**Al-Mustansiriyah University**

**College of Arts**

**Translation Department**

**Asst. Prof. Ahmed Qadoury Abed, Ph D**

**CONTRASTIVE GRAMMAR**

**Fourth Year/ Morning & Evening Classes**

**Lecture # 25**

**Postmodification in English**

The main types of English postmodification are:

1-finite clause

2- non-finite clause

3- prepositional phrase

4- minor types of modification by

1. Certain adverbs
2. Certain adjectives
3. 'Mode' qualifiers

Finite clauses are of two kinds: relative and appositive.

Relative clauses are either restrictive or non-restrictive. The former identifies the head by narrowing its application to a certain individual or individuals. Non-restrictive clauses merely add information they do not identify the head..

* The man who is sitting in the garden is the owner of the house.
* The man, who is sitting in the garden, is the owner of the house.

Relative clauses are introduced by the relative pronouns (who, whom, whose, which, that ,zero)

Postmodification by means of apposition is less frequent. Also, appositive clauses are restrictive and non-restrictive. Appositives are introduced by 'that' or frequently by 'zero'. They differ from relative clauses in that 'that' is used in restrictive and non-restrictive clauses and the antecedent is a factive abstract noun.

* The fact that he wrote several books on grammar does not prove that he is a remarkable grammarian.
* The irrelevant fact, that the door was closed, does not prove anything.

Postmodification by a non-finite clause may be realized by means of the

* Ing clauses
* Ed clauses
* To infinitive clauses
* The student reading a newspaper is John.
* The house painted yellow belongs to a friend of mine.
* The book to read is a novel by Brontte.

Postmodification by prepositional phrases can be seen in the following examples:

* The man in the garden is Ali, the lawyer.
* The car in front of the house belongs to Ali.
* The road to Baghdad is over there.
* The door of the garden is painted white.
* I have read a play of Shakespeare's.

Minor types of postmodification can be seen :

1-Adverbs are sometimes used as postmodifiers

1. The journey back was uneventful.
2. The sentence below illustrates the point.

2- certain adjectives are used in postmodifying position, although English adjectives normally premodify the head.

1. Certain adjectives derived from French (attorney general, the heir apparent, the president elect)
2. Adjectives modifying complex indefinite pronouns ending in –body, -one, -thing, -where (somebody stronger, someone brighter, something cheaper, somewhere quieter)
3. A few adjectives beginning with (a-) as in ( ablaze, afloat, absent)
4. Some adjectives prefer postmodification like (absent, present, concerned, involved) as in (the person concerned, the issue involved)
5. Most adjectives take complementation may be postposed (soldiers brave enough to carry out this mission should receive a medal)