

Ordinal numbers usually premodify the head and both nouns take the zero article. The noun head however may be definite, in which case the ordinal number is. As premodifiers, they are determiners proper and indicate mere temporal or spatial order. Sometimes, a semantic distinction is drawn between the premodifying and the postmodifying role of these numbers. As postmodifiers they function more like adjectives indicating superiority. is normally interpreted as 'the first man who won this prize'; whereas as premodifier and as postmodifier takes the definite article: These examples should be compared with the following, where there does not seem to be , , , . For example, , , , 'the book