

Chapter 3

The Phrase

Prepositional and Verbal Phrases, Appositive Phrases

In Chapter 1 you learned that two or more words (for example, *will be playing, were laughing, has done*) may be used as a verb, a single part of speech. Such a word group is called a *verb phrase*.

A word group may also be used as an adjective, an adverb, or a noun. You have already learned something about *prepositional phrases*. In this chapter, you will study prepositional phrases in greater detail, and you will learn about other kinds of phrases.

3a. A *phrase* is a group of related words that is used as a single part of speech and does not contain a verb and its subject.

EXAMPLES has been sitting [verb phrase; no subject]
 about you and me [prepositional phrase; no subject or verb]

If a group of words has a subject *and* a verb, then the group of words is not a phrase.

EXAMPLES We found your pen. [a subject and a verb; *we* is the subject of *found*]
 if she will go [a subject and a verb; *she* is the subject of *will go*]

EXERCISE 1. Study the following groups of words and decide whether or not each group is a phrase. After numbering from 1-10, write *p.* for *phrase* or *n.p.* for *not a phrase* after the appropriate number.

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. was hoping | 6. because Joyce won |
| 2. if she really knows | 7. after they leave ‘ |
| 3. with Alice and me | 8. has been cleaned |
| 4. will be writing | 9. on Lotte’s desk |
| 5. inside the house | 10. as the plane lands |

PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES

3b. A *prepositional phrase* is a group of words beginning with a preposition and ending with a noun or pronoun.

In the following examples of prepositional phrases, the prepositions are bold-faced.

in front of our apartment building
like them
during the night

Some prepositions are made up of more than one word, like *in front of* in the first example. Notice that an article or other modifier often appears in the prepositional phrase: the first example contains *our*; the third, *the*.

3c. The noun or pronoun that ends the prepositional phrase is the **object of the preposition that begins the phrase.**

The prepositional phrases in the following sentence are in boldfaced type.

In their fight against cancer, scientists have discovered interferon.

Here *fight* is the object of the preposition *in*. How is *cancer* used? What preposition does it follow?

Like other sentence parts, objects of prepositions may be compound.

- EXAMPLES**
- Yoko sat between Elaine and me. [Both *Elaine* and *me* are objects of the preposition *between*.]
- We drove to Sterling Park and North Star Lake. [Both *Sterling Park* and *North Star Lake* are objects of the preposition *to*.]
- Marilyn jogs in front of the school and the church. [The preposition *in front of* has a compound object, *school* and *church*.]

Do not be misled by a modifier coming after the noun or pronoun in a prepositional phrase; the noun or pronoun is still the object.

- EXAMPLES**
- Mother and Kay strolled through the park yesterday. [The object of the preposition *through* is *park*, *yesterday* is an adverb telling when and modifying the verb *strolled*.]

Lists of commonly used prepositions will be found in Chapter 1

EXERCISE 2. List in order the twenty prepositions in these sentences. After each preposition, write its object. Indicate the number of the sentence from which each preposition and its object are taken.

- EXAMPLES**
1. Oracles were the sources of wise prophecies in ancient Greece.
1. *of – prophecies*
 in – Greece

1. One of the most famous oracles in Greece was the Delphic oracle.
2. It was located in Apollo's temple which was at Delphi.
3. The temple, supposedly the center of the earth, was a religious shrine for all Greece.
4. The temple's priestess inhaled vapors which rose from a pit, and then she went into a trance.
5. During the trance she delivered messages from Apollo.
6. Often the prophecies by the oracle were easily misunderstood.
7. The king Croesus began a war against the Persians on the strength of the oracle's prediction.
8. The oracle had foretold that a great empire would be destroyed through a war.
9. After the fight with the Persians, Croesus realized that the oracle meant his kingdom would be destroyed, not the Persians.
10. Because of predictions like this one, the term *Delphian* aptly describes a statement that can be interpreted in two different ways.

The Adjective Phrase

Prepositional phrases are used in sentences mainly as adjectives and adverbs. Prepositional phrases used as adjectives are called *adjective phrases*.

EXAMPLES Students in the freshman class are planning a television program about their science project.

The prepositional phrase *in the freshman class* is used as an adjective modifying the noun *students*. *About their science project* is also used as an adjective because it modifies the noun *program*.

Study the following pairs of sentences. Notice that the nouns used as adjectives may easily be converted to objects of prepositions in adjective phrases.

NOUNS USED AS ADJECTIVES

The car door is open.

The Miami and Houston

teams won

This is a house key.

ADJECTIVE PHRASES

The door of the car is open.

The teams from Miami and

Houston won.

This is a key for the house.

Unlike a one-word adjective, which usually precedes the word it modifies, an adjective phrase always follows the noun or pronoun it modifies.

More than one prepositional phrase may modify the same word.

EXAMPLE The picture of me in the newspaper was not flattering. [The

prepositional phrases *of me* and *in the newspaper* both modify the noun *picture*.]

A prepositional phrase may also modify the object of another prepositional phrase.

EXAMPLE

The books on the shelf of my closet were all birthday gifts.
[The phrase *on the shelf* modifies the noun *books*. *Shelf* is the object of the preposition *on*. The phrase *of my closet* modifies *shelf*.]

EXERCISE 3. Revise the following sentences by using adjective phrases in place of the italicized nouns used as adjectives. Be sure you can tell which word each phrase modifies.

1. Amy Patchell has several *opera* tickets.
2. The paper prints *school* news only.
3. I have bought some *cat* food.
4. We admired his *rose* garden.
5. The *hall* lamp is broken.
6. I need a new *typewriter* ribbon.
7. It was a melancholy *November* day.
8. The jeweler showed us a lovely *platinum* and *pearl* necklace. (one phrase)
9. The rain helped the *Indiana corn* crop. (two phrases)
10. Visitors to Washington, D.C., should have a *subway* map. (one phrase)

The Adverb Phrase

When a prepositional phrase is used as an adverb to tell *when*, *where*, *how*, *how much*, or *how far*, it is called an *adverb phrase*.

EXAMPLE

I dived into the water. [The adverb phrase *into the water* tells *where* I dived.]

Her train arrived at noon. [The adverb phrase *at noon* tells *when* her train arrived.]

She accepted the invitation with pleasure. [The adverb phrase *with pleasure* tells *how* she accepted the invitation.]

Martin missed the target by a meter. [*By a meter* is an adverb phrase telling *how far* Martin missed the target.]

In the previous examples, the adverb phrases all modify verbs. An adverb phrase may also modify an adjective or an adverb.

EXAMPLES

Dad smilingly tells Mother he is unlucky at cards but lucky in love. [The adverb phrase *at cards* modifies the adjective *unlucky*; *in love*, another adverb phrase, modifies the adjective *lucky*.]

I will see her later in the day. [*In the day* is an adverb phrase modifying the adverb *later*.]

Unlike adjective phrases, which always follow the words they modify, an adverb phrase may appear at various places in a sentence. Like adjective phrases, more than one adverb phrase may modify the same word.

EXAMPLE


At noon my sister goes to work. [The adverb phrases *at noon* and *to work* both modify the verb *goes*. The first phrase tells *when* my sister goes; the second phrase tells *where* she goes. Notice that the first phrase precedes the word it modifies; the second phrase follows it.]

EXERCISE 4. Number 1-10 on your paper. List the prepositional phrases used as adverbs in each sentence. There may be more than one in a sentence. After each adverb phrase, write the word it modifies.

1. Yesterday, many residents of Chicago suffered from the heat.
2. In the morning, my friends and I drove to Lincoln Park.
3. At noon, we ate our big picnic lunch with gusto.
4. Later in the day, we walked around the park.
5. An unusual monument stands near the picnic grounds.
6. This monument shows humanity as it marches through time.
7. In Rockefeller Center I once saw another artist's concept of time.
8. Three figures are painted on the ceiling; they represent Past, Present, and Future.
9. Wherever you stand in the room, Past's eyes are turned away from you; Future's eyes look outward and upward.
10. The eyes of Present, however, look straight at you.

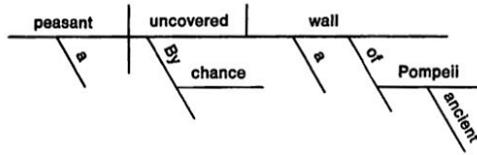
Diagramming Prepositional Phrases

The preposition is placed on a slanting line leading down from the word that the phrase modifies. Its object is placed on a horizontal line connected to the slanting line.

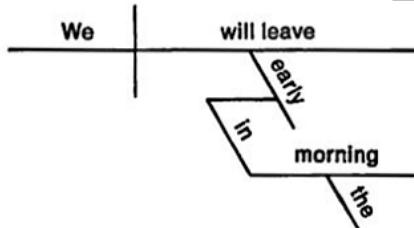
EXAMPLES

By chance, a peasant uncovered a wall of ancient Pompeii.
[adverb phrase modifying the verb; adjective phrase

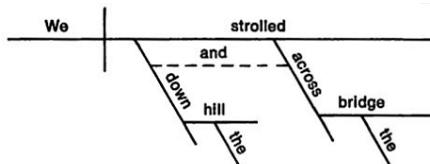
modifying the direct object]



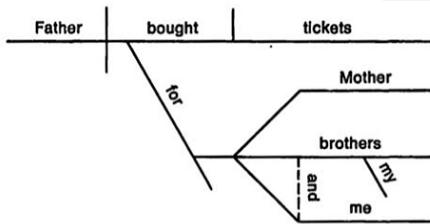
We will leave early in the morning. [adverb phrase modifying an adverb]



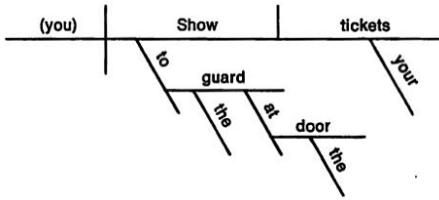
We strolled down the hill and across the bridge. [two phrases modifying the same word]



Father bought tickets for Mother, my brothers, and me. [compound object of preposition]



Show your tickets to the guard at the door. [phrase modifying the object of another preposition]



EXERCISE 5. Diagram the following sentences.

1. I have read many books by Arthur Conan Doyle about Sherlock Holmes.
2. Dr. Watson is the friend of the famous detective.
3. One story about Holmes and Watson appears in our literature textbook.
4. The story contains many clues to the solution of the mystery.
5. I was delighted with the outcome of the story.
6. Dozens of stories about Holmes are available in the school library.
7. Books of detective stories and other mysteries are on the second shelf.
8. Early in the afternoon, I went to the library.
9. The librarian took from his desk a new edition of one of Doyle's books.
10. He placed it in the display case in front of the window.

REVIEW EXERCISE A. There are twenty-five prepositional phrases in the following sentences. Number 1-10 on your paper. List the prepositional phrases in each sentence; and after each, write how the phrase is used – as an adjective or an adverb.

EXAMPLE 1. Theories about the universe have changed over the years.
 1. *about the universe* – *adj.*
 over the years – *adv.*

1. For over a thousand years people believed that the earth was at the center of the universe.
2. Astronomers thought the sun, the planets, and all the stars revolved around the earth.
3. During the early sixteenth century, however, Nicolaus Copernicus revised this popular theory about the earth's stationary position in the universe.
4. Copernicus studied the movements of the planets and the stars and published his radical view that the earth actually orbits around the sun.
5. He also explained the alternation of day and night by the earth's rotation on its axis.
6. His theory created a conflict between religion and science and challenged the belief that human beings were at the core of creation.
7. For the next four hundred years scientists believed that the universe was

- bounded by the edges of the earth's galaxy, the Milky Way.
8. About a half century ago at California's Mount Wilson Observatory, Edwin Hubble discovered that many other galaxies existed outside the Milky Way.
 9. Now we know that there are perhaps a million galaxies inside the bowl of the Big Dipper alone.
 10. Our galaxy is only one among billions throughout the universe!

VERBALS AND VERBAL PHRASES

Verbals are forms of verbs that are used as other parts of speech. These words are really two parts of speech in one. Verbals are formed from verbs and function very much like verbs; they may be modified by adverbs and may have complements. They are, however, used as other parts of speech.

There are three kinds of verbals: *participles*, *gerunds*, and *infinitives*.

The Participle

3d. A **participle** is a verb form used as an adjective.

The participle is part verb and part adjective. It might be called a “verbal adjective.”

EXAMPLES

Leaping the fence, the great cat surprised me.

Defeated teams should congratulate the winners.

Moving quickly, I intercepted the pass.

Leaping is part verb because it carries the action of the verb *leap*. It is also part adjective because it modifies the noun *cat* – *leaping cat*. *Defeated*, formed from the verb *defeat*, modifies the noun *teams*. *Moving*, formed from the verb *move*, modifies the pronoun *I*. Verb forms used as adjectives, *leaping*, *defeated*, and *moving* are *participles*.

There are two kinds of participles: *present participles* and *past participles*.

(1) **Present participles** consist of the plain form of the verb plus **-ing**!

EXAMPLES The crying baby hid under the table.

Pointing at me, the teacher asked a question.

In the first example, *crying* (formed by adding *-ing* to the verb *cry*) is a present participle modifying the noun *baby*. In the second, the present participle *pointing* (consisting of the plain form of the verb *point* plus *-ing*) modifies the noun *teacher* – *pointing teacher*. Verb forms used as adjectives, *crying* and *pointing* are participles.

Although participles are formed from verbs, they are not used to stand alone

as verbs. A participle may, however, be used with a helping verb to form a verb phrase:

The baby was crying.

The teacher had been pointing at me.

¹ The plain form of the verb is the infinitive form.

When a participle is used in a verb phrase, it is considered as part of the verb, not as an adjective.

(2) **Past participles** usually consist of the plain form of the verb plus **-d** or **-ed**. Others are irregularly formed.

EXAMPLES A peeled and sliced cucumber can be added to a garden salad. [The past participles *peeled* and *sliced* modify the noun *cucumber*.]

The speaker, known for her eloquent speeches, drew applause from the audience. [The past participle *known* modifies the noun *speaker* – *known speaker*.]

Like a present participle, a past participle can also be part of a verb phrase. Just as in the case of the present participle, a past participle used in a verb phrase is considered as part of the verb, not as an adjective.

EXAMPLES She had finished the assignment by that time.

She was warned that the movie was extremely dull.

EXERCISE 6. Number 1-10 on your paper. List the participles used as adjectives in the following sentences, and after each participle write the noun or pronoun modified.

1. The prancing horses were loudly applauded by the delighted audience.
2. The colorful flags, waving in the breeze, brightened the gloomy day.
3. Swagging and boasting, he made us extremely angry.
4. The game scheduled for tonight has been postponed because of rain.
5. Leaving the field, the happy player rushed to her parents sitting in the bleachers.
6. Rain pattering on the roof made an eerie sound.
7. We thought the banging shutter upstairs was someone walking in the attic.
8. Painfully sunburned, I vowed never to be so careless again.
9. Terrified by our big dog, the burglar turned and fled.
10. The platoon of soldiers, marching in step, crossed the field to the stirring music of the military band.

EXERCISE 7. Use any five of the following participles in sentences of your own. Be careful not to use a participle in a verb phrase.

EXAMPLE

1. latched

1. *The latched gate will keep trespassers away.*

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. running | 6. missing |
| 2. accepting | 7. scorched |
| 3. leaping | 8. hitting |
| 4. hidden | 9. written |
| 5. challenged | 10. devised |

EXERCISE 8. Number your paper 1-10. Next to each number write a participle that fits the meaning of the sentence.

EXAMPLE

1. The ___ tide washed over the beach.

1. *rising*

1. Jan Evers, ___ in a recent magazine, describes a tragic forest fire.
2. ___ from the point of view of a firefighter, the story is full of accurate detail.
3. A mountain lion, ___ by the sweeping flames, is dramatically rescued by the firefighters.
4. ___ by the traffic police, the motorist tried to offer an excuse.

5. The tourists ___ in the hotel were given a free meal.
6. ___ as an excellent place to camp, the park lived up to its reputation.
7. ___ by a bee, Candace hurried to the infirmary.
8. The poem describes a spider ___ on a thread.
9. We stumbled off the race course, ___.
10. ___, I quickly phoned the hospital.

The Participial Phrase

A participle may be modified by an adverb or by a prepositional phrase, and it may have a complement. These related words combine with the participle in a *participial phrase*.

3e. A **participial phrase** consists of a participle and its related words, such as modifiers and complements, all of which act together as an **adjective**.

The participial phrase in each of the following sentences is in bold-faced type. An arrow points to the noun or pronoun that the phrase modifies.

EXAMPLES

Outwitting the hounds, the raccoon easily escaped.
[participle with object *hounds*]

I saw her fishing contentedly. [participle with adverb modifier *contentedly*]

Tackled on the one-foot line, he fumbled the ball. [participle with prepositional phrase modifier *on the one-foot line*]

Wildly cheering for the team, we celebrated the victory.
[Notice that *wildly*, which precedes the participle and modifies it, is included in the phrase.]

A participial phrase should be placed very close to the word it modifies. Otherwise the phrase may appear to modify another word, and the sentence may not make sense.

MISPLACED	The clerk handed the gift box to the customer tied with red ribbon. [The placement of the modifier calls up a silly picture. The gift box, not the customer, is tied with ribbon.]
IMPROVED	The clerk handed the customer the gift box tied with red ribbon.

EXERCISE 9. Use the following participial phrases in sentences of your own. Be sure to place each phrase very close to the noun or pronoun it modifies, and to punctuate the phrases correctly.

EXAMPLE

1. swirling the beaker of liquid
1. *Swirling the beaker of liquid, Angie watched the solution slowly change color.*

1. stating her objections
2. excusing me from the test
3. decorated with streamers of crepe paper
4. laughing at my silly joke
5. charging like an angry bull
6. kept in a sunny spot
7. speaking as quickly as possible
8. confused by the wording of the question
9. destined to achieve fame
10. standing with one foot in the rowboat

The Gerund

3f. A **gerund** is a verb form ending in **-ing** that is used as a noun.

A participle is part verb and part adjective. A *gerund* is part verb and part noun. It is formed by adding *-ing* to the plain form of the verb. Like nouns, gerunds are used as subjects, predicate nominatives, direct objects, or objects of prepositions.

EXAMPLES Walking is good exercise. [subject]

My hobby is sewing. [predicate nominative]

Lauren enjoys reading. [direct object]

That is used for drilling. [object of preposition]

Like nouns, gerunds may be modified by adjectives and adjective phrases.

EXAMPLES We listened to the beautiful singing of the glee club. [The adjective *beautiful* and the adjective phrase *of the glee club* modify the gerund *singing*. *Singing* is used as the object of the preposition *to*.]

The gentle ringing of the church bells wakes me every morning. [Both the adjective *gentle* and the adjective phrase *of the church bells* modify the gerund *ringing*, which is the subject of the sentence.]

Like verbs, gerunds may also be modified by adverbs and adverb phrases.

EXAMPLES Basking quietly in the sun is my favorite summer pastime. [The gerund *basking*, used as the subject of the sentence, is modified by the adverb *quietly* and also by the adverb phrase *in the sun*, which tells *where*.]

Brandywine enjoys galloping briskly on a cold morning. [The gerund *galloping*, which is a direct object of the sentence, is modified by the adverb *briskly* and also by the adverb phrase *on a cold morning*, which tells *when*.].

Gerunds, like present participles, end in *-ing*. To be a gerund, a verbal must be used as a noun. In the following sentence, there are three words ending in *-ing*, but only one of them is a gerund.

EXAMPLE Heeding the ranger's advice, she was not planning to go on

with her hunting. [*Heeding* is a present participle modifying she, and *planning* is part of the verb phrase *was planning*. Only *hunting*, used as object of the preposition *with*, is a gerund.]

EXERCISE 10. After you have listed each gerund in the sentences below, write how each is used: subject, predicate nominative, direct object, or object of preposition.

1. Her whistling attracted my attention.
2. By studying, you can raise your grades.
3. One requirement is thinking.
4. Yelling violates basic rules of courtesy.
5. Frowning, Dad discouraged our quarreling.
6. Carmen's favorite sport is fishing.
7. Before eating, we sat on the lawn and watched the frolicking puppies.
8. Yesterday, Mrs. Jacobs was discussing flying.
9. One of Steve's bad habits is boasting.
10. Without knocking, the hurrying child opened the door.

The Gerund Phrase

3g. A **gerund phrase** consists of a gerund together with its complements and modifiers, all of which act together as a noun.

EXAMPLES

The loud knocking by the visitor awakened the beagle. [The gerund phrase is used as the subject of the sentence. The gerund *knocking* is modified by the article *the*, the adjective *loud*, and the prepositional phrase *by the visitor*. Notice that modifiers preceding the gerund are included in the gerund phrase.]

I dislike talking loudly in the corridor. [The gerund phrase is used as the object of the verb *dislike*. The gerund *talking* is modified by the adverb *loudly* and by the prepositional phrase *in the corridor*.]

His favorite pastime is telling us his troubles. [The gerund phrase is used as predicate nominative. The gerund *telling* has a direct object, *troubles*, and an indirect object, *us*.]

Mary Lou Williams gained widespread fame by singing gospel music. [The gerund phrase is the object of the preposition *by*. The gerund *singing* has a direct object, *music*.]

- **NOTE** Whenever a noun or pronoun comes before a gerund, the possessive form should be used.

EXAMPLES We were entertained by Jorge's clever joking.
 I dislike your teasing the little girl.

EXERCISE 11. Write five sentences, following the directions given. Underline the gerund phrase in each of your sentences.

EXAMPLE 1. Use *writing* as the subject of the sentence. Include an adjective modifying the gerund.
 1. Effective writing is a major part of our English course.

1. Use *shouting* as the subject. Include an adjective phrase modifying the gerund.
2. Use *playing* as the direct object of the sentence. Include a direct object of the gerund.
3. Use *telling* as the object of a preposition. Include in the gerund phrase a direct object and an indirect object of telling.
4. Use *arguing* as the predicate nominative. Include an adverb and an adverb phrase modifying the gerund.
5. Use *speaking* as a gerund in any way you choose. Include in the gerund phrase a possessive pronoun modifying the gerund.

The Infinitive

3h. An **infinitive** is a verb form, usually preceded by *to*, that is used as a noun, adjective, or adverb.

An infinitive consists of the plain form of the verb, usually preceded by *to*. It can be used as a noun, an adjective, or an adverb. Carefully study the following examples.

Infinitives used as nouns: To forget is to forgive. [*To forget* is the subject of the sentence; *to forgive* is the predicate nominative.]

Libby offered to help in any way except to wash dishes. [*To help* is the object of the verb *offered*; *to wash* is the object of the preposition *except*.]

Infinitives used as adjectives: The player to watch is the quarterback. [To watch modifies player.]

That was a day to remember. [To remember modifies day.]

Infinitives used as adverbs: Mrs. Chisolm rose to speak. [To speak modifies

the verb *rose*.]

Eager to please, my dog obeyed my command. [*To please* modifies the adjective *eager*.]

- **NOTE** *To* plus a noun or pronoun (*to town*, *to him*, *to the store*) is a prepositional phrase, not an infinitive. An infinitive is always the first principal part of the verb.

The Infinitive Phrase

- 3i. An **infinitive phrase** consists of an infinitive together with its complements and modifiers.¹

¹ An infinitive may have a subject: I wanted him to help me with my algebra. [*Him* is the subject of the infinitive *to help*. The infinitive, together with its subject, complements, and modifiers, is sometimes called an *infinitive clause*.]

Infinitive phrases, like infinitives alone, can be used as adjectives, adverbs, or nouns.

EXAMPLES

To interrupt a speaker abruptly is impolite. [The infinitive phrase is used as a noun, as the subject of the sentence. The infinitive has an object, *speaker*, and is modified by the adverb *abruptly*.]

We had hoped to leave at noon. [The infinitive phrase is used as a noun – the object of *had hoped*. The infinitive is modified by the phrase *at noon*.]

She is the person to see about the job. [The infinitive phrase is used as an adjective modifying the predicate nominative *person*. The infinitive is modified by the adverbial prepositional phrase *about the job*.]

They were glad to hear an answer. [The infinitive phrase is used as an adverb modifying the predicate adjective *glad*. The infinitive has a direct object, *answer*.]

The Infinitive with “to” Omitted

Sometimes the *to* of the infinitive will be omitted in a sentence. This frequently occurs after such verbs as *see*, *hear*, *feel*, *watch*, *help*, *know*, *dare*, *need*, *make*, *let*, and *please*.

EXAMPLES

Did you hear the band play yesterday?

Cathy did not dare tell us the bad news.

We have done everything except make the beds.

EXERCISE 12. Make a list of the infinitives or infinitive phrases in the following sentences. After each one, give its use: *noun*, *adjective*, or *adverb*.

1. To give advice is easy.
2. We had hoped to solve the problem.
3. Judy plans to go.
4. I went to the gymnasium to find him.
5. One way to keep a secret is to forget it.
6. They dared discuss her mother's nomination.
7. We expect to leave immediately after school.
8. The best way to have a friend is to be one.
9. Pam and Carlos helped move the couch.
10. The door is not easy to open.

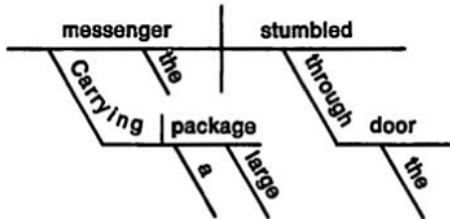
EXERCISE 13. Write five sentences, following the directions given below. Underline each infinitive phrase on your paper.

1. Use *to play* as a direct object.
2. Use *to ask* as an adjective, with a phrase modifier.
3. Use *to show* as an adverb modifying an adjective.
4. Use *to write* as the subject of a sentence. Include a direct object of the infinitive.
5. Use *to think* in any way you choose. Then write how you used it: *noun - direct object*, *adverb modifying the verb*, etc.

Diagramming Verbals and Verbal Phrases

Participial phrases are diagrammed as follows:

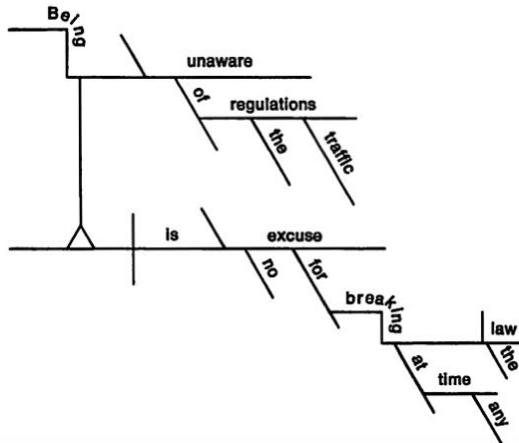
EXAMPLE Carrying a large package, the messenger stumbled through the door.



Gerunds and gerund phrases are diagrammed this way:

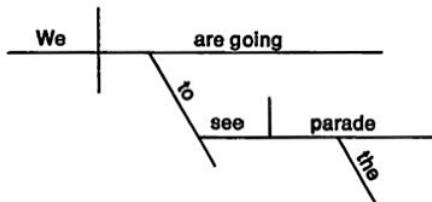
EXAMPLE Being unaware of the traffic regulations is no excuse for breaking the law at any time. [Gerund phrases used as

subject and as object of preposition. The first gerund has a subject complement (*unaware*); the second one has a direct object (*law*) and an adverb prepositional phrase modifier (*at any time*).]



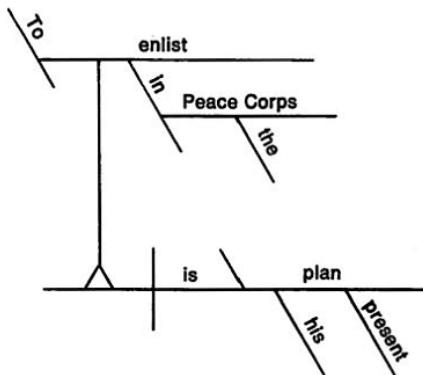
Infinitives and infinitive phrases used as modifiers are diagrammed like prepositional phrases.

EXAMPLE We are going to see the parade. [Infinitive phrase used as adverb. The infinitive has an object, *parade*.]



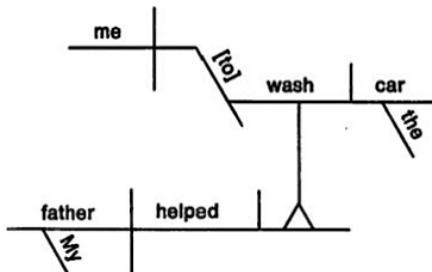
Infinitives used as nouns are diagrammed as follows:

EXAMPLE To enlist in the Peace Corps is his present plan.



Notice how the subject of an infinitive is diagrammed and how the infinitive is diagrammed when *to* is omitted:

EXAMPLE My father helped me wash the car.



EXERCISE 14. Diagram the following sentences.

1. Playing the radio at night may disturb our neighbors.
2. Hearing our footsteps, the dog ran to greet us.
3. To reach the fifth floor, take the other stairs.
4. After hearing her assembly speech, I decided to become an architect.
5. The man digging in the quarry helped us find our baseball.

APPOSITIONS AND APPOSITIVE PHRASES

Sometimes a noun or pronoun will be followed immediately by another noun or pronoun that identifies or explains it.

EXAMPLE The sculptor Noguchi is famous.

In this sentence, the noun *Noguchi* tells *which* sculptor. *Noguchi* is said to be *in apposition* with the word *sculptor*. *Noguchi* in this sentence is called an *appositive*.

3j. An *appositive* is a noun or pronoun that follows another noun or pronoun to identify or explain it.

EXAMPLE Jimmy, a star athlete, will surely go to college.

Like any noun or pronoun, an appositive may have adjective and adjective phrase modifiers. If it does, it is called an *appositive phrase*.

3k. An *appositive phrase* is made up of the appositive and its modifiers.

In the following sentences the appositives and appositive phrases are in bold-faced, underlined type.

EXAMPLES Our mathematics teacher, Ms. Franklin, also coaches our tennis team, this year's conference champions.

Joan Simpson, the captain of the team, received an award, an engraved bronze trophy.

• **NOTE** Occasionally the appositive phrase precedes the noun or pronoun explained.

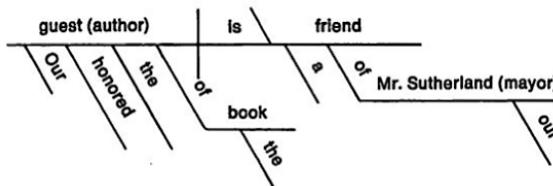
EXAMPLES A man of integrity, Mr. Aldrich never cheats anyone.
The adviser for our school paper, Mrs. Frank is always there after school.

Appositives and appositive phrases are usually set off by commas, unless the appositive is a single word closely related to the preceding word. The comma is always used when the word to which the appositive refers is a proper noun.

EXAMPLES Dr. Reed, the woman sitting in the front row, is my dentist.
Her son Clint is my classmate.
Judith, her daughter, is a senior in college.

In diagramming, place the appositive in parentheses after the word with which it is in apposition.

EXAMPLE Our honored guest, the author of the book, is a friend of Mr. Sutherland, our mayor.



EXERCISE 15. List on your paper the appositive phrases in each of the

following sentences. Underline the appositive in each phrase, and be sure that you know the word to which each appositive refers.

1. Our school has a dramatic club, the Masquers.
2. Ms. Harlow, my English teacher, is adviser for the Masquers.
3. Members of the club, mostly freshmen, planned an assembly program.
4. The program was presented on Friday, the day of our monthly meeting.
5. Duncan Bradley, the program coordinator, introduced Mr. Wilson, director of the summer theater in Burnsville.
6. From Rebecca Bryant, president of the Masquers, Mr. Wilson received our Achievement Award, a scroll signed by all club members.
7. After the program, Mr. Wilson was interviewed by Lucille Grant, editor of *Insights*, our school newspaper.

REVIEW EXERCISE B. After numbering 1-10, list the verbals and appositives in each sentence. After each, write in parentheses what the word is.

- EXAMPLE** 1. Lucky, a performing seal, was able to attract the audience's attention by slapping the surface of the water.
1. *performing (participle)*
seal (appositive)
attract (infinitive)
slapping (gerund)

1. Jumbo, the largest bush elephant ever held in captivity, was bought by the London Zoological Gardens in 1865.
2. Children enjoyed riding on a seat strapped to its back.
3. Sold to P. T. Barnum in 1882, Jumbo was sent to the United States.
4. Performing in Barnum's circus made the elephant rich and famous.
5. A star circus attraction until its death, Jumbo was tragically killed in a railroad accident in 1885.
6. Bobbie, a sheep dog from Oregon, accompanied its master on a trip to Indiana.
7. Its master stopped at a garage to make repairs one day.
8. As a result of fighting with a big bull terrier, Bobbie was chased away from the garage.
9. Having lost its way back to the garage, the dog headed back to Oregon.
10. Crossing rivers, deserts, and mountains, the dog managed to complete the long journey in only six months.