Verbals – Gerund Practice #2

A **PHRASE** is a group of words which contains neither a subject nor a verb. (It may, however, contain a verbal form such as an infinitive, a participle, or a gerund.)

**Gerund phrases** begin with a **gerund** (an -ing word which looks exactly like a present participle, but which is used as a noun) and will include other modifiers and/or objects. A gerund phrase can be used in any way a noun can:

Ex: He loves **embarrassing his relations**.

A *gerund* always ends in *ing* and is used as a noun. *Eating* is fun.

*Gerunds* can be compound. Example: Jeff likes *hiking* and *camping*.

**Instructions:** Find the *gerunds* and *gerund phrases* in the following sentences and tell how they are used (subject, direct object, predicate nominative, appositive, indirect object, or object of the preposition).

1. Directing traffic and helping school children is her job.

2. Do you watch boxing or wrestling?

3. For knitting and sewing you need good eyes.

4. My needs, exercising and losing weight, must be realized soon.

5. My mother gives helping and serving others all her time.

6. Fishing is my friend's favorite sport.

7. By adding more water, we can thin the paint.

8. The law forbids shouting fire in a theater.

9. Mr. Jones enjoys his work, collecting and repairing old stereos.

10. My neighbor's pastime is training guard dogs.

**Answers:**

1. directing traffic/helping school children = subjects

2. boxing/wrestling = direct objects

3. knitting/sewing = objects of the preposition

4. exercising/losing weight = appositives

5. helping/serving others = indirect objects

6. fishing = subject

7. adding more water = object of the preposition

8. shouting fire in a theater = direct object

9. collecting/repairing old stereos = appositives

10. training guard dogs = predicate nominative