

7th Handout - Verbals and other things

Underline all infinitives or infinitive phrases, participles or participial phrases, and gerunds or gerund phrases in the following sentences, labeling them infinitive (I), participial (P) or gerund (G). Example:

P

Seeing the herd, he backed (out the front door.)

1) Trespassing ^{Gerund} is forbidden ^{AV}. → If you described "forbidden" as a participle acting as PA, your answer is non-standard.

2) Kelsey was arrested ^{AV} (for breaking ^{Gerund} into his own house.) G. Acting as object of preposition "for."

3) A little kitten, trembling ^{Part} (with fright), ran up the steps. Participial phrase modifying "kitten."

4) Abandoned ^{Part} (by everyone), the pumpkin was weeping ^{AV} bitterly. Participial phrase modifying "pumpkin"

5) Training dogs ^{Gerund} is a highly skilled ^{Part} profession. Training cats ^{Gerund phrase} is impossible. "skilled" is a participle modifying "profession."

6) Watching his chance ^{Participial phrase}, he suddenly leaped (for the window.) ^{Obj of Part.}

7) Having given formal notice ^{Participial phrase}, I attempted to leave the apartment. ^{Infinitive phrase} ← "apartment" is object of the infinitive.

8) Mother asked her to split the wood. ^{Infinitive phrase} "wood" is obj of inf.

9) A dead tree trunk, covered ^{Participial phrase} (with ivy), stood in the yard.

10) Engrossed ^{Participial phrase} (in his book), he did not notice the feline intruders.

"Dogs" is the object of the gerund "training".
The G phrase is acting as the subject.

"Having given" is the participle.
"notice" is its object

"Her" is pseudo-subj of infinitive.

7th Handout – Verbals and other things

Underline the infinitives or infinitive phrases in the sentences below. Example:

Clyde loves to ride the moving sidewalks at the airport.

11) The cats like to draw remarkably different conclusions (from the same evidence.)

12) To comprehend some (of the works) (of man) is no joy at all.

13) The best time to watch (for cats) is (between midnight and sunrise.)

14) They advised us to do their dirty work.

"us" is pseudo-subj of infinitive;
"work" is the object of the infinitive.

15) A student known to have been embittered (against the professor) left several abusive messages on the WebCaucus system.

Known is a particip

Is the infinitive phrase modifying the participle or acting as its object?

Identify the infinitive phrases in the following sentences and show how they function (as a Noun, Adjective, or Adverb – if as a noun, tell how). For example:

Whenever Angus isn't watching him, Buddy likes to slide down the banister.
(Noun – direct object)

16) Fights begin to develop suddenly.

This is difficult, but I cannot see the infinitive phrase as direct object. The verb appears intransitive to me.

17) The wizened wizard implored the hobbits to use caution.

Inf phrase w/ pseudo subject and object - the phrase is acting as DO of the main sentence.

18) Janey asked her to split the banana.

DO
SAME as sentence 17.

7th Handout - Verbals and other things

19) Tom convinced the readers to read the reading. ^{AV} ^{DO} SAME AS sentences 17 and 18.

20) Mr. Gray has never been a cat to complain about his outdoor injuries. ^{LV} ^{PN} Inf phrase w/ pseudo-subject and modifier acting as SC.

21) Mama Roxanne was a sweet, schizophrenic cat who needed Clyde to make her life contented. ^{LV} ^{PN} ^S ^{AV} This is an infinitive w/ pseudo-subject and object. "Life" is modified by a participle, "contented." The Inf. phrase acts as DO of an Adjectival relative clause.

22) Roxanne neglected to follow the normal rules. ^{AV} ^{DO} "Rules" is obj. of the infinitive.

23) (After winning the prize) the contestant refused to explain the meaning of the word. ^{Gerund phrase} ^S ^{AV} as object of preposition Inf. acting as DO.

24) To fight (with dogs) is a cat's life. ^{Infinitive phrase acting as subject}

25) I would like to explain the mistake, but to explain it is difficult. ^{2nd inf. phrase: 1st is acting as DO; 2nd is acting as subject}

In the following sentences, underline and identify all verbals or verbal phrases. Also, identify all verb objects and complements.

26) Pouring coffee (over the bushes), she hoped to make a statement. ^{Participial phrase} ^{Inf phrase acting as direct object.}

27) Aragorn happily removed the worn pair (of shoes). ^{2AV} ^{Part.} "Worn" is a participle modifying pair, which is the DO of the sentence.

28) The cats asked Christine to help (with the food). ^{Infinitive phrase} ^{Acting as DO}

29) All ^S (of the grammarians) ^{AV} are going (to the conference) ^{PA} (on participles.)

30) ^{Gerund Phrase} Going (to the conference) ^{LV} was more difficult ^{PA} (than we thought.) ← This is a subordinate clause.

(You) ^{AV} Don't stop running. ^{Gerund acting as DO}

32) ^{Sub. clause} If you had swum to the lighthouse, ^{AV} you would remember ^{Participle DO} the breaking waves.

33) I really ^{AV} need to listen (to my conscience.) ^{Infinitive phrase acting as DO - Turn to the passive voice "To listen to my conscience was really needed by me."}

I see this inf. phrase acting adverbially modifying the entire sentence.

34) ^S To work (at grammar), ^{AV} I need ^{DO} more stamina.

35) ^{LV} Working that hard just ^{PA} should be easier. ^{Gerund phrase acting as subject.}

36) ^{to} Having watched the dogs run away, ^S Orange just ^{AV} smiled.

37) ^{Participial phrase w/ object} Having kissed the kittens, Janey smiled too.

Wow! "The dogs to run away" is inf. phrase w/ pseudo sub, ed. It is acting as object of the participle "having watched". The entire participial phrase is modifying the subject, "Orange".

This is an absolute phrase modifying the entire sentence.

38) ^S The sentences having grown stale, the grammarians yawned sleepily.

39) The grass being greener, the horses gratefully grazed the field.
This is also an absolute phrase, that special type of participial phrase w/ pseudo subject. It is modifying the rest of the sentence.

Whew!