Phrases: Gerunds, Infinitives, Appositives, and Participles
Acquisition: Gerunds and Gerund Phrases

• _______________: a verb form ending in –ing that is used as a noun

• _______________: a gerund and all of the words related to the gerund

Ex. **Exercising regularly** is important to your health. (subject)

Ex. My brother likes **working at the travel agency**. (direct object)

Ex. An excellent way to build your vocabulary is **reading good literature**. (subject complement)
Meaning-Making: Recognizing Gerunds and Gerund Phrases

Underline the *gerund / gerund phrase.*

1. The counselor warned us about smoking. (object of the preposition)
2. Working hard is often its own reward. (subject)
3. My mother enjoys driving. (direct object)
4. I know people who are obsessed with eating all the time. (object of the preposition)
5. His favorite activity is sleeping. (subject complement)
Meaning-Making: Recognizing Gerunds and Gerund Phrases

6. Practicing swimming is all Willie does. (subject)
7. My father’s job is managing the New York office. (subject complement)
8. Young people used to dream about making movies. (object of the preposition)
9. I began cleaning my room this morning. (direct object)
Meaning-Making: Recognizing Gerunds and Gerund Phrases

Underline each gerund phrase.

1. Drinking large amounts of water can help clear the kidneys.
2. His favorite hobby is raising guppies.
3. A loud knocking interrupted dinner.
4. Nothing can be gained by choosing sides.
5. He enjoys composing all sorts of music.
Meaning-Making: Recognizing Gerunds and Gerund Phrases

6. The secretary kept perfect records by writing the dates of each event.
7. Insulating older homes helps conserve energy.
8. Tourists at the Acropolis are warned against taking stones for souvenirs.
9. Traveling by air is the fastest way to get there.
10. My plans for vacation include redecorating my room.
Transfer: Creating Gerunds

Revise the following sentence to include a good *gerund phrase*.

If you insulate older homes, you can conserve a considerable amount of energy.
Transfer: Gerund Poetry

- Expressing
- Requesting
- protesting
- stifled.

- Projecting
- rejecting
- infecting
- rifled.
Infinitives and Infinitive Phrases
Infinitives and Infinitive Phrases
Acquisition: Infinitives and Infinitive Phrases

• Infinitive: a verb form (usually begins with the word to) that can be used as a noun, an adjective, or an adverb

• Infinitive Phrase: an infinitive and all of the words related to the infinitive

Ex. To fly was the dream of humans for centuries. (noun: subject)
Ex. Early attempts to fly were failures. (adjective)
Ex. Rip Van Winkle went into the woods to hunt. (adverb)
Meaning-Making: Recognizing Infinitives and Infinitive Phrases

Underline the *infinitive phrase* in the following phrases.

1. She wants to go.
2. Impossible to miss, the monument is right on the lake.
3. The recipe to try is on the package itself.
4. To listen is not easy with that uproar.
5. He wanted nothing but to sleep.
Meaning-Making: Recognizing Infinitives and Infinitive Phrases

6. The librarian was happy to help.
7. His greatest wish, to fly, was never fulfilled.
8. This is the best reference book to consult.
9. Susan’s dream is to dance.
10. To whistle is difficult for some people.
11. To graduate early is my goal.
12. This is an offer to take very seriously.
Meaning-Making: Recognizing Infinitives and Infinitive Phrases

Underline the *infinitive phrase* in each sentence and tell whether it is used as a *noun, adj*. or *adverb*.

1. To win is not that important.
2. Her desire to act is very strong.
3. This new novel is easy to read.
4. To reach the high school is not that simple.
Meaning-Making: Recognizing Infinitives and Infinitive Phrases

5. The place to visit is the Library of Congress.
6. Her idea of breakfast is to have a cup of coffee.
7. To reach that number is not possible on this phone.
Transfer: Creating Infinitive Phrases

Revise the following sentence to include a good infinitive phrase

Winning is not that important.
Acquisition: Appositives and Appositive Phrases

- _______________: a noun or pronoun placed next to another noun or pronoun to identify, rename, or explain it.

- _______________: an appositive with modifiers.

Ex. Ron Burns, a dentist, was elected to City Council.

Ex. This rug, an imported Chinese masterpiece, is very expensive.
Meaning-Making: Appositives and Appositive Phrases

Underline each *appositive* or *appositive phrase* and circle the word it renames.

1. His favorite team, the Boston Celtics, always seems to win.
2. Sally’s essay, a paper on the environment, needs some more work.
3. Your recipe, a favorite of your uncle’s, is too spicy.
Meaning-Making: Appositives and Appositive Phrases

4. I carefully examined the used car, a Plymouth.
5. She reported on the Gilbert Islands, a group of atolls in the Pacific.
6. Mozart, a musical genius, only lived to be thirty-six.
7. We all praised the letter, a magnificent piece of work.
Meaning-Making:
Appositives and Appositive Phrases

8. Grace Willis, a graphic artist, will lecture to our class.
9. Citizen Kane, an early film by Orson Wells, has become a legend.
10. Marie chose her graduation presents, a pearl necklace and a gold watch.
11. Our math teacher, Mrs. Cruz, helped us solve a puzzle.
12. Two O. Henry stories, “The Gift of the Magi” and “The Last Leaf,” are my personal favorites.

13. Two low-calorie vegetables, kale and bean sprouts, are highly recommended.

14. George Patton, a general in WWII, was the subject of a prize-winning film.

Transfer:
Appositives and Appositive Phrases

• What is the key to all good writing?
______________________________.

• Appositive phrases are a great way to add
______________________________.
Transfer:
Appositives and Appositional Phrases

The notorious ancestor had cursed the family with perpetual bad luck.
Transfer:
Appositives and Appositive Phrases

The notorious ancestor, his no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing great-great-grandfather, had cursed the family with perpetual bad luck. (*Holes*, Louis Sachar)
Re-word the following sentence to include an appositive phrase:

*Stargirl* brings up the question of whose affection Leo values more.
Transfer:
Appositives and Appositive Phrases

Re-word the following sentence to include an appositive phrase.

Your uncle’s favorite recipe is too spicy.
Revise the following sentence to include an *appositive phrase*. Adding humor is strongly encouraged.

The man dashed across the stretch of lawn.
Transfer: Odd Appositives

Revise the following sentence to include an *appositive phrase*. Adding humor is strongly encouraged.

The dog whimpered at the screen door.
Acquisition: Participles

• _______________: a verb that is used as an adjective
  1. ___________________________ end in –ing
      Ex. Sue has taken **singing** lessons for several years.
      Ex. **Waving**, the campers boarded the bus.

  2. ___________________________ usually end in –d or –ed
     unless they are irregular
     Ex. The **baked** chicken tasted delicious.
     Ex. **Confused** and **frightened**, they fled the scene.
Acquisition: Participles and Participial Phrases

- _________________: consists of a participle and all of the words related to that participle

Ex. **Speaking eloquently**, Barbara Jordan entertained the audience.

Ex. **Nodding his head**, the defendant admitted his guilt.

Ex. We all laughed at the clown **juggling bananas**.
Meaning-Making:
Recognizing Participial Phrases

Place parentheses around each *participial phrase* and circle the word it modifies.

1. The company, paid by mail, failed to deliver the item.
2. Driving carefully, we reached the school.
3. The reader, troubled by the article, wrote to the paper.
Meaning-Making: Recognizing Participial Phrases

4. Shouting wildly, the team attached the goalpost.

5. Collecting stamps for years, Grandpa sold his collection.

6. His money, earned on part-time jobs, helped pay for the trip.

7. Involved in the book, Paul did not hear the bell.
Meaning-Making:
Recognizing Participial Phrases

8. Sketching in the background, the artist quickly finished.
9. The horses, standing in a row, kept inching forward.
10. Proceeding slowly, the governor shook everyone’s hand.
Meaning-Making: Recognizing Participial Phrases

Place parentheses around each *participial phrase* and circle the word it modifies.

1. The plant, growing slowly, finally bloomed in June.
2. Chosen by the principal, Marie represented our school.
3. My father, walking the dog, met an old friend.
Meaning-Making: Recognizing Participial Phrases

4. Laughing loudly, she ran from the room.
5. The coin, found in a cellar, proved to be valuable.
6. Telling her strange story, she began to giggle.
7. The detective, watching the suspect, discovered a clue.
8. Scolded by his father, he left the house and took a walk.
Meaning-Making:
Recognizing Participial Phrases

9. The students, listening carefully, followed the instructions perfectly.

10. The clipper, sailing majestically, reached the harbor in two hours.
Transfer: Creating Participial Phrases

- Describe a cabin in the woods using sentences with *participial phrases*.
Dangling Participial Phrases

Rule for participial phrases:

Wrong: Singing in the trees, the explorers heard the birds walking along the path.
Correct: Walking along the path, the explorers heard the birds singing in the trees.
Transfer: Revising Dangling Participial Phrases

Correct the following sentences.
1. They were delighted to see a field of daffodils climbing up the hill.

2. Joan found her lost ID card opening the envelope.

3. Crossing the bridge, a tollbooth was hit by a car.
4. After being whipped fiercely, the cook boiled the egg.
5. Flitting happily from flower to flower, the football player watched the bee.
6. After winning the Peloponnesian war, Athens was ruled briefly by the Spartans.
7. Born in Russia, his most famous opera is darkly existential.
Transfer: Revising Dangling Participial Phrases

8. Walking down the cliff, his smile went brighter.

9. Walking along the passage to the town, a memorial archway blocked our way.

10. Sitting on a park bench, the sun disappeared behind the clouds.

11. Covered in mustard and relish, I enjoyed the hot dog.
Transfer: Revising Dangling Participial Phrases in the Passive Voice

Fix the following sentences by supplying a subject:

1. Rushing toward the accident victim, his body was covered with a blanket.
2. Swimming leisurely, his worries were left behind.
3. Swimming rapidly, the drowning girl was reached.