

Name _____

Date _____

Use Verbal Phrases

Gerund, infinitive, and participial phrases are all **verbal phrases**. Each type includes a form of a verb that functions as a different part of speech (other than a verb).

- **Gerund ends with -ing** and acts as a **noun**.
- **Infinitive is consist** of *to + verb*. It acts as **noun, adjective, or adverb**.
- **Participle** has two forms: Present (-ing) or past (-ed) form. acting as an **adjective**.

Using verbal phrases flexibly makes writing richer and more descriptive, especially in **narrative writing**, where details and actions bring characters and events to life.

Underline the verbal phrases in the story below. Label each as Gerund (G), Infinitive (I), or Participle (P).

Last Saturday, my friends and I decided to explore the old forest behind my neighborhood. Carrying a flashlight and a notebook, I led the way down the narrow path. Excited to discover hidden places, we walked quickly, laughing and talking. Suddenly, we saw an abandoned treehouse, its ladder broken and hanging loosely.

Climbing carefully, we reached the platform. From there, we could see the entire forest. To record every detail, I began sketching in my notebook. Hearing the rustle of animals nearby, my friends froze for a moment, but soon we all relaxed. Exploring nature brings memories that last forever.

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Use Verbal Phrases – Answer Key

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