

A verbal is a verb form that functions in a sentence as something other than a verb.

- A. Example: Participial phrase or participles
- B. Example: Gerund phrase or a gerund

**Participles and participial phrases** function AS AN ADJECTIVE (word that describes a noun). Present participles end in ING. Past participles end in ED usually.

Examples of participles:

- The FREEZING rain slowly turned to hail.
- The HEATED argument occurred among the LOSING players.
- The MARRIED couple have jobs.
- Pete Sampras PLAYING TENNIS draws large crowds.
- Sampras, DISAPPOINTED WITH HIS FIRST SERVE, vowed to improve his game.
- SITTING QUICKLY DURING THE LECTURE, the students learned a great deal.

**A gerund** is a verb form that ends in ING and is used as a NOUN; that is, it can be a subject, a direct object, or an object of a prepositional phrase.

Examples of gerunds/gerund phrases:

- READING is my favorite pastime.
- Dana enjoys RUNNING.
- Jim gives STUDYING top priority.
- How much time do you devote to STUDYING?
- LISTENING TO THE RADIO helps me do my homework.

Name\_\_\_\_\_ Period\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

Underline the present and past participles that are modifying nouns/pronouns in the sentences below. Draw arrows from the participles to the nouns/pronouns they modify.

1. Where did you hide my running shoes?
2. She dropped the burnt toast into the trash when my stressed mom was not looking.
3. Many advertising companies target women in their late teens.
4. Abandoned cats and dogs have become a too-common sight in our cities.
5. The reporting journalist squinted at the bright lights.
6. Most of the skilled trapeze artists trained in Florence, Italy.
7. There are no quick fixes for broken people.
8. The movie star waved at her cheering fans.
9. We placed the frozen enchiladas on the counter.
10. Shoppers can find interesting fashions from just about anywhere in the world.

Directions:

Underline the gerund phrase in each of the following sentences. Circle the gerund.

1. Voting in elections is a citizen's responsibility.
2. Frieda considered winning the science prize a major achievement.
3. Learning math is a good preparation for business or college.
4. One of Jan's hobbies is reading detective stories.
5. Pandas survive by eating bamboo leaves and shoots.
6. One job of conservationists is saving the rain forests.
7. Carrying a newborn dolphin to the surface is the mother's job.
8. Another dolphin may take responsibility for helping her.
9. One characteristic of dolphins is cooperating intelligently.
10. The mothers give their full attention to caring for their babies.

