

## Theoretical overview of articles and nominal phrases in Albanian

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### Abstract

One of the units that syntax defines between words and sentences, and intuitively each of the speakers recognizes the existence, is the phrase (syntagma). The phrase can be defined as a sequence of linguistic elements having the same distribution in the sentence with the category that constitutes the starting point and being the basic element and not the eliminated one. In generative grammar the division of words becomes in the lexical categories that are the phrases heads and non lexical categories constituting the determinants. The determinants include articles, connectors, forming word participles. This paper will be a theoretical overview in particular on definite and indefinite articles on nominal phrases. Through structural analysis of nominal phrases, relying on its material in the Albanian language examples, but without leaving aside the comparison with other languages it will be tried to find out the mechanisms that determine the nominative phrase constructive models, in which the definite article is realized or avoided. It will be analyzed the anaphoric and situational reference, the definite articles in nouns, the article absence in defined nominal phrases and the cases when the Albanian speaker construct the nominal phrases without an article. It will be tried to prove that indefinite article "a" is an autonomous element being always in front of the noun and not in a morphological opposition about gender and declensions, that the definite and indefinite articles exclude each others, etc. All this will conclude in an unstudied part of generative theory of Albanian noun phrases.

**Keywords:** Albanian noun phrases, determinant, article, definite, indefinite.

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Academic Journal of Business, Administration, Law and Social Sciences ISSN 2410-3918 (print)

ISSN 2410-8693 (online)

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