

Practice for the AP Language Grammar Test on Phrases, Gerunds, and Participles

**Key:**

- A: prepositional phrase (adjectival)
- B: prepositional phrase (adverbial)
- C: subject gerund
- D: direct object gerund
- E: object of the preposition gerund
- AB: predicate nominative gerund
- AC: participial phrase
- AD: infinitive phrase (subject)
- AE: infinitive phrase (direct object)
- BC: infinitive phrase (predicate nominative)
- BD: infinitive phrase (adjectival)
- BE: infinitive phrase (adverbial)

**Section One: Identify the grammatical unit(s) in the sentences below. Each grammatical unit is bracketed off and numbered. Select the corresponding letter(s) from the key above that indicates the correct name of the grammatical unit. Place your answers on the Scan Tron sheet.**

Ex.

[Trying to avoid the rain], Thomas ran [to his house.]  
100 101

*Trying to avoid the rain* is a participle that modifies Thomas so the correct answer for # 100 is AC.

*To his house* is a prepositional phrase that functions as an adverb—because it answers the question *where*—so the correct answer for # 101 is B.

**ADVICE: Write on this test. Identify the subject and main verb first. Don't guess! Ask yourself what each phrase is doing. Use arrows to show relationships.**

[Break dancing] is Zach's hobby.  
1.

The best way [to win the lottery] is [to buy all the tickets.]  
2. 3.

The boy [by the window] loves [eating lollipops and marshmallows.]  
4. 5.

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[To become king of the universe] is Jason's ultimate goal.  
6.

[Walking home from school], Rachel passed [by the candy store.]  
7. 8.

Evan went to Florida [to find the fountain of youth.]  
9.

The man was arrested [for speeding.]  
10.

The desk [next to the student] [by the door] is broken.  
11. 12.

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