

ELG, 14th handout, verbals and dependent clauses

Identify verbals and verbal phrases in the following sentences and demarcate each with squiggly lines; explain how each functions within the sentence or a clause. Identify dependent clauses, placing them in brackets and labeling them subordinate or relative; explain how each functions with the sentence.

1. Needing a break (during a visit with friends), Christina thought that a walk (through her old neighborhood) would be pleasant.

Annotations: "Needing a break..." is a **Participial phrase** (O/Part). "that a walk..." is a **subordinate clause as DO**. "would be pleasant" is a **LV** (Verb) and **PA** (Participle).

2. As she strolled (past split-level homes), she wondered whether the lives (of the inhabitants) were satisfying.

Annotations: "As she strolled..." is a **subordinate clause - Adverbial**. "whether the lives..." is a **subordinate clause as DO**. "were satisfying" is a **LV** with a participle acting as **PA**.
* You might describe "were satisfying" as LV with participle acting as PA

3. Experience had taught her not to expect too much (from the people who lived in these suburbs)

Annotations: "Experience had taught..." is a **Pseudo Sub Inf** (Pseudo Subjunctive Infinitive). "not to expect..." is an **Infinitive phrase acting as DO of "had taught."**. "from the people who lived..." is a **Relative clause acting adjectivally**.

4. Delighted (by fleeting interests), these people displayed a crassness that no longer surprised her.

Annotations: "Delighted..." is a **Participial phrase** (Part). "that no longer surprised her" is an **Adjectival Relative clause** (DO).

5. Having walked (to the corner shopping plaza), Christina decided that she would amble (to the end of the parking lot) and then turn back.

Annotations: "Having walked..." is a **Participial phrase** (Part). "that she would amble..." is a **subordinate clause as DO**.

6. Approaching the dumpster that was her turning point, she saw the top (of a wire cage) peering out of the large green container.

Annotations: "Approaching the dumpster..." is a **Participial phrase**. "that was her turning point" is a **Rel clause as Adj.** (Relative clause as Adjective). "peering out..." is a **Participial phrase** (Part).

Participial phrase - You might also see it modifying "cage."

Adjectival participial phrase
 subordinate clause acting as object of participle
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7. Christina, remembering that her mother had a fetish for cages, clambered (onto the side) (of the dumpster) and looked in.

8. Nestled (in a heap of stinking garbage) was a two-foot cage, containing a water bottle, play toy, fresh straw bedding, and a large white rabbit.

"bedding" is a gerund

Infinitive phrase as subject

9. To say that Christina was dumbstruck was no exaggeration.

10. Although she already held a poor view (of her fellow suburbanites) such heartless treatment (of a gentle soul) disturbed her greatly.

this is a poorly constructed sentence. Implied and actual subject S should agree.

11. (With tender care), she lifted the cage (from its resting place) and began walking home (with cage and rabbit) cradled (in front) of her.

How is "ONCE" functioning. Adverbially?

12. Once home, she gave the bunny's bedding a good cleaning.

13. (To her relief), the rabbit, which was housebroken, enjoyed exploring her house and gave Christina's house cats friendly sniffs.

14. The bunny, having enjoyed a banana proffered (by Cueball), was subsequently named Bananas.