

Specificative

35. What is a specificative?

A specificative is a noun mentioned to explain what is meant by the noun mentioned before it because of its obscurity. For example: اشْتَرَيْتُ رَطْلًا زَيْتًا (I bought an amount¹ of oil.) If one only said: “I bought an amount,” the listener would not know what was meant. He could have bought an amount of soap, oil or anything else. But, when he mentions the word oil, the word amount becomes clear and in this sentence oil is an specificative.

1. A specified weight, in English around 450 grams.
