**Gerunds, Participles, and Infinitives practice** (Answers are at the end)

**THE GERUND AND THE GERUND PHRASE**

**Enclose each (gerund or gerund phrase) in parentheses.**

**. . . as subject**

1. (Exercising) is good for the figure.

2. Praying is good for the soul.

3. Mowing will keep the grass trim.

4. Reading has many benefits.

5. Writing makes a person exact.

6. (Quitting jobs) can become habitual.

7. Lighting fires is the preoccupation of a pyromaniac.

8. Lighting lights is the highlight of the lamplighter’s life.

9. Bugging parents seems to be some teenagers’ reason for existence.

10. Girding loins is a prerequisite for battle.

11. (Swimming in the winter) is all right for polar bears.

12. Drinking on the house can be conducive to acrophobia.

13. Flying from the coop is tricky business, especially for chickens.

14. Listening to Crystal Canyon was a real treat.

15. Rising to the occasion sometimes requires real courage.

16. (Bending the knee to the floor) may result in knighthood or marriage.

17. Singing ballads in a barroom might lead to a contract with Folkways Records.

18. Riding horses for a hobby can be debilitating.

19. Tasting honey in the wrong places is fraught with peril.

20. Chasing the Joker in his Batcar was Batman’s chief thrill.

**THE GERUND AND THE GERUND PHRASE**

**. . . as direct object**

21. Justice Douglas loves (hiking).

22. An active man can’t stand sitting.

23. Kimball doesn’t really like running.

24. The boy quit working.

25. He stopped thinking.

26. MacDonald dislikes (having farm animals)

27. Tarzan likes swinging from the trees.

28. He enjoyed growing a beard.

29. Camilla began doing “The Watusi.”

30. The obsequious footman finally stopped holding the door open.

31. The Indian continued (standing in the rain forest in his hip boots).

32. The little boy disliked having nightmares about the ogre.

33. Frustrated poets stop writing poems.

34. The impresario wanted dancing all over the stage.

35. The insomniac tried sleeping in the daytime.

36. The President resented (seeing his caricature in MAD magazine).

37. The Allies began attacking the trenches at dawn.

38. Holmes enjoyed spying in the dark corners of Gothic chateaux.

39. The ground crew kept sweeping the sky with the searchlight.

40. Charon continued putting coins on the dead men’s eyes.

**THE GERUND AND THE GERUND PHRASE**

**. . . as subjective complement (predicate noun)**

41. Mr. Churchill’s avocation was (painting).

42. Pavlova’s main interest was dancing.

43. A politician’s goal will always be winning.

44. Seeing is believing.

45. Believing is seeing.

46. Lou Groza’s strong point was (kicking field goals).

47. A favorite pastime of girls is talking on the telephone.

48. Jay’s special aptitude is making speeches before large audiences.

49. One’s goal should be searching for what always lies ahead.

50. The dishonest tailor’s main fault was lining his own pockets.

**. . . as object of the preposition**

51. We left after (seeing the movie)

52. After seeing the movie, we left.

53. Before exercising we jogged four laps.

54. We jogged four laps before exercising.

55. The class was exhausted from thinking and studying all day.

56. Before (shooting the foul shot) the player nervously bounced the ball on the floor.

57. After having won all of the marbles, the towheaded kid gathered his wealth and hurried home.

58. The citizens had many different views on being called for jury duty.

59. The underprivileged person seems to be a new man since having been given a fresh start in life.

60. The new teacher had some radical ideas on the grading and correcting of compositions.

**THE GERUND AND THE GERUND PHRASE**

**. . . as indirect object**

61. He gave (going) a lot of consideration.

62. Joe gave weightlifting credit for his physique.

**. . . as objective complement**

63. I call that (good playing).

64. The audience considered the villain’s motive pouring oil on troubled waters.

**. . . as appositive**

65. Nehru’s task, (making peace) sometimes caused trouble.

66. The general’s idea, attacking immediately, was poor strategy.

67. George enjoyed many happy hours at his favorite pastime, surfing.

68. The assignment, writing a short story, seemed impossible at first.

69. His job, approaching customers all day long, soon wore him out.

**. . . as adverbial noun**

70. He went (swimming).

71. He surfaced gasping.

72. The new neighbor came visiting.

73. Lady Brett Ashley went dancing all night long.

74. She went walking with the handsome stranger along the beach.

**. . . with possessive preceding**

75. Nothing became him like (his going).

76. John’s whining rose to a querulous pitch.

77. Does your mother know about my winning?

78. Edward’s swimming the Channel was miraculous.

79. No one could foresee George’s acquiring the bicycle so soon.

**THE GERUND AND THE GERUND PHRASE**

**Enclose each (gerund or gerund phrase) in parentheses.**

**Tell the grammatical usage of each gerund.**

1. Reading is enjoyable for most people.

2. Being shadowed can be very tiresome.

3. Writing compositions proved highly beneficial to the students.

4. Loafing at the local drugstore sometimes seems a waste of time.

5. Real athletes don’t mind training or practicing.

6. The artist held his first showing in the old Studio Gallery.

7. Most Florentines disliked dining with the Borgias.

8. The riverboat gang resented losing money to Gaylord Mitty.

9. Doofo’s favorite diversion is sailing frisbees from the study hail roof.

10. His ultimate downfall was not studying gerunds.

11. The boy’s dream of glory was rescuing the head cheerleader from the path of an express train.

12. Kowalski’s record was hitting seventy home runs in a season.

13. She disappeared after spending all of my allowance.

14. We took our shoes off upon entering the class on Far Eastern affairs.

15. In studying for the final exams, the ambitious students burned the midnight oil.

16. The editors of *The Evening Sun* take a dim view of our reading *The Morning News*.

17. His new business, raising cobras for fun and profit, proved hazardous.

18. We admired his obvious skill, threading a needle with his eyes shut.

19. Having asked the lovely lady to type our sentences was obviously a good move.

20. We eventually enjoyed going to summer school.

**THE GERUND AND THE GERUND PHRASE**

21. Playing “Taps” at Arlington had been Prewitt’s chief military duty.

22. The best part of the party was the leaving of it.

23. Mothers can’t stand the crying of children.

24. In proof-reading, a person can make many mistakes.

25. George Fox enjoys three things—eating, watching television, and eating again.

26. The orchestra started playing a work by Shostakovitch.

27. Her chief dislike about the care of the automobile is washing it once a week.

28. His occupation, clipping coupons, has long fascinated me.

29. Near its source, the Seine delights in meandering through the village of Billy.

30. His filming of *The Magnificent Seven* was, in my opinion, Kurosawa’s greatest achievement as a film director.

31. Arguing unsuccessfully cannot possibly be one of Raymond Burr’s failings as an actor.

32. The young prince’s role was feigning poverty and assuming the guise of a pauper.

33. The Colonel’s Lady could not stand being compared to Rosie O’Grady.

34. The diplomats, in not talking earnestly to each other, nearly caused a major war.

35. His pleasure, listening to the music of The Beatles at full volume, caused quite a stirring among his neighbors at 3:00 a.m.

36. Lady Macbeth mounted her broomstick and went soaring into the night.

37. The applicant who detested filling out the forms collapsed in a state of nervousness.

38. Subscribing to the Boca Raton News was the first step in moving to that distant tropical area.

39. Overcome with glee, the fiendish scientist rubbed his hands together in anticipating the outcome of his wild scheme.

40. The two brothers liked engaging each other in many types of athletic contests.

**THE GERUND AND THE GERUND PHRASE**

41. Socrates’ main interests in life were debating and teaching.

42. Xantippe’s main interest in life was thwarting Socrates.

43. The cellist gave playing for the President credit for his great success.

44. Maria Callas gave singing as the reason for her great breath control.

45. Fishing is fun—for everyone but the fish.

46. Rainsford disliked being hunted by the insane General Zaroff.

47. After having lost their twelfth straight game, the Erstwhiles sat glumly in their locker room.

48. His hobby was collecting girls.

49. Baiting a hook with worms can cause the squeamish to squeam.

50. Being seen in the Casbah with Pepe Le Moko proved to be a most unfortunate incident the young diplomat’s career.

51. Running for Congress on the Republican ticket can be futile in some states.

52. The roly-poly child enjoyed eating anything it could get its hands on.

53. Very few people can tolerate constant teasing.

54. Before pitching the ball, Gomez checked the runner at first.

55. The odd boy supported himself in college by doing odd jobs.

56. After having been reprimanded for smoking in the hall, the thoughtless student started chewing tobacco.

57. His job for the summer was lifting and carrying large bales of peat moss.

58. Sneezing for 2000 days straight is not a desirable record to set.

59. *Shoeing* a horse is different from *shooing* a horse.

60. Upon being voted the boy most likely not to succeed in college, Doofo began to study.

**THE GERUND AND THE GERUND PHRASE**

61. The students in the current events class enjoy the privilege of reading *Time* magazine in study hall.

62. Daydreaming was Walter Mitty’s method of avoiding reality.

63. The three R’s are reading, ‘riting, and ‘rithmetic.

64. The Burma Shave signs once had a classic jingle: “If one-arm driving is your sport, trade your car for a davenport.”

65. Sometimes seeing is not believing.

66. The giant tom cat enjoyed sunning himself all day long and sleeping in Mr. Eliot’s hat.

67. After seeing the hopelessness of the situation and realizing the futility of trying to do anything about the shortage of ammunition, the patrol withdrew from the area.

68. Participating in extra-curricular activities can be a very positive experience.

69. The prospect of having been seen in the beauty parlor as he was waiting for his mother haunted the young athlete.

70. Upon discovering that she had been accepted by Coliseum College, Melissa let her hair grow very long and began to wear leotards.

71. In most prep schools one usually begins the day by attending chapel service.

72. Although Bruce enjoyed watching television by the hour, he could upon occasion tear himself away for the purpose of eating and sleeping.

73. The young man in the grey flannel suit gave writing a try before he settled down and became a junior executive for a chain of toy stores.

74. One cannot help wondering what he will do after graduating from high school.

75. Studying gerunds can become a dull pastime.

76. Roosevelt’s favorite diversion was collecting stamps.

77. By studying last week’s game films, the members of the defensive backfield were able to see their mistakes clearly.

78. The whole class enjoyed reading *Huckleberry Finn*, but no one particularly liked *Innocents Abroad*.

79. Riding a motorcycle can be fun, but falling off can be painful.

80. After lecturing to the student body for over half an hour on safety precautions, the speaker tripped on the edge of the podium and fell into the front row seats.

**THE GERUND AND THE GERUND PHRASE**

81. Giving young children fountain pens can be disastrous.

82. The practice of contributing generously to worthy causes proves ennobling.

83. Martha gave practicing the piano a noble try, but she soon turned her attention to the neighborhood gang again.

84. The bane of Mary’s existence is having to go to bed at 9:30 p.m. on school nights.

85. After arriving at sentence number eighty-five, the versatile young English teachers hated writing sentences with gerunds.

86. The idea of spending an entire month at the beach appealed to the boys.

87. Mr. Worthington’s hobby, collecting rocks and minerals of the Piedmont area and classifying them, proved rewarding in the end.

88. His work’s being published at such an early age altered the writer’s sense of values.

89. After having been smitten by the young lady’s charms, Pendergrast grew very pale and wan.

90. The signing of the Declaration of Independence was one of the single most decisive acts in Western Civilization.

91. After having studied *Hamlet* for a week, the entire class was near paranoia.

92. The uncooperative boy resented being sent home from school.

93. Savoring the delicious aromas and seeing the buffet tables piled high with food was really more than the hungry athletes could stand.

94. Roark’s occupation, working in a granite quarry, added to his overall knowledge of materials used in building.

95. The maroon team resented our rolling up such a high score.

96. The difference between listening to a recording and attending a concert astounds most people.

97. The many incidents of pilfering and plundering that followed in the wake of the tornado didn’t say much for human behavior.

98. After hearing Mr. Auden on the subject of writing poetry, one would have to believe that the greatest obstacle for a young poet to overcome is taking himself too seriously.

99. Most children’s greatest security measure is thumb-sucking; most adults’ is viewing the “idiot box.”

100. After shaping the entire course of modern art, Cezanne died thinking that he was a failure.

**THE PARTICIPLE AND THE PARTICIPIAL PHRASE**

**Enclose each (participle or participial phrase) in parentheses.**

**Draw an arrow to the word the participle modifies.**

**. . . introductory participles**

1. (Growling), the tiger seemed ferocious.

2. Having fallen, Humpty Dumpty lay in a thousand pieces.

3. Being seen, the sniper dropped his telescopic rifle and surrendered.

4. Hung, the pictures looked ludicrous.

5. Having been beaten, the Saxons still refused to capitulate.

**. . . introductory participial phrases**

6. (Beginning anew), each day seemed better than the last.

7. Bursting with pride, the mothers watched their children in the pageant.

8. Riding into the fading sunset, the man on the white horse threw away his silver bullets.

9. Appearing over the horizon, the Santa Maria frightened the Indians.

10. Growing into a beautiful swan, the ugly duckling was accepted by his peers.

**. . . participle before word modified**

11. The (whistling) kettle got on my nerves.

12. The rising sun appeared on time, as usual.

13. We heard the exciting news.

14. The crowd applauded the winning team.

15. The wounded hero smiled at the sniffling heroine.

**. . . participle as subjective complement**

16. The speaker was (boring).

17. A ride with a student driver can be exciting.

18. That girl is scintillating.

19. The octogenarian seemed tired.

20. We became concerned about the couple.

**THE PARTICIPLE AND THE PARTICIPIAL PHRASE**

**. . . participial phrase after word modified**

21. The boy (playing the guitar) is good.

22. The girl appearing in the play is a friend of mine.

23. The packages being shipped overseas are duty-free.

24. Most of us loved the building being destroyed.

25. The troops looked as if they enjoyed the show given last night.

**. . . non-restrictive participial phrase**

26. Miss Universe, (appearing on television for the first time), mimicked Miss World’s interesting walk.

27 J. Paul Getty’s Rolls Royce, “Silver Cloud,” being transported this week from England, is made of solid silver.

28. Old Sambo, nonchalantly sitting overhead, was amused by the tigers beneath the eucalyptus tree.

29. Miss Monroe, seen in any critical light, was a wonderful comedienne.

30. *On the Road*, written by Jack Kerouac, gives an excellent picture of beatnik beneficence.

**THE PARTICIPLE AND THE PARTICIPIAL PHRASE**

**Enclose each (participle or participial phrase) in parentheses.**

**Draw an arrow to the word the participle modifies.**

1. The running water splashed noisily.

2. The sinking ship went down quickly.

3. All of us saw the wrecked airplane.

4. Many of the elves repaired the broken toys.

5. The drowning man grabbed the floating buoy.

6. Falling, the balloon burst in the tree.

7. Laughing, the audience forgot the oppressive heat.

8. Having won, the golfer headed for the showers.

9. Having been apprehended, the reckless driver lost his license.

10. Having resisted and endured, the members of the underground rejoiced on V-E Day.

11. Missing the target completely, Little John blushed with shame.

12. Having seen the last of Josiah Crab tree, the Rover Boys relaxed for a while.

13. Being seen in the tavern, Mr. Beauchamp hastened home.

14. Reviewed for the first time, *Carmen* seemed to be a flop.

15. Having been shot twice, the man-eater headed for the bush.

16. The boy doing the puzzle is a friend of mine.

17. The girl wearing the sack dress is the president of the class.

18. The campers, having finished their meal, put out the fire.

19. The empire of the Mayans, having reached a peak of development, began a long decline.

20. Miss Minerva, disgusted and despairing, called loud and long for William Green Hill.

**THE PARTICIPLE AND THE PARTICIPIAL PHRASE**

21. We noticed the dripping water.

22. Father mended the broken doll.

23. Walking rapidly in the sun, the safari began to tire.

24. Having enjoyed the circus, the family returned home.

25. Sensing the danger in advance, Starbuck would not lower the boat after dark.

26. Having sensed that the intruder was a S.M.E.R.S.H. agent, Miss Moneypenny called Mr. Bond.

27. Waiting to hear the results of the fifth race, the bookies gathered around the wire.

28. The Shakespearean dressing room was known as the tiring house.

29. The bound edition of *Wuthering Heights* has disappeared from the library.

30. Singing happily, the milkmaid completed her chores.

31. Burned to a frazzle, the turkey looked like a giant cinder.

32. The spent athlete collapsed at the finish line.

33. The mutilated coin bore a resemblance to today’s quarter.

34. A drawn-and-quartered person is uncomfortable, to say the least.

35. His hair was raised by the shocking tale of horror.

36. Henry’s hair, bleached the color of the sun, was very brittle at the ends.

37. The pigs returning from the trough had indeed enjoyed their repast.

38. Broken milk bottles on cold mornings can be very disheartening.

39. People in hot weather subconsciously enjoy the whirring sounds of electric fans.

40. The bare bear bore his indignity with feigned indifference.

**THE PARTICIPLE AND THE PARTICIPIAL PHRASE**

41. The baby looked at the broken toy and babbled.

42. Many valuable teaching tools exist today.

43. There were many tired soldiers on the beaches at Dunkirk.

44. The beating rain hammered upon the tin roof.

45. A revised edition of *Ivanhoe* has been published.

46. Having run into the kitchen, Misty saved herself from the storm.

47. Carrying with them the use of iron weapons, the Hittites invaded Anatolia about 1100 B.C.

48. Falling gracefully, the leaf landed on the window sill.

49. Having taught arithmetic for fifty years, the teacher retired.

50. Having presented *Murder in the Cathedral* for the first time, the entire cast was absent from school the next day.

51. The actor making the horrible face won the part of Frankenstein’s monster.

52. Napoleon, having been defeated at Waterloo, was soon thereafter exiled.

53. The architect showing us the house has won many prizes for his designs.

54. The aging seamstress made a costume consisting of rags.

55. Our boat, tied to its moorings last night, has drifted away.

56. Having slipped past the guards, the escaped prisoners sighed with relief.

57. Dante, conducted through the regions of the inferno, learned a great deal about the degraded human condition.

58. Finishing their novel, the team of aspiring writers relaxed for the first time in many months.

59. The wind, whistling through the ancient, crumbling walls, frightened the searching boys.

60. Stripped of his rank, the disgraced soldier was drummed out of the corps, defeated in person, and broken in spirit.

**THE PARTICIPLE AND THE PARTICIPIAL PHRASE**

61. Seeing the calliope, the child became excited.

62. Perking up its ears, the little chipmunk darted into the rocks.

63. Seen for the first time, *Gone With the Wind* is panoramic in its conception and scope.

64. Shot from a cannon day after day, Zachini became gun shy and very deaf.

65. Hearing the noise and smelling the smoke, Mr. Polly ran into the street.

66. The aging night watchman, carrying his torch and nightstick, trudged wearily along the corridor.

67. The sprinter running in the second lane won by a full stride.

68. The nations admitted to the United Nations recently add to the growing confusion on the East River.

69. The President, stricken with a severe case of flu, caused confusion on Wall Street.

70. Many men, feeling very young and energetic, tend to exhaust themselves through over-exertion.

71. Feeling faint, the choir member sat down during the Doxology.

72. Learning that Lois Lane was in grave danger, Our Hero, Superman, shot through the air with the speed of a bullet.

73. Having been elected president of his class for the last three years, Strongfort took the balloting in stride.

74. The play being read by the sophomores is an adaptation of *Billy Budd*.

75. Peter Lorre, seen in any situation in any movie, is a sinister, slightly suspicious character.

76. Having learned only recently that girls are different from boys, Doofo took a new interest in life.

77. The pigs, squealing and running in every direction, caused a tremendous uproar in the barnyard.

78. Laps run for punishment are unpleasant at best.

79. Huck Finn, having witnessed mankind’s evils and injustices, took a dim view of the human condition.

80. The new building given by the alumni will be used as a fine arts center.

**THE PARTICIPLE AND THE PARTICIPIAL PHRASE**

81. Having awakened the entire student body with his flugelhom, Doofo was severely chastened by the prefects.

82. The football used in today’s game will be kept permanently in the trophy case.

83. Who is the boy playing quarterback?

84. A rose called by any other name smells just as sweet.

85. Stymied by the adroit moves of the older man, the young chess genius haltingly advanced his bishop.

86. Mr. Kennedy, known for his charm and urbane humor, made a great impression on the youth of this country.

87. Every morning the turncoat was awakened by a rooster crowing outside his cell.

88. Discipline, seen as an end in itself, is most effective if it is voluntary.

89. The person being ridden through the streets of Paris in a crude tumbril is none other than Mr. Defarge.

90. Writing, having written, being written, written, and having been written, the participles dangled grotesquely.

91. Fearing that the end of the world was at hand, the members of the small religious sect gathered together for incantations.

92. The movie currently playing at the Bijou has a sign saying, “Standing Room Only.”

93. Mr. Mephistopheles, having finally accepted the fact that he was wrong, terminated the debate, turned on his heel, and stalked out of the room.

94. Playing Drop the Handkerchief and laughing in childish glee, the kindergarten class did not see the gigantic dragon behind the japonica tree.

95. The cowboy being carried through the streets of Laredo in the pine box was a little too slow on the draw.

96. Becoming aware of the growing animosity toward the foreigners, the State Department tried to put a stop to the mounting xenophobia.

97. Captain Queeg, having sighted the shellbursts while still far from the landing beach, dropped some yellow dye markers and ordered the *Caine* to put about.

98. Being viewed at the National Gallery for the first time in America, the *Mona Lisa* drew enormous crowds of art lovers, tourists, and curiosity seekers.

99. The participles studied in class illustrated all possible uses of these verbal adjectives.

100. Having been publicly stripped of his academic standing, the erstwhile teacher stood humbly by as the administrator read off the charges against him and, in a dramatic gesture, broke his red pencil.

**THE INFINITIVE AND THE INFINITIVE PHRASE**

**Enclose each (infinitive or infinitive phrase) in parentheses.**

**. . . as subject**

1. (To err) is human.

2. To love should be the goal of mankind.

3. To hate is soul-consuming.

4. To walk was the jockey’s way of relaxation.

5. To exist requires courage.

6. (To be in ignorance of the law) is no excuse.

7. To sleep soundly through the ringing of the alarm is perfect bliss.

8. To have loved and lost is better than not having loved at all.

9. To ride in a jeep for seven days would make one weak.

10. To wash dishes is the bane of many a housewife’s existence.

**. . . as direct object**

11. Ryun wanted (to win).

12. Phineas wished to travel.

13. Saint-Exupery liked to fly.

14. The child learned to swim.

15. Harriet loves to cook.

16. Many children like (to buy frilly things).

17. Children love to ride spotted horses bareback in the sun.

18. Johnny refuses to surf in his new wetsuit.

19. The bells ceased to toll in the little village.

20. He wanted to hear that song again.

**THE INFINITIVE AND THE INFINITIVE PHRASE**

**. . . as subjective complement (predicate noun)**

21. His ambition was (to succeed).

22. Wilma’s goal was to win.

23. Our main purpose had been to see.

24. Axel’s aim was to heist.

25. The President’s mission had been to mediate.

26. Happiness is (to learn that there will be no school because of snow).

27. Happiness is to study infinitives.

28. Happiness is to know your college board scores are good.

29. His one desire is to beat the White Knight to the dirty clothes.

30. My wish is to sell the ‘28 Rolls for $2400.

**. . . as appositive**

31. The Riddler’s secret desire, (to sing), was finally realized.

32. His ambition, to cogitate, was soon thwarted by the small children.

33. Charles Horse’s purpose, to hurt, soon became a reality.

34. The runner’s goal, to break the existing record, should be realized this Saturday.

35. Dr. Schweitzer’s lifelong plan, to teach and to heal, was very noble.

36. Kit accomplished his plan, (to draw well for his parents).

37. The speaker’s intention, to inspire his audience, failed from the start.

38. His desire, to succeed in his chosen vocation, led him to great heights.

39. Madame Curie’s ambition, to gain recognition in the field of medicine, was fulfilled.

40. Icarus’ goal, to fly first, ended with his wings melting.

**THE INFINITIVE AND THE INFINITIVE PHRASE**

**. . . as an adjective**

41. The apartment (to let) was a hovel.

42. A good book to read is *Lady Loverly ‘s Chatter*.

43. Now is a good time to master the subject of verbals.

**. . . as an adverb**

44. My friend came (to see me).

45. We exercise to keep healthy.

46. The visiting team came to play.

**. . . with the sign (to) missing**

47. Let (us pray).

48. Let me go with you.

49. To relax and play are important.

50. The dreamy boy wanted to sculpt and paint.

**. . . as subject, with the expletive (it)**

51. It is nice (to know you).

52. It is easy to understand infinitives.

53. It is silly not to study.

**. . . as object of a preposition**

54. He was about (to go).

55. She had no desire except to stay.

**. . . as object of verbal**

56. Wanting (to win too much), he became blind to good sportsmanship.

57. Wanting to win too much can lead to poor sportsmanship.

**. . . in an infinitive clause**

58. The country wanted (the folk groups to play better music).

59. The team wished John to be captain.

**THE INFINITIVE AND THE INFINITIVE PHRASE**

**Enclose each (infinitive or infinitive phrase) in parentheses.**

**Tell the grammatical usage of each infinitive.**

1. To study medicine was his only wish.

2. To learn English seemed unimportant.

3. The homesick camper wanted to go home.

4. The rowdy guest hated to leave the party.

5. The time to study is now.

6. The historic homes to visit were pointed out to us.

7. We go to school to learn how to function as human beings.

8. The team worked hard to score.

9. To decide is the mark of a mature person.

10. Holden Caulfield wanted to quit school and work in a filling station out West.

11. To see, the blind man had an operation.

12. A very good book to read is *Raintree County*.

13. The hoods wanted to go to work by the way of the poolroom.

14. To move quickly and quietly was the cat burglar’s desire.

15. To cross the desert, the camel loaded up on water.

16. To forgive is divine.

17. I have no time to spare for trivial things.

18. The attempt to kick the field goal failed.

19. The students were anxious to please the teacher.

20. He wanted to see the movie *Stalag 17* again.

**THE INFINITIVE AND THE INFINITIVE PHRASE**

21. The right thing to do isn’t always easy.

22. The place to find the pot of gold is just over the horizon.

23. The final will be the hardest examination to take.

24. This work was to have been completed by now.

25. All seems to be in order.

26. Lewis waited to ask the Headmaster for his permission.

27. Many adventurers went to California to seek gold.

28. To be home early, the commuter took the 4:10.

29. To live in Tahiti, a person cannot sponge off the natives.

30. To pass the course, he will have to study.

31. It is a nuisance to save trading stamps.

32. To be a professional requires great skill.

33. To occasionally split an infinitive seems perfectly natural.

34. James Bond had to go to Haiti after Mr. Big.

35. The farmer tried to grow a type of hybrid corn suited to the climate.

36. He liked to shoot off fireworks.

37. The bounty hunter’s job was to track down bounties.

38. Cleopatra wanted to protect Ptolemy.

39. The ambition of the stagehand was to act.

40. MacArthur’s famous vow, to return to the Philippines, was fulfilled.

**THE INFINITIVE AND THE INFINITIVE PHRASE**

41. Hitler’s mad plan was to conquer the world.

42. To play the role of Medea can prove quite challenging.

43. Arnold doesn’t want to stop playing golf.

44. Leander had no alternative except to swim.

45. Try to start the exercise again.

46. To show sympathy for Jack, Jill fell down the hill.

47. To diet most effectively, a person should refrain from eating.

48. The night made the trees too dark to see.

49. He ran home to tell his mother the news of his narrow escape.

50. The suit was ready to be worn.

51. Nice is a nice town to visit.

52. The play we wanted to see just ended its season on Broadway.

53. The landlord hung out the “Apartment to Rent” sign.

54. The best suits to buy are made of Dacron and wool.

55. A good place to have lived would have been in Paris in the 1920’s.

56. To be or not to be is the question.

57. The acid test is to try the crossword puzzle using a pen.

58. The undisciplined boy is learning to control himself.

59. No one should ever try to speak in class without thinking first.

60. She went to join in the search for the lost spelunker.

**THE INFINITIVE AND THE INFINITIVE PHRASE**

61. Our newspaper staff tried to publish a paper that was mature and at the same time humorous.

62. After the game we were convinced that the other team had really come to play ball.

63. The best thing to do in an emergency is to keep calm and collected.

64. To run and play freely was the haunting desire of most of the children in the ward.

65. Dawkins’ alternate plan, to play professional football, was thwarted when he became a Rhodes Scholar.

66. Let us pray.

67. Apparently wanting to come in the house, Bowser tore a gigantic hole in the front screen.

68. The current fad among the girls at our school is to wear green lipstick and long white eyelashes.

69. Citation’s owners expected to win the triple crown in racing.

70. It is too hot to breathe.

71. It is nice to know you.

72. Betty’s plan was to go to the museum as often as she could.

73. The Romantic poets were too concerned with their imaginations to be overly conscious of their minds.

74. Beware of anyone who says he has a deal to work with you.

75. To live is to suffer.

76. Hurlburt enlisted in the Marines to serve for two years and then signed for another hitch to be with his buddies.

77. The circumstances were too complicated to explain to anyone.

78. After trying to climb the Matterhorn, the fellows in our group asked only to rest and sleep and be left alone for several days.

79. The books we were given to read in health class seemed to be written by the birds and the bees.

80. To live without fear, to be free to shape our own destinies, and to pursue happiness are fundamental to the American dream.

**THE INFINITIVE AND THE INFINITIVE PHRASE**

81. Not to study was the only alternative.

82. Matilda did not want to attend the dance with Wallaby.

83. Mallory’s plan was to ascend the east wall of the mountain.

84. Wanting to gather the ferny blue wildflowers, the botanist climbed further out on the dangerous precipice.

85. We came to see the man who has the home to sell.

86. Give me two hamburgers to go.

87. The prisoner of war was happy just to breathe fresh air again.

88. Let us see what work there is for us to do.

89. To find an infinitive in a sentence is easy.

90. To do the work seemed foolish, but it had to be done.

91. A wise thing to practice is self-control.

92. To watch television constantly should be a form of punishment.

93. When the militant Hebrew king went forth to conquer the Philistines, he had Yahweh on his side.

94. The sophomore boy was so attracted to the freshman girl that he purposely tried to fail all of his subjects.

95. The ball player’s main goal in life, to score the winning touchdown in the final seconds of the last game of the season in his senior year, seems to be rather impractical.

96. To fish, and swim, and loll around in the sun were the things that Huck and Jim really enjoyed.

97. The attractive girl told Doofo that it was nice to meet him, a situation which caused the boy to get very flustered.

98. The surgeon planned to tell the patient why he had to operate.

99. To enjoy the freedom one can experience in America is a divine blessing.

100. Let us leave the subject of infinitives and go on to greater things.

ANSWERS:

# THE GERUND AND THE GERUND PHRASE--Sample Exercises

1. (Exercising) is good for the figure. **subject**
2. (Praying) is good for the soul. **subject**
3. (Mowing) will keep the grass trim. **subject**
4. (Reading) has many benefits. **subject**
5. (Writing) makes a person exact. **subject**
6. (Quitting jobs) can become habitual. **subject**
7. (Lighting fires) is the preoccupation of a pyromaniac. **subject**
8. (Lighting lights) is the highlight of the lamplighter’s life. **subject**
9. (Bugging parents) seems to be some teenagers’ reason for existence. **subject**
10. (Girding loins) is a prerequisite for battle. **subject**
11. (Swimming in the winter) is all right for polar bears. **subject**
12. (Drinking on the house) can be conducive to acrophobia. **subject**
13. (Flying from the coop) is tricky business, especially for chickens. **subject**
14. (Listening to Crystal Canyon) was a real treat. **subject**
15. (Rising to the occasion) sometimes requires real courage. **subject**
16. (Bending the knee to the floor) may result in knighthood or marriage. **subject**
17. (Singing ballads in a barroom) might lead to a contract with Folkways Records. **subject**
18. (Riding horses for a hobby) can be debilitating. **subject**
19. (Tasting honey in the wrong places) is fraught with peril. **subject**
20. (Chasing the Joker in his Batcar) was Batman’s chief thrill. **subject**
21. Justice Douglas loves (hiking). **direct object**
22. An active man can’t stand (sitting). **direct object**
23. Kimball doesn’t really like (running). **direct object**
24. The boy quit (working). **direct object**
25. He stopped (thinking). **direct object**
26. MacDonald dislikes (having farm animals). **direct object**
27. Tarzan likes (swinging from the trees). **direct object**
28. He enjoyed (growing a beard). **direct object**
29. Camilla began (doing “The Watusi.”) **direct object**
30. The obsequious footman finally stopped (holding the door open). **direct object**
31. The Indian continued (standing in the rain forest in his hip boots). **direct object**
32. The little boy disliked (having nightmares about the ogre). **direct object**
33. Frustrated poets stop (writing poems). **direct object**
34. The impresario wanted (dancing all over the stage). **direct object**
35. The insomniac tried (sleeping in the daytime). **direct object**
36. The President resented (seeing his caricature in MAD magazine). **direct object**
37. The Allies began (attacking the trenches at dawn). **direct object**
38. Holmes enjoyed (spying in the dark corners of Gothic chateaux). **direct object**
39. The ground crew kept (sweeping the sky with the searchlight). **direct object**
40. Charon continued (putting coins on the dead men’s eyes). **direct object**
41. Mr. Churchill’s avocation was (painting). **predicate noun**
42. Pavlova’s main interest was (dancing). **predicate noun**
43. A politician’s goal will always be (winning). **predicate noun**
44. Seeing is (believing). **predicate noun**
45. Believing is (seeing). **predicate noun**
46. Lou Groza’s strong point is (kicking field goals). **predicate noun**
47. A favorite pastime of girls is (talking on the telephone). **predicate noun**
48. Jay’s special aptitude is (making speeches before large audiences). **predicate noun**
49. One’s goal should be (searching for what always lies ahead). **predicate noun**
50. The dishonest tailor’s main fault was (lining his own pockets). **predicate noun**
51. We left after (seeing the movie). **object of the preposition “after”**
52. After (seeing the movie), we left. **object of the preposition “after”**
53. Before (exercising) we jogged four laps. **object of the preposition “Before”**
54. We jogged four laps before (exercising). **object of the preposition “before”**
55. The class was exhausted from (thinking) and (studying all day). **both are objects of the preposition “from”**
56. Before (shooting the foul shot) the player nervously bounced the ball on the floor. **object of the preposition “Before”**
57. After (having won all of the marbles), the towheaded kid gathered his wealth and hurried home. **object of the preposition “After”**
58. The citizens had many different views on (being called for jury duty). **object of the preposition “on”**
59. The underprivileged person seems to be a new man since (having been given a fresh start in life). **object of the preposition “since”**
60. The new teacher had some radical ideas on the (grading) and (correcting of compositions). **both are objects of the preposition “on”**
61. He gave (going) a lot of consideration. **indirect object**
62. Joe gave (weightlifting) credit for his physique. **indirect object**
63. I call that (good playing). **objective complement (noun)**
64. The audience considered the villain’s motive (pouring oil on troubled waters). **objective complement (noun)**
65. Nehru’s task, (making peace), sometimes caused trouble. **appositive for “task”**
66. The general’s idea, (attacking immediately), was poor strategy. **appositive for “idea”**
67. George enjoyed many happy hours at his favorite pastime, (surfing). **appositive for “pastime”**
68. The assignment, (writing a short story), seemed impossible at first. **appositive for “assignment”**
69. His job, (approaching customers all day long), soon wore him out. **appositive for “job”**
70. He went (swimming). **adverbial noun**
71. He surfaced (gasping). **adverbial noun**
72. The new neighbor came (visiting). **adverbial noun**
73. Lady Brett Ashley went (dancing all night long). **adverbial noun**
74. She went (walking with the handsome stranger along the beach). **adverbial noun**
75. Nothing became him like (his going). **object of the preposition “like” with the possessive preceding**
76. (John’s whining) rose to a querulous pitch. **subject** **with the possessive preceding**
77. Does your mother know about (my winning)? **object of the preposition “about”** **with the possessive preceding**
78. (Edward’s swimming the Channel) was miraculous. **subject** **with the possessive preceding**
79. No one could foresee (George’s acquiring the bicycle so soon). **direct object** **with the possessive preceding**

# THE GERUND AND THE GERUND PHRASE--Exercises (pages 83-87)

1. (Reading) is enjoyable for most people. **subject**
2. (Being shadowed) can be very tiresome. **subject**
3. (Writing compositions) proved highly beneficial to the students. **subject**
4. (Loafing at the local drugstore) sometimes seems a waste of time. **subject**
5. Real athletes don’t mind (training) or (practicing). **both are direct objects**
6. The artist held (his first showing) in the old Studio Gallery. **direct object**
7. Most Florentines disliked (dining with the Borgias). **direct object**
8. The riverboat gang resented (losing money to Gaylord Mitty). **direct object**
9. Doofo’s favorite diversion is (sailing frisbees from the study hall roof). **predicate noun**
10. His ultimate downfall was (not studying gerunds). **predicate noun**
11. The boy’s dream of glory was (rescuing the head cheerleader from the path of an express train). **predicate noun**
12. Kowalski’s record was (hitting seventy home runs in a season). **predicate noun**
13. He disappeared after (spending all of my allowance). **object of the preposition “after”**
14. We took our shoes off upon (entering the class on Far Eastern affairs). **object of the preposition “upon”**
15. In (studying for the final exams), the ambitious students burned the midnight oil. **object of the preposition “In”**
16. The editors of *The Evening Sun* take a dim view of (our reading *The Morning News)*. **object of the preposition “of”**
17. His new business, (raising cobras for fun and profit), proved hazardous. **appositive for “business”**
18. We admired his obvious skill, (threading a needle with his eyes shut). **appositive for “skill”**
19. (Having asked the lovely lady to type our sentences) was obviously a good move. **subject**
20. We eventually enjoyed (going to summer school). **direct object**
21. (Playing “Taps” at Arlington) had been Prewitt’s chief military duty. **subject**
22. The best part of the party was (the leaving of it). **predicate noun**
23. Mothers can’t stand (the crying of children). **direct object**
24. In (proofreading), a person can make many mistakes. **object of the preposition “In”**
25. George Fox enjoys three things—(eating), (watching television), and (eating again). **appositives for “things”**
26. The orchestra started (playing a work by Shostakovitch). **direct object**
27. Her chief dislike about the care of the automobile is (washing it once a week). **predicate noun**
28. His occupation, (clipping coupons), has long fascinated me. **appositive for “occupation”**
29. Near its source, the Seine delights in (meandering through the village of Billy). **object of the preposition “in”**
30. (His filming of *The Seven Samurai)* was, in my opinion, Kurosawa’s greatest achievement as a film director. **subject**
31. (Arguing unsuccessfully) cannot possibly be one of Raymond Burr’s failings as an actor. **subject**
32. The young prince’s role was (feigning poverty) and (assuming the guise of a pauper). **both predicate nouns**
33. The Colonel’s Lady could not stand (being compared to Rosie O’Grady). **direct object**
34. The diplomats, in (not talking earnestly to each other), nearly caused a major war. **object of the preposition “in”**
35. His pleasure, (listening to the music of The Beatles at full volume), caused (quite a stirring among his neighbors) at 3:00 a.m. **appositive for “pleasure”; direct object**
36. Lady Macbeth mounted her broomstick and went (soaring into the night). **adverbial noun**
37. The applicant who detested (filling out the forms) collapsed in a state of nervousness. **direct object**
38. (Subscribing to the Boca Raton News) was the first step in (moving to that distant tropical area). **subject; object of the preposition “in”**
39. Overcome with glee, the fiendish scientist rubbed her hands together in (anticipating the outcome of her wild scheme). **object of the preposition “in”**
40. The two brothers liked (engaging each other in many types of athletic contests). **direct object**
41. Socrates’ main interests in life were (debating) and (teaching). **both predicate nouns**
42. Xantippe’s main interest in life was (thwarting Socrates). **predicate noun**
43. The cellist gave (playing for the President) credit for his great success. **indirect object**
44. Maria Callas gave (singing) as the reason for her great breath control. **direct object**
45. (Fishing) is fun—for everyone but the fish. **subject**
46. Rainsford disliked (being hunted by the insane General Zaroff). **direct object**
47. After (having lost their twelfth straight game), the Erstwhiles sat glumly in their locker room. **object of the preposition “After”**
48. His hobby was (collecting girls). **predicate noun**
49. (Baiting a hook with worms) can cause the squeamish to squeam. **subject**
50. (Being seen in the Casbah with Pepe Le Moko) proved to be a most unfortunate incident in the young diplomat’s career. **subject**
51. (Running for Congress on the Republican ticket) can be futile in some states. **subject**
52. The roly-poly child enjoyed (eating anything it could get its hands on). **direct object**
53. Very few people can tolerate (constant teasing). **direct object**
54. Before (pitching the ball), Gomez checked the runner at first. **object of the preposition “Before”**
55. The odd boy supported himself in college by (doing odd jobs). **object of the preposition “by”**
56. After (having been reprimanded for (smoking in the hall)), the thoughtless student started (chewing tobacco). **object of the preposition “After”; object of the preposition “for”; direct object**
57. His job for the summer was (lifting) and (carrying large bales of peat moss). **Both predicate nouns**
58. (Sneezing for 2000 days straight) is not a desirable record to set. **subject**
59. *(Shoeing* a horse) is different from *(shooing* a horse). **subject; object of the preposition “from”**
60. Upon (being voted the boy most likely not to succeed in college), Doofo began to study. **object of the preposition “Upon”**
61. The students in the current events class enjoy the privilege of (reading *Time* magazine in study hall). **object of the preposition “of”**
62. (Daydreaming) was Walter Mitty’s method of (avoiding reality). **subject; object of the preposition “of”**
63. The three R’s are (reading), (‘riting), and ‘rithmetic. **both are predicate nouns**
64. The Burma Shave signs once had a classic jingle: “If (one-arm driving) is your sport, trade your car for a davenport.” **subject**
65. Sometimes (seeing) is (not believing). **subject; predicate noun**
66. The giant tom cat enjoyed (sunning himself all day long) and (sleeping in Mr. Eliot’s hat). **both are direct objects**
67. After (seeing the hopelessness of the situation) and (realizing the futility of (trying to do anything about the shortage of ammunition)), the patrol withdrew from the area. **object of the preposition “After”; object of the preposition “After”; object of the preposition “of”**
68. (Participating in extra-curricular activities) can be a very positive experience. **subject**
69. The prospect of (having been seen in the beauty parlor as he was waiting for his mother) haunted the young athlete. **object of the preposition “of”**
70. Upon (discovering that she had been accepted by Coliseum College), Melissa let her hair grow very long and began to wear leotards. **object of the preposition “Upon”**
71. In most prep schools one usually begins the day by (attending chapel service). **object of the preposition “by”**
72. Although Bruce enjoyed (watching television by the hour), he could upon occasion tear himself away for the purpose of (eating) and (sleeping). **direct object; object of the preposition “of”; object of the preposition “of”**
73. The young woman in the grey flannel suit gave (writing) a try before he settled down and became a junior executive for a chain of toy stores. **indirect object**
74. One cannot help (wondering what he will do after (graduating from high school)). **direct object; object of the preposition “after”**
75. (Studying gerunds) can become a dull pastime. **subject**
76. Roosevelt’s favorite diversion was (collecting stamps). **predicate noun**
77. By (studying last week’s game films), the members of the defensive backfield were able to see their mistakes clearly. **object of the preposition “By”**
78. The whole class enjoyed (reading *Huckleberry Finn)*, but no one particularly liked *Innocents A broad*. **direct object**
79. (Riding a motorcycle) can be fun, but (falling off) can be painful. **both are subjects**
80. After (lecturing to the student body for over half an hour on safety precautions), the speaker tripped on the edge of the podium and fell into the front row seats. **object of the preposition “After”**
81. (Giving young children fountain pens) can be disastrous. **subject**
82. The practice of (contributing generously to worthy causes) proves ennobling. **object of the preposition “of”**
83. Martha gave (practicing the piano) a noble try, but she soon turned her attention to the neighborhood gang again. **indirect object**
84. The bane of Mary’s existence is (having to go to bed at 9:30 p.m. on school nights). **predicate noun**
85. After (arriving at sentence number eighty-five), the versatile young English teachers hated (writing sentences with gerunds). **object of the preposition “After”; direct object**
86. The idea of (spending an entire month at the beach) appealed to the boys. **object of the preposition “of”**
87. Mr. Worthington’s hobby, (collecting rocks and minerals of the Piedmont area) and (classifying them), proved rewarding in the end. **both appositives for “hobby”**
88. (Her work’s being published at such an early age) altered the writer’s sense of values. **subject**
89. After (having been smitten by the young lady’s charms), Pendergrast grew very pale and wan. **object of the preposition “After”**
90. (The signing of the Declaration of Independence) was one of the single most decisive acts in Western Civilization. **subject**
91. After (having studied *Hamlet* for a week), the entire class was near paranoia. **object of the preposition “After”**
92. The uncooperative boy resented (being sent home from school). **direct object**
93. (Savoring the delicious aromas) and (seeing the buffet tables piled high with food) was really more than the hungry athletes could stand. **both subjects**
94. Roark’s occupation, (working in a granite quarry), added to his overall knowledge of materials used in (building). **appositive for “occupation”; object of the preposition “in”**
95. The maroon team resented (our rolling up such a high score). **direct object**
96. The difference between (listening to a recording) and (attending a concert) astounds most people. **both objects of the preposition “between”**
97. The many incidents of (pilfering) and (plundering) that followed in the wake of the tornado didn’t say much for human behavior. **both objects of the preposition “of”**
98. After (hearing Mr. Auden on the subject of (writing poetry)), one would have to believe that the greatest obstacle for a young poet to overcome is (taking himself too seriously). **object of the preposition “After”; object of the preposition “of”; predicate noun**
99. Most children’s greatest security measure is (thumb-sucking); most adults’ is (viewing the “idiot box.”) **both predicate nouns**
100. After (shaping the entire course of modern art), Cezanne died (thinking that he was a failure). **object of the preposition “After”; adverbial noun**

# THE PARTICIPLE AND THE PARTICIPIAL PHRASE--Sample Exercises (pages 89-90)

1. (Growling), the tiger seemed ferocious. **modifies “tiger”**
2. (Having fallen), Humpty Dumpty lay in a thousand pieces. **modifies “Humpty Dumpty”**
3. (Being seen), the sniper dropped his telescopic rifle and surrendered. **modifies “sniper”**
4. (Hung), the pictures looked ludicrous. **modifies “pictures”**
5. (Having been beaten), the Saxons still refused to capitulate. **modifies “Saxons”**
6. (Beginning anew), each day seemed better than the last. **modifies “day”**
7. (Bursting with pride), the mothers watched their children in the pageant. **modifies “mothers”**
8. (Riding into the fading sunset), the man on the white horse threw away his silver bullets. **modifies “man”**
9. (Appearing over the horizon), the *Santa Maria* frightened the Indians. **modifies *“Santa Maria”***
10. (Growing into a beautiful swan), the ugly duckling was accepted by his peers. **modifies “duckling”**
11. The (whistling) kettle got on my nerves. **modifies “kettle”**
12. The (rising) sun appeared on time, as usual. **modifies “sun”**
13. We heard the (exciting) news. **modifies “news”**
14. The crowd applauded the (winning) team. **modifies “team”**
15. The (wounded) hero smiled at the (sniffling) heroine. **modifies “hero**”**; modifies “heroine”**
16. The speaker was (boring). **predicate adjective modifying “speaker”**
17. A ride with a student driver can be (exciting). **predicate adjective modifying “ride”**
18. That girl is (scintillating). **predicate adjective modifying “girl”**
19. The octogenarian seemed (tired). **predicate adjective modifying “octogenarian”**
20. We became (concerned about the couple). **predicate adjective modifying “We”**
21. The boy (playing the guitar) is good. **modifies “boy”**
22. The girl (appearing in the play) is a friend of mine. **modifies “girl”**
23. The packages (being shipped overseas) are duty-free. **modifies “packages”**
24. Most of us loved the building (being destroyed). **modifies “building”**
25. The troops looked as if they enjoyed the show (given last night). **modifies “show”**
26. Miss Universe, (appearing on television for the first time), mimicked Miss World’s interesting walk. **modifies “Miss Universe”**
27. J. Paul Getty’s Rolls Royce, “Silver Cloud,” (being transported this week from England), is made of solid silver. **modifies “‘Silver Cloud’”**
28. Old Sam, (nonchalantly sitting overhead), was amused by the tigers beneath the eucalyptus tree. **modifies “Sam”**
29. Miss Monroe, (seen in any critical light), was a wonderful comedienne. **modifies “Miss Monroe”**
30. *On the Road*, (written by Jack Kerouac), gives an excellent picture of beatnik beneficence. **modifies *“On the Road”***

# THE PARTICIPLE AND THE PARTICIPIAL PHRASE--Exercises (pages 91-95)

1. The (running) water splashed noisily. **modifies “water”**
2. The (sinking) ship went down quickly. **modifies “ship”**
3. All of us saw the (wrecked) airplane. **modifies “airplane”**
4. Many of the elves repaired the (broken) toys. **modifies “toys”**
5. The (drowning) man grabbed the (floating) buoy. **modifies “man”; modifies “buoy”**
6. (Falling), the balloon burst in the tree. **modifies “balloon”**
7. (Laughing), the audience forgot the oppressive heat. **modifies “audience”**
8. (Having won), the golfer headed for the showers. **modifies “golfer”**
9. (Having been apprehended), the reckless driver lost his license. **modifies “driver”**
10. (Having resisted and endured), the members of the underground rejoiced on V-E Day. **modifies “members”**
11. (Missing the target completely), Little John blushed with shame. **modifies “Little John”**
12. (Having seen the last of Josiah Crab tree), the Rover Boys relaxed for a while. **modifies “Rover Boys”**
13. (Being seen in the tavern), Mr. Beauchamp hastened home. **modifies “Mr. Beauchamp”**
14. (Reviewed for the first time), *Carmen* seemed to be a flop. **modifies *“Carmen”***
15. (Having been shot twice), the man-eater headed for the bush. **modifies “man-eater”**
16. The boy (doing the puzzle) is a friend of mine. **modifies “boy”**
17. The girl (wearing the sack dress) is the president of the class. **modifies “girl”**
18. The campers, (having finished their meal), put out the fire. **modifies “campers”**
19. The empire of the Mayans, (having reached a peak of development), began a long decline. **modifies “empire”**
20. Miss Minerva, (disgusted) and (despairing), called loud and long for William Green Hill. **both modify “Miss Minerva”**
21. We noticed the (dripping) water. **modifies “water”**
22. Father mended the (broken) doll. **modifies “doll”**
23. (Walking rapidly in the sun), the safari began to tire. **modifies “safari”**
24. (Having enjoyed the circus), the family returned home. **modifies “family”**
25. (Sensing the danger in advance), Starbuck would not lower the boat after dark. **modifies “Starbuck”**
26. (Having sensed that the intruder was a S.M.E.R.S.H. agent), Miss Moneypenny called Mr. Bond. **modifies “Miss Moneypenny”**
27. (Waiting to hear the results of the fifth race), the bookies gathered around the wire. **modifies “bookies”**
28. The Shakespearean (dressing) room was known as the (tiring) house. **modifies “room”; modifies “house”**
29. The (bound) edition of *(Wuthering) Heights* has disappeared from the library. **modifies “edition”; modifies *“Heights”***
30. (Singing happily), the milkmaid completed her chores. **modifies “milkmaid”**
31. (Burned to a frazzle), the turkey looked like a giant cinder. **modifies “turkey”**
32. The (spent) athlete collapsed at the finish line. **modifies “athlete”**
33. The (mutilated) coin bore a resemblance to today’s quarter. **modifies “coin”**
34. A (drawn-and-quartered) person is uncomfortable, to say the least. **modifies “person”**
35. His hair was raised by the (shocking) tale of horror. **modifies “tale”**
36. Henry’s hair, (bleached the color of the sun), was very brittle at the ends. **modifies “hair”**
37. The pigs (returning from the trough) had indeed enjoyed their repast. **modifies “pigs”**
38. (Broken) milk bottles on cold mornings can be (very disheartening). **modifies “bottles”; predicate adjective modifying “bottles”**
39. People in hot weather subconsciously enjoy the (whirring) sounds of electric fans. **modifies “sounds”**
40. The bare bear bore his indignity with (feigned) indifference. **modifies “indifference”**
41. The baby looked at the (broken) toy and babbled. **modifies “toy”**
42. Many valuable (teaching) tools exist today. **modifies “tools”**
43. There were many (tired) soldiers on the beaches at Dunkirk. **modifies “soldiers”**
44. The (beating) rain hammered upon the tin roof. **modifies “rain”**
45. A (revised) edition of *Ivanhoe* has been published. **modifies “edition”**
46. (Having run into the kitchen), Misty saved herself from the storm. **modifies “Misty”**
47. (Carrying with them the use of iron weapons), the Hittites invaded Anatolia about 1100 B.C. **modifies “Hittites”**
48. (Falling gracefully), the leaf landed on the window sill. **modifies “leaf”**
49. (Having taught arithmetic for fifty years), the teacher retired. **modifies “teacher”**
50. (Having presented *Murder in the Cathedral* for the first time), the entire cast was absent from school the next day. **modifies “cast”**
51. The actor (making the horrible face) won the part of Frankenstein’s monster. **modifies “actor”**
52. Napoleon, (having been defeated at Waterloo), was soon thereafter exiled. **modifies “Napoleon”**
53. The architect (showing us the house) has won many prizes for his designs. **modifies “architect”**
54. The (aging) seamstress made a costume (consisting of rags). **modifies “seamstress”; modifies “costume”**
55. Our boat, (tied to its moorings last night), has drifted away. **modifies “boat”**
56. (Having slipped past the guards), the (escaped) prisoners sighed with relief. **modifies “prisoners”; modifies “prisoners”**
57. Dante, (conducted through the regions of the inferno), learned a great deal about the (degraded) human condition. **modifies “Dante”; modifies “condition”**
58. (Finishing their novel), the team of (aspiring) writers relaxed for the first time in many months. **modifies “team”; modifies “writers”**
59. The wind, (whistling through the ancient, (crumbling) walls), frightened the (searching) boys. **modifies “wind”; modifies “walls”; modifies “boys”**
60. (Stripped of his rank), the (disgraced) soldier was drummed out of the corps, (defeated in person), and (broken in spirit). **modifies “soldier”; modifies “soldier”; modifies “soldier”; modifies “soldier”**
61. (Seeing the calliope), the child became (excited). **modifies “child”; predicate adjective modifying “child”**
62. (Perking up its ears), the little chipmunk darted into the rocks. **modifies “chipmunk”**
63. (Seen for the first time), *Gone With the Wind* is panoramic in its conception and scope. **modifies *“Gone With the Wind”***
64. (Shot from a cannon day after day), Zachini became gun shy and very deaf. **modifies “Zachini”**
65. (Hearing the noise) and (smelling the smoke), Mr. Polly ran into the street. **modifies “Mr. Polly”; modifies “Mr. Polly”**
66. The (aging) night watchman, (carrying his torch and nightstick), trudged wearily along the corridor. **modifies “watchman”; modifies “watchman”**
67. The sprinter (running in the second lane) won by a full stride. **modifies “sprinter”**
68. The nations (admitted to the United Nations recently) add to the (growing) confusion on the East River. **modifies “nations”; modifies “confusion”**
69. The President, (stricken with a severe case of flu), caused confusion on Wall Street. **modifies “President”**
70. Many men, (feeling very young and energetic), tend to exhaust themselves through over-exertion. **modifies “men”**
71. (Feeling faint), the choir member sat down during the Doxology. **modifies “member”**
72. (Learning that Lois Lane was in grave danger), Our Hero, Superman, shot through the air with the speed of a bullet. **modifies “Superman”**
73. (Having been elected president of her class for the last three years), Strongfort took the balloting in stride. **modifies “Strongfort”**
74. The play (being read by the sophomores) is an adaptation of *Billy Budd*. **modifies “play”**
75. Peter Lorre, (seen in any situation in any movie), is a sinister, slightly suspicious character. **modifies “Peter Lorre”**
76. (Having learned only recently that girls are different from boys), Doofo took a new interest in life. **modifies “Doofo”**
77. The pigs, (squealing) and (running in every direction), caused a tremendous uproar in the barnyard. **both modify “pigs”**
78. Laps (run for punishment) are unpleasant at best. **modifies “Laps”**
79. Huck Finn, (having witnessed mankind’s evils and injustices), took a dim view of the human condition. **modifies “Huck Finn”**
80. The new building (given by the alumni) will be used as a fine arts center. **modifies “building”**
81. (Having awakened the entire student body with his flugelhom), Doofo was severely chastened by the prefects. **modifies “Doofo”**
82. The football (used in today’s game) will be kept permanently in the trophy case. **modifies “football”**
83. Who is the girl (playing goalie)? **modifies “girl”**
84. A rose (called by any other name) smells just as sweet. **modifies “rose”**
85. (Stymied by the adroit moves of the older woman), the young chess genius haltingly advanced his bishop. **modifies “genius”**
86. Mr. Kennedy, (known for his charm and urbane humor), made a great impression on the youth of this country. **modifies “Mr. Kennedy”**
87. Every morning the turncoat was awakened by a rooster (crowing outside his cell). **modifies “rooster”**
88. Discipline, (seen as an end in itself), is most effective if it is voluntary. **modifies “Discipline”**
89. The person (being ridden through the streets of Paris in a crude tumbril) is none other than Mr. Defarge. **modifies “person”**
90. (Writing), (having written), (being written), (written), and (having been written), the participles dangled grotesquely. **all modify “participles”**
91. (Fearing that the end of the world was at hand), the members of the small religious sect gathered together for incantations. **modifies “members”**
92. The movie (currently playing at the Bijou) has a sign (saying, “(Standing) Room Only.”) **modifies “movie”; modifies “sign”; modifies “Room”**
93. Mr. Mephistopheles, (having finally accepted the fact that he was wrong), terminated the debate, turned on his heel, and stalked out of the room. **modifies “Mr. Mephistopheles”**
94. (Playing Drop the Handkerchief) and (laughing in childish glee), the kindergarten class did not see the gigantic dragon behind the japonica tree. **modifies “class”**
95. The cowboy (being carried through the streets of Laredo in the pine box) was a little too slow on the draw. **modifies “cowboy”**
96. (Becoming aware of the (growing) animosity toward the foreigners), the State Department tried to put a stop to the (mounting) xenophobia. **modifies “State Department”; modifies “animosity”; modifies “xenophobia”**
97. Captain Queeg, (having sighted the shellbursts while still far from the (landing) beach), dropped some yellow dye markers and ordered the *Caine* to put about. **modifies “Captain Queeg”; modifies “beach”**
98. (Being viewed at the National Gallery for the first time in America), the *Mona Lisa* drew enormous crowds of art lovers, tourists, and curiosity seekers. ***modifies “Mona Lisa”***
99. The participles (studied in class) illustrated all possible uses of these verbal adjectives. **modifies “participles”**
100. (Having been publicly stripped of his academic standing), the erstwhile teacher stood humbly by as the administrator read off the charges against him and, in a dramatic gesture, broke his red pencil. **modifies “teacher”**

# THE INFINITIVE AND THE INFINITIVE PHRASE--Sample Exercises (pages 97-99)

1. (To err) is human. **subject**
2. (To love) should be the goal of mankind. **subject**
3. (To hate) is soul-consuming. **subject**
4. (To walk) was the jockey’s way of relaxation. **subject**
5. (To exist) requires courage. **subject**
6. (To be in ignorance of the law) is no excuse. **subject**
7. (To sleep soundly through the ringing of the alarm) is perfect bliss. **subject**
8. (To have loved and lost) is better than not having loved at all. **subject**
9. (To ride in a jeep for seven days) would make one weak. **subject**
10. (To wash dishes) is the bane of many a housewife’s existence. **subject**
11. Ryun wanted (to win). **direct object**
12. Phineas wished (to travel). **direct object**
13. Saint-Exupery liked (to fly). **direct object**
14. The child learned (to swim). **direct object**
15. Harriet loves (to cook). **direct object**
16. Many children like (to buy frilly things). **direct object**
17. Children love (to ride spotted horses bareback in the sun). **direct object**
18. Johnny refuses (to surf in his new wetsuit). **direct object**
19. The bells ceased (to toll in the little village). **direct object**
20. He wanted (to hear that song again). **direct object**
21. His ambition was (to succeed). **predicate noun**
22. Wilma’s goal was (to win). **predicate noun**
23. Our main purpose had been (to see). **predicate noun**
24. Axel’s aim was (to heist). **predicate noun**
25. The President’s mission had been (to mediate). **predicate noun**
26. Happiness is (to learn that there will be no school because of snow). **predicate noun**
27. Happiness is (to study infinitives). **predicate noun**
28. Happiness is (to know your college board scores are good). **predicate noun**
29. His one desire is (to beat the White Knight to the dirty clothes). **predicate noun**
30. My wish is (to sell the ’28 Rolls for $2400). **predicate noun**
31. The Riddler’s secret desire, (to sing), was finally realized. **appositive for “desire”**
32. His ambition, (to cogitate), was soon thwarted by the small children. **appositive for “ambition”**
33. Charles Horse’s purpose, (to hurt), soon became a reality. **appositive for “purpose”**
34. The runner’s goal, (to break the existing record), should be realized this Saturday. **appositive for “goal”**
35. Dr. Schweitzer’s lifelong plan, (to teach) and (to heal), was very noble. **appositive for “plan”**
36. Kit accomplished his plan, (to draw well for his parents). **appositive for “plan”**
37. The speaker’s intention, (to inspire his audience), failed from the start. **appositive for “intention”**
38. His desire, (to succeed in his chosen vocation), led him to great heights. **appositive for “desire”**
39. Madame Curie’s ambition, (to gain recognition in the field of medicine), was fulfilled. **appositive for “ambition”**
40. Icarus’ goal, (to fly first), ended with his wings melting. **appositive for “goal”**
41. The apartment (to let) was a hovel. **adjective modifying “apartment”**
42. A good book (to read) is *Lady Loverly‘s Chatter*. **adjective modifying “book”**
43. Now is a good time (to master the subject of verbals). **adjective modifying “time”**
44. My friend came (to see me). **adverb modifying “came”**
45. We exercise (to keep healthy). **adverb modifying “exercise”**
46. The visiting team came (to play). **adverb modifying “came”**
47. Let (us pray). **direct object (without “to”) infinitive clause**
48. Let (me go with you). **direct object (without “to”) infinitive clause**
49. (To relax) and (play) are important. **subject; subject (without “to”)**
50. The dreamy boy wanted (to sculpt) and (paint). **direct object; direct object (without “to”)**
51. It is nice (to know you). **subject (after an expletive)**
52. It is easy (to understand infinitives). **subject (after an expletive)**
53. It is silly (not to study). **subject (after an expletive)**
54. He was about (to go). **object of the preposition “about”**
55. She had no desire except (to stay). **object of the preposition “except”**
56. Wanting (to win too much), he became blind to good sportsmanship. **object of the participle “Wanting”**
57. Wanting (to win too much) can lead to poor sportsmanship. **object of the gerund “Wanting”**
58. The country wanted (the folk groups to play better music). **as an infinitive clause acting as a direct object**
59. The team wished (John to be captain). **as an infinitive clause acting as a direct object**

# THE INFINITIVE AND THE INFINITIVE PHRASE--Exercises (pages 100-104)

1. (To study medicine) was his only wish. **subject**
2. (To learn English) seemed unimportant. **subject**
3. The homesick camper wanted (to go home). **direct object**
4. The rowdy guest hated (to leave the party). **direct object**
5. The time (to study) is now. **adjective modifying “time”**
6. The historic homes (to visit) were pointed out to us. **adjective modifying “homes”**
7. We go to school (to learn (how to function as human beings)). **adverb modifying “go”; object of the infinitive “to learn”**
8. The team worked hard (to score). **adverb modifying “worked”**
9. (To decide) is the mark of a mature person. **subject**
10. Holden Caulfield wanted (to quit school) and (work in a filling station out West). **direct object; direct object (without “to”)**
11. (To see), the blind man had an operation. **adverb modifying “had”**
12. A very good book (to read) is *Raintree County*. **adjective modifying “book”**
13. The hoods wanted (to go to work by the way of the poolroom). **direct object**
14. (To move quickly and quietly) was the cat burglar’s desire. **subject**
15. (To cross the desert), the camel loaded up on water. **adverb modifying “loaded”**
16. (To forgive) is divine. **subject**
17. I have no time (to spare for trivial things). **adjective modifying “time”**
18. The attempt (to kick the field goal) failed. **adjective modifying “attempt”**
19. The students were anxious (to please the teacher). **adverb modifying “anxious”**
20. He wanted (to see the movie *Stalag 17* again). **direct object**
21. The right thing (to do) isn’t always easy. **adjective modifying “thing”**
22. The place (to find the pot of gold) is just over the horizon. **adjective modifying “place”**
23. The final will be the hardest examination (to take). **adjective modifying “examination”**
24. This work was (to have been completed by now). **predicate adjective**
25. All seems (to be in order). **predicate adjective**
26. Lewis waited (to ask the Headmaster for his permission). **adverb modifying “waited”**
27. Many adventurers went to California (to seek gold). **adverb modifying “went”**
28. (To be home early), the commuter took the 4:10. **adverb modifying “took”**
29. (To live in Tahiti), a person cannot sponge off the natives. **adverb modifying “can…sponge”**
30. (To pass the course), he will have (to study). **adverb modifying “will have”; direct object**
31. It is a nuisance (to save trading stamps). **subject (after an expletive)**
32. (To be a professional) requires great skill. **subject**
33. (To occasionally split an infinitive) seems perfectly natural. **subject**
34. James Bond had (to go to Haiti after Mr. Big). **direct object**
35. The farmer tried (to grow a type of hybrid corn suited to the climate). **direct object**
36. He liked (to shoot off fireworks). **direct object**
37. The bounty hunter’s job was (to track down bounties). **predicate noun**
38. Cleopatra wanted (to protect Ptolemy). **direct object**
39. The ambition of the stagehand was (to act). **predicate noun**
40. MacArthur’s famous vow, (to return to the Philippines), was fulfilled. **appositive for “vow”**
41. Hitler’s mad plan was (to conquer the world). **predicate noun**
42. (To play the role of Medea) can prove quite challenging. **subject**
43. Arnold doesn’t want (to stop playing golf). **direct object**
44. Leander had no alternative except (to swim). **object of the preposition “except”**
45. Try (to start the exercise again). **direct object**
46. (To show sympathy for Jack), Jill fell down the hill. **adverb modifying “fell”**
47. (To diet most effectively), a person should refrain from eating. **adverb modifying “should refrain”**
48. The night made the trees too dark (to see). **adverb modifying “too”**
49. He ran home (to tell his mother the news of his narrow escape). **adverb modifying “ran”**
50. The suit was ready (to be worn). **adverb modifying “ready”**
51. Nice is a nice town (to visit). **adjective modifying “town”**
52. The play we wanted (to see) just ended its season on Broadway. **direct object (in the adjective clause “[that] we wanted to see”)**
53. The landlord hung out the “Apartment (to Rent)” sign. **adjective modifying “Apartment”**
54. The best suits (to buy) are made of Dacron and wool. **adjective modifying “suits”**
55. A good place (to have lived) would have been in Paris in the 1920’s. **adjective modifying “place”**
56. (To be) or (not to be) is the question. **both subjects**
57. The acid test is (to try the crossword puzzle using a pen). **predicate noun**
58. The undisciplined boy is learning (to control himself). **direct object**
59. No one should ever try (to speak in class without thinking first). **direct object**
60. He went (to join in the search for the lost spelunker). **adverb modifying “went”**
61. Our newspaper staff tried (to publish a paper that was mature and at the same time humorous). **direct object**
62. After the game we were convinced that the other team had really come (to play ball). **adverb modifying “had…come”**
63. The best thing (to do in an emergency) is (to keep calm and collected). **adjective modifying “thing”; predicate noun**
64. (To run) and (play freely) was the haunting desire of most of the children in the ward. **both subjects**
65. Dawkins’ alternate plan, (to play professional football), was thwarted when he became a Rhodes Scholar. **appositive for “plan”**
66. Let (us pray). **direct object (without “to”) infinitive clause**
67. Apparently wanting (to come in the house), Bowser tore a gigantic hole in the front screen. **object of the participle “wanting”**
68. The current fad among the girls at our school is (to wear green lipstick and long white eyelashes). **predicate noun**
69. Citation’s owners expected (to win the triple crown in racing). **direct object**
70. It is too hot (to breathe). **adverb modifying “too”**
71. It is nice (to know you). **subject (after an expletive)**
72. Betty’s plan was (to go to the museum as often as she could). **predicate noun**
73. The Romantic poets were too concerned with their imaginations (to be overly conscious of their minds). **adverb modifying “too”**
74. Beware of anyone who says he has a deal (to work with you). **adjective modifying “deal”**
75. (To live) is (to suffer). **subject; predicate noun**
76. Hurlburt enlisted in the Marines (to serve for two years) and then signed for another hitch (to be with his buddies). **adverb modifying “enlisted”; adverb modifying “signed”**
77. The circumstances were too complicated (to explain to anyone). **adverb modifying “too”**
78. After trying (to climb the Matterhorn), the fellows in our group asked (only to rest and sleep and be left alone for several days). **object of the participle “trying”; direct object**
79. The books we were given (to read) in health class seemed (to be written by the birds and the bees). **adverb modifying “were given”; predicate adjective**
80. (To live without fear), (to be free (to shape our own destinies)), and (to pursue happiness) are fundamental to the American dream. **all are subjects (“to shape our own destinies” is an adverb modifying “to be”)**
81. (Not to study) was the only alternative. **subject**
82. Matilda did not want (to attend the dance with Wallaby). **direct object**
83. Mallory’s plan was (to ascend the east wall of the mountain). **predicate noun**
84. Wanting (to gather the ferny blue wildflowers), the botanist climbed further out on the dangerous precipice. **object of the verbal (participle) “Wanting”**
85. We came (to see the man who has the home (to sell)). **adverb modifying “came”; adjective modifying “home”**
86. Give me two hamburgers (to go). **adjective modifying “hamburgers”**
87. The prisoner of war was happy (just to breathe fresh air again). **adverb modifying “happy”**
88. Let (us see what work there is for us (to do)). **direct object (without “to”) infinitive clause; adjective modifying “work”**
89. (To find an infinitive in a sentence) is easy. **subject**
90. (To do the work) seemed foolish, but it had (to be done). **subject; direct object**
91. A wise thing (to practice) is self-control. **adjective modifying “thing”**
92. (To watch television constantly) should be a form of punishment. **subject**
93. When the militant Hebrew king went forth (to conquer the Philistines), he had Yahweh on his side. **adverb modifying “went forth”**
94. The sophomore boy was so attracted to the freshman girl that he purposely tried (to fail all of his subjects). **direct object**
95. The ball player’s main goal in life, (to score the winning touchdown in the final seconds of the last game of the season in his senior year), seems (to be rather impractical). **appositive for “goal”; predicate adjective**
96. (To fish), and (swim), and (loll around in the sun) were the things that Huck and Jim really enjoyed. **subject; subject (without “to”); subject (without “to”)**
97. The attractive girl told Doofo that it was nice (to meet him), a situation which caused the boy (to get very flustered). **subject (in noun clause “that it was nice to meet him”); adjective modifying “boy”**
98. The surgeon planned (to tell the patient why he had (to operate)). **direct object; direct object**
99. (To enjoy the freedom one can experience in America) is a divine blessing. **subject**
100. Let (us leave the subject of infinitives) and (go on to greater things). **both direct objects**