

Referent

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In linguistics and rhetoric, a *referent* is the actual person, object, idea, or concept that a word or phrase refers to in a given context. It is the real-world entity that a linguistic expression points to, beyond its grammatical or semantic properties.

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Example

رجع الطالب إلى كتابه.

The student returned to his book.

Explanation

The referent of the personal pronoun *hu* is al-ṭālib.

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