the nominal group *a very-talented football player*, it starts from *a* modifies *football player*, *very* modifies *talented*, *talented* modifies *football player*, and *football* modifies *player*. Thus the nominal group *a very talented football player* can be interpreted with finite clause: *a football player who has good talent*, with non-finite clause: *a football player having good talent*, and with prepositional phrase: *a football player with good talent*.

### Data 3

Going to the heart to set the candle down upon *a round three-legged table standing* there, ...

The nominal group in the clause is *a round three-legged table standing*.

Formation of Nominal Group

<b>a</b>	<b>round</b>	<b>three</b>	<b>legged</b>	<b>table</b>	<b>standing</b>
pre-head modifiers				head	post-head modifier
article	epithet	quantifier	epithet		qualifier
		sub-modifier	sub-head		

The nominal group consists of *table* as head; *a, round, three, legged, standing* as modifiers. Since *a, round, three, legged* come before head, they are labelled pre-head modifiers, while *standing* comes after head, it is labelled post-head modifier. Each element in the pre-head modifiers has different function: *a* as determiner, it indicates indefinite table; *round* as epithet, it tells shape of *table*; *three* as quantity and sub-modifier, it tells the number of leg and it modifies sub-head *legged*; *legged* as epithet, it describes table objectively, that is table having leg; *table* as head, it is the thing being talked; *standing* as qualifier, it shows table which stands.

Pseudo-participial in the nominal group is *legged*, it is derived from a noun *leg* added *-ed* ending. *Legged* means having legs.

To understand the semantic relation of the nominal group *a round three-legged table standing*, it starts from *a* modifies *table*, *round* modifies *table*, *three* modifies *legged*, *three legged* modifies *table*, and *standing* modifies *table*. Thus the nominal group *a round three-legged table standing* can be interpreted with finite clause: *a round table which has three legs and in standing position*, with non-finite clause: *a round table having round and standing and in standing position*, and with prepositional phrase: *a round table with three legs and in standing position*.

### Data 4

*St Catherine holds **the toothed knife** of her martyrdom and ...*

The nominal group in the clause is *the toothed knife*.

Formation of Nominal group

the	toothed	knife
pre-head modifier		head
article	epithet	

The nominal group consists of *knife* as head and *the, toothed* as modifier. Since *the* and *toothed* come before head, they are labelled pre-head modifiers. Each element in the pre-head modifiers has different function: *the* as determiner, it indicates definite knife; *toothed* as epithet, it describes *knife* objectively, that is knife having tooth; *knife* as head, it is the thing being discussed.

Pseudo-participial in the nominal group is *toothed*, it is derived from a noun *tooth* added *-ed* ending. *Toothed* means having teeth.

To understand the semantic relation of the nominal group *the toothed knife*, it starts from *the* modifies *knife*, *toothed* modifies *knife*. Thus the nominal group *the toothed knife* can be interpreted with finite clause: *the knife which has teeth*, with non-finite clause: *the knife having teeth*, and with prepositional phrase: *the knife with teeth*.

## CONCLUSION

The existence of pseudo-participial enriches the ways of modification. Pseudo-participle is pre-head modifier, and it modifies noun as head in a different way: It is derived from a noun added *-ed* ending; it can have its own modifier, such as intensifier, quantifier, epithet, and then they are called sub-modifier; it functions as epithet; it expresses a meaning of having as it describe noun with its property. Pseudo participial is the easier and shorter way to describe noun than you have to use finite clause, non-finite clause or prepositional phrase as qualifier. Therefore, we can say *a long-tailed cat*, instead of saying *a cat which has long tail* finite clause as modifier, *a cat having long tail* non-finite clause as modifier, or *a cat with a long tail* prepositional phrase as modifier.

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