

Verbals and Verbal Phrases

Gerunds and Gerund Phrases

- * A gerund is a word that looks like a verb but acts as a noun. It ends in –ing.
- * Ex. **Inventing** can be dangerous.
- * A gerund phrase includes a gerund plus its modifiers and complements.
- * Ex. **Writing Frankenstein** must have given Mary Shelley goose bumps.

How gerunds function in sentences

Using Gerund Phrases	
Subject	<u>Calling the monster Frankenstein</u> is a mistake
Predicate Noun	Frankenstein's error was <u>creating the monster.</u>
Direct Object	I like <u>watching horror movies.</u>
Object of a Preposition	The monster was responsible for <u>killing three people.</u>

Your Turn

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Participles and Participial Phrases

- * A participle is a word that looks like a verb but acts as an adjective. Present participles end in –ing and Past Participles end in –ed.
- * Ex. The exhausted campers found a crumbling schoolhouse.
- * A participle phrase consists of a participle plus its modifiers and complements,
- * Ex. They spied a shape lurking in the dark shadows.

How do you tell the difference between verbs, gerunds and participles?

	Example	Clue
Participle	What's that <u>scampering</u> sound?	Could be replaced by an adjective
Gerund	It's the <u>scampering</u> of rodents.	Could be replaced by a noun
Verb	Mice are <u>scampering</u> beneath the floorboards.	Always preceded by a helping verb

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Infinitives and Infinitive Phrases

- * An infinitive is a verb form that usually begins with the word *to* and acts as a noun, an adjective, or an adverb.
- * Ex. Mars is a place some people want to visit.
- * An infinitive phrase is an infinitive plus its modifiers and complements.
- * To believe in life on Mars was common in the 1930s.

Infinitives and Infinitive Phrases

Using Infinitive Phrases

Noun

To colonize Mars is a real possibility.

(Subject)

My dream is to live on Mars. (Pred. Noun)

Would you like to go there? (Direct Object)

Adverb

Science fiction writers wrote about little green Martians to scare readers.

Adjective

Even some scientists believed Mars to be inhabited.

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**Infinitive/ Infinitive
Phrases**

**How is the Infinitive
used?**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.