

Answer Key: Practice for the Grammar Test on Phrases, Gerunds, and Participles

1.	C
2.	BD
3.	BC
4.	A
5.	D
6.	AD
7.	AC
8.	B
9.	BE
10.	E
11.	A
12.	A

Break dancing is Zach's hobby.

Break dancing is a gerund in the subject position. Main verb = *is*. *Zach's hobby* is a predicate nominative. Remember that a sentence with a predicate nominative is like a balanced equation, the subject and the predicate are the same thing. This type of structure requires a linking verb.

The best way to win the lottery is to buy all the tickets.

The best way to win the lottery = the complete subject. The phrase, *to win the lottery* is an infinitive phrase that functions as an adjective because it modifies the noun, *way*. Remember that infinitive phrases require "to" followed immediately by a verb. *To buy all the tickets* is an infinitive phrase in the predicate nominative position. The main verb = *is* (a linking verb.)

The boy by the window loves eating lollipops and marshmallows.

By the window is a prepositional phrase that functions as an adjective. It modifies the noun, *boy*. *Eating lollipops and marshmallows* is a gerund phrase in the direct object position. This phrase receives the action of the main verb, *loves*.

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

To become king of the universe is an infinitive phrase in the subject position.

Walking home from school, Rachel passed by the candy store.

Walking home from school is a participial phrase that modifies the noun, *Rachel*. Remember that participial phrases should be placed near the nouns or pronouns that they modify. Subject = *Rachel*; verb = *passed*. *By the candy store* is a prepositional phrase that functions as an adverb because it answers the question *where*.

Evan went to Florida to find the fountain of youth.

Subject = *Evan*; verb = *went*. *To Florida* is a prepositional phrase that functions as an adverb because it answers the question *where*. *To find the fountain*

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of youth is an infinitive phrase that functions as an adverb because it answers the question *why*.

The man was arrested for speeding.

Subject = *the man*; verb phrase = *was arrested*. *For speeding* is an object of the preposition gerund. **Remember that an OOP gerund has a preposition followed by a gerund.**

The desk next to the student by the door is broken.

Subject = *the desk*; verb phrase = *is broken*. *Next to the student* is an adjectival prepositional phrase that modifies *the desk*. *By the door* is an adjectival prepositional phrase that modifies *the student*. **Remember that it is acceptable to have a string of prepositional phrases right in a row.**

Please send me a note if you notice an error on this sheet.

Best,
Mrs. Krieger