

# BUILDING SIMPLE SENTENCES

The background is a gradient of blue and black. A thin, light blue curved line starts from the top left and curves towards the center. A larger, solid blue shape is located in the bottom right corner, resembling a quarter-circle or a wedge.

# EXPANDING SIMPLE SENTENCES WITH VERBAL PHRASES

- Verbal phrase consists of a verbal and any objects or modifiers.
- A verbal is a verb form that does not serve as a verb in the sentence. Instead, it functions as a noun, adjective, or adverb. There are three types of verbals: a gerund, an infinitive, and a participle.

# GERUND PHRASES

- A gerund phrase consists of a gerund and any objects and/or modifiers.
- A gerund phrase can look similar to a participial phrase because the gerund has the same form as the present participle. The main difference is that the gerund (phrase) functions as a noun (i.e. subject, object, subject complement, appositive), but the participial phrase serves as an adjective.

# GERUND PHRASES

- Example:
- *Riding* my bike is enjoyable in the evening.
- Gerund: riding
- Direct object: my bike
- Modifiers: in the evening

# GERUND PHRASES

- I welcomed beginning a new life.

Gerund is: Beginning

- I began opening the window.

Gerund is: Opening

- We like making changes

Gerund is: Making

# INFINITIVE PHRASES

An infinitive phrase starts with an infinitive (to), which is followed by any objects, and/or modifiers.

- Example: **To get my grade**, I tried to call the registrar's office, but the receptionist told me **to come in the office**.
- The infinitive phrases are *to get my grade* and *to come in the office*.  
infinitive(+)  
object(+)  
modifier.

# INFINITIVE PHRASES

- Examples:
- *To tour* Australia slowly is my dream.
- Infinitive is *to tour* (subject).
- Object: Australia (direct object of the infinitive)
- Modifier: Slowly (an adverb modifying the infinitive)
- The infinitive phrase is to tour Australia slowly.
- I must study *to pass* my exams with good marks.
- Infinitive is *to pass*.

# INFINITIVE PHRASES

- **Object** is my exams (the direct object of the infinitive).
- **Modifier** is with good marks (a prepositional phrase modifying the infinitive).
- **Infinitive phrase**: to pass my winter exams with good marks.



# PARTICIPIAL PHRASES

- A participial phrase consists of either a past or a present participle and any objects, and/or modifiers.
- Example:
  1. That dog keenly *hunting* the ducks must be a thoroughbred.
- **Participle:** *HUNTING*

# PARTICIPIAL PHRASES

- **Object:** the ducks (direct object of the participle)
  - **Modifier:** keenly (an adverb modifying the participle)
  - **Participial phrase:** keenly hunting the ducks
2. *Hidden* by trees, Jerry waited to scare Mark.
- Participle: *Hidden*
  - **Modifier:** by the trees (a prepositional phrase modifying “hidden”)
  - **Participial phrase:** hidden by the trees (an adjective modifying “Jerry”)

# EXPANDING SIMPLE SENTENCES WITH APPOSITIVES

- Appositives rename noun phrases and are usually placed beside what they rename.
- Example:
- That woman, our president, spoke out against racism.
- “Our president” renames the subject “that woman,” which is an appositive.

# APPOSITIVES

- A noun phrase that adds more information about a noun or pronoun.
- Use a comma to separate a nonessential appositive from the rest of the sentence. Do not use a comma for an essential appositive.
- Nonessential: Ron, my friend, has 13 credit cards.
- Essential: He is reading the library book Ten Ways to Get Out of Debt.

# USING MODIFIERS

- A misplaced modifier appears to describe the wrong word or phrase, or it is unclear which word or phrase the modifier is describing.
- A dangling modifier is another problem modifier. A modifier is dangling when the sentence lacks the subject that the modifier is describing.

# MISPLACED MODIFIERS

- Misplaced modifier: A word or phrase placed too far from the word or phrase that is described.
- Misplaced: Our hands blistered when we paddled the boat painfully. (Does painfully modify paddled?)
- Revised: Our hands blistered painfully when we paddled the boat.

# A DANGLING MODIFIER

- Rule: Avoid dangling modifiers.
- Method 1: Fix a dangling modifier by making it into subordinate clause.
- Method 2: Fix a dangling modifier by changing the subject of the sentence to the word that the modifier is describing.

# EXAMPLES

- Dangling: Paddling down the river, the canoe overturned.
- Correction # 1: As we paddled down the river, the canoe overturned.
- Correction # 2: Paddling down the river, we overturned the canoe.



# APPOSITIVES

- Appositives can also rename nouns phrases that are not the subject.
- We waited in our favorite meeting place, the pub. “The pub” renames “Our favorite meeting place,” so it is an appositive.

# EXPANDING SIMPLE SENTENCES WITH COMPOUND CONSTRUCTIONS

- Compounds may be joined in three ways: with commas, with a coordinating conjunction, or with a pair of correlative conjunctions
- Coordinating conjunctions join sentence parts of equal grammatical status.

# COORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

- Examples:
- Do you want to study math or English? The coordinating conjunction “or” is linking two nouns.
- Do you want to go to the park or to the zoo? The conjunction “or” is linking the phrase “to the park” with the phrase “to the zoo.”
- He gave me his phone number, but I lost it. The conjunction “but” is connecting two sentences of equal status.

# COORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

- I got up and left the room. The conjunction “and” is connecting the words.
- I understand, speak, write and read French.

# CORRELATIVE CONJUNCTIONS

- Coordinating words that work in pairs are called correlative conjunctions. They join words, phrases, and clauses, as well as whole sentences.
- Example: We can study either math or English.
- I *not only* lost his phone number, *but I also* forgot where he lived.