Chapter 3: The Phrase, pp. 60–86

Choices: Examining Phrases, p. 60

Choices activities are designed to extend and enrich students’ understanding of grammar, usage, and mechanics and to take learners beyond traditional classroom instruction. To use the Choices worksheet, have each student pick an activity that interests him or her. In some cases, you may wish to assign an activity to a particular student or group of students. You may also want to request that students get your approval for the activities they choose. Establish guidelines for what constitutes successful completion of an activity. Then, help students plan how they will share their work with the rest of the class.

Choices activities can be scored with a pass-fail grade or treated as bonus-point projects. Those activities that require students to research or create a certain number of items might be graded in a traditional manner.

Phrases, p. 61

EXERCISE A

1. P
2. NP
3. P
4. P
5. NP
6. NP
7. P
8. P
9. NP
10. P
11. P
12. P
13. P
14. NP
15. P
16. P
17. P
18. P
19. P
20. NP

EXERCISE B

21. P
22. P
23. P
24. NP
25. P
26. P
27. NP
28. NP
29. P
30. NP

Prepositional Phrases, p. 62

EXERCISE A

1. What is the story behind a United States commemorative stamp?

2. A citizen submits to the Citizens’ Stamp Advisory Committee an idea for a new stamp.

3. Members of this committee are artists, stamp collectors, and businesspersons.

4. First, the idea for the new design is approved by the committee.

5. Then, the idea is sent to the postmaster general.

6. Without the approval of these two parties, the stamp cannot be created.

7. The next step in the process is the selection of an artist.

8. The chosen artist gives the design to an artist from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

9. From this artwork, the bureau’s artist completes the design of the stamp.

10. The new stamp will include the abbreviation for the United States of America, the price of the stamp, and a title that tells about the stamp.

EXERCISE B

Responses will vary. Sample responses are given.

11. We had been traveling through Texas for hours.

12. We had finally reached the state line at noon.

13. By that time, we were ready for lunch.

14. We stopped at a rest stop to eat the sandwiches we had bought.

15. After eating, we were quite comfortable.

The Adjective Phrase, p. 63

EXERCISE

1. My visit to the aquarium was fascinating.

2. There, I found information about creatures in the world’s oceans.
3. There are fish with undeserved bad reputations.
4. Puffers in the ocean can look striking.
5. Puffers as a meal can be dangerous.
6. The tank near the center of the exhibit hall contains three small sharks.
7. Many species of sharks are perfectly harmless.
8. Only some of the world’s sharks are dangerous.
9. The giant octopus from the waters off the Pacific Northwest coast appears dangerous.
10. The many suckers on the tentacles of the octopus look frightening.
11. Do the tentacles of a jellyfish resemble those of an octopus?
12. The suckers along the arms of the starfish help it move around.
13. Lobsters have two kinds of claws.
14. The manta is one of the more entertaining creatures in the ocean.
15. Another playful creature in the sea is the dolphin.
16. The aquarium also features a large exhibit of eels.
17. Some of the eels are six feet long.
18. Are fish from the depths of the ocean brightly colored?
19. Did you see every exhibit at the aquarium?
20. Here is a brochure with pictures of some of the exhibits.

The Adverb Phrase, p. 64

Exercise  Some answers may vary.
1. Mark Twain was born in Florida, Missouri.
2. When he was young, Twain lived in Hannibal, Missouri.
3. Hannibal is located on the Mississippi River.
4. Twain felt happy when he was on the Mississippi.
5. Early in his career Twain worked as a newspaper writer.
6. He traveled around the United States and in Europe.
8. His travels resulted in a book, which he titled The Innocents Abroad.
9. The book was published after his return.
10. In a short time the book became popular.
11. Twain became famous early in his career.
12. He became well known as a humorist.
13. Look for Twain’s name in this anthology.
15. Many writers have been influenced by Twain’s works.
16. If you are fond of humor, you will enjoy reading Twain’s fiction.
17. The Adventures of Tom Sawyer and The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn are loved by many.
18. In how many novels do Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn appear?
19. Are the characters Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn based on real persons?
20. I could easily read Twain’s fiction for hours.
Adjective and Adverb Phrases, p. 65

EXERCISE A

1. On the first night, the hikers camped near the Salinas River.

2. Most of this artwork was created by ninth-grade students.

3. Everyone I have met at my new school has been extremely kind to me.

4. Throughout the summer, I worked as a landscape gardener.

5. For dinner we will serve baked chicken with rice and red beans.

EXERCISE B

6. Near the entrance to the cave, we discovered an old map.

7. The movie’s ending took everyone in the theater by surprise.

8. What are some of the differences between the African elephant and the Asian elephant?

9. According to this recipe, the casserole should be baked for thirty minutes.

10. All of these lovely quilts were made by hand.

11. The development of the Internet has changed our lives in many ways.

12. Through the telescope we could see clearly the rings around Saturn.

13. In the living room Sam chased the kitten around the couch.

14. After sunset is there still enough light for photography?

15. Austin, Texas, has been the capital both of a state and of a country.

The Participle, p. 66

EXERCISE

1. The pacing lion made us nervous.

2. A part of the broken bat nearly hit the runner on third base.

3. Our football team had a winning season.

4. The hunted animal camouflaged itself.

5. All new employees must first complete a six-week training program.

6. The road sign read, “Watch for falling rocks!”

7. I had forgotten to add diced onions to the salad.

8. One movie critic called the movie disturbing.

9. Throughout the storm the little puppy remained under the bed, whimpering.

10. Would you please remove the whistling teakettle from the burner?

11. Typed hastily, the report contained several errors.

12. Harper Lee’s only published novel is To Kill a Mockingbird.

13. Our cat’s paw prints appear all over the freshly painted picnic table.

14. Startled, the young deer bounded across the creek.

15. Lying in the shade, the dog quickly fell asleep.

16. Lifting the piano, the worker pulled a muscle in his back.

17. When I proofread my report, I found two misspelled words.
18. On the windshield of every parked vehicle was an advertisement for the county fair.

19. The interviewer asked the celebrated author about her recent novel.

20. According to the legend, no one ever found the buried treasure.

The Participial Phrase, p. 67

Exercise

1. On vacation we stayed at an inn built in the late eighteenth century.

2. Working for the florist, Langston learned about many varieties of plants.

3. The woman standing behind the podium is Ms. Kwan, our principal.

4. Is a baseball card autographed by Sammy Sosa very valuable?

5. The dog, searching for food, roamed the neighborhood.

6. Through my binoculars I spotted a hummingbird feeding on the nectar of a gladiolus.

7. The horse, walking slowly, approached the trainer.

8. We saw ahead of us a deer leaping across the highway.

9. The students, disturbed by the noise outside, could not concentrate on their class work.

10. Walking along the beach, we looked for colorful seashells.

11. Ontario, situated between Quebec and Manitoba, is Canada’s most populous province.

12. Some literary critics consider that novel the best one ever written.


15. Glenn found on the Internet several good articles related to the topic of his science report.

16. Blowing her whistle, the lifeguard signaled the swimmers to get out of the pool.

17. Enchanted by the story, the children pleaded with Mr. Torres to tell another.

18. The student sitting at the first desk in the second row is an exchange student from Brazil.

19. Boarding Air Force One, the president smiled and waved at the enthusiastic crowd.

20. Training hard, the gymnasts practiced their floor exercises.

Particpes and Participial Phrases, p. 68

Exercise A

1. The participating players gathered on the field.

2. Cheering fans shouted the names of favorite players.

3. When Reginald came on the field, the delighted crowd roared.

4. Swaggering, he waved to the crowd.

5. Later, the winning team rushed off the field.

Exercise B

6. The archaeologist worked slowly, examining each particle of dirt carefully.

7. Artifacts buried in the site were valuable.
8. Serving as clues to early life, artifacts are like puzzle pieces.

9. The archaeologist, recording all efforts and observations, logged her progress.

10. A computer, given certain data, can help her date her findings.

11. We saw the archaeologist brushing dirt off an old statue.

12. Examining the statue, the archaeologist estimated its value.

13. Doesn’t this artifact resemble one uncovered earlier?

14. Everyone working at the archaeological excavation was learning a great deal about the past.

15. An archaeological excavation would be an exciting experience for anyone interested in past cultures.

The Gerund, p. 69

EXERCISE

1. My favorite pastime is stargazing.

2. After Dad and I grew tired of shopping, we went to a movie.

3. Do you enjoy fishing?

4. Teaching is a noble profession.

5. You should give careful proofreading more attention.

6. Either team has a good chance of winning.

7. Laughing easily helps to relieve stress.

8. I am not looking forward to moving.

9. The puppy’s constant whimpering worried us.

10. The baby sitter talked to the children about the importance of sharing.

11. What does your mother do for a living?

12. A sizable part of the corporation’s budget is spent on advertising.

13. My favorite pastime is definitely reading.

14. Helping others makes me feel good, too.

15. Loitering is not allowed.

16. The ceremony begins and ends with giving thanks.

17. Dancing is an important part of the ceremony.

18. You should give singing professionally very serious consideration.

19. Whistling always lifts my spirits.

20. One should never stop dreaming.

The Gerund Phrase, p. 70

EXERCISE

1. Feeding the animals at the petting zoo was fun.

2. Meryl’s hobby is raising tropical fish.

3. The Wildcats have a good chance of becoming state champions.

4. Every day, I get a good workout by walking through the park.

5. One of my weekly chores is cleaning the gerbil cage.

6. After talking to her guidance counselor, Katrina decided to take a course in auto mechanics.

7. Climbing to the summit of the mountain took the explorers nearly a week.

8. Finding a good part-time job has been difficult.

9. Your mistake was making a promise that you could not keep.
10. The artist James Whistler is best known for painting a portrait of his mother.

11. As soon as I came home, I started studying for the math test.

12. Would you be interested in trying out for the school’s soccer team?

13. We especially enjoyed dining in the exotic atmosphere of the Rainforest Cafe.

14. We should give saving money for the trip our top priority.

15. Chris’s responsibility is supervising the other workers.

16. Pablo and I are in charge of planning the family reunion.

17. At the age of six, Len began taking karate lessons.

18. Only one of my friends succeeded in tricking me on All Fools’ Day.

19. The highlight of our visit to Washington, D.C., was touring the Smithsonian Institution.

20. Our class is looking forward to taking the field trip.

Gerunds and Gerund Phrases, p. 71

Exercise A

1. Moving is a big job and takes time.

2. What is the point of hurrying?

3. Singing is a tradition in our family.

4. Was there a good reason for the scolding?

5. His favorite outdoor chore is mowing.


7. We like bowling.

8. The most popular sport around here is hiking.

9. Rena and Opal both love ice skating.

10. To earn extra money, we could give pet-sitting a try.

Exercise B

11. Founding Hull House was one of Jane Addams’s greatest achievements.

12. She began her work by obtaining a large, old house.

13. Her work was encouraging people who lived in the slums to improve their lives.

14. She also provided training in social work.

15. Another of Addams’s achievements was receiving the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931.

Participial and Gerund Phrases, p. 72

Exercise

1.PART

2. GER

3. GER

4. PART

5. GER

6. PART

7. GER

8. PART

9. GER

10. GER

11. PART

12. PART

13. GER

14. PART

15. PART

16. GER

17. PART

18. GER

19. GER

20. GER

The Infinitive, p. 73

Exercise

1. John’s refusal to participate surprised us.

2. Chen and I went to the library to study.

3. To travel in space is Sonia’s ambition.
4. The Sorensons were the first guests to arrive.
5. My sister likes to swim.
6. Every one of my friends is willing to help.
7. A fascinating city to visit is San Antonio.
8. Dr. Simmons, our family’s physician, has decided to retire.
9. At first, the witness appeared reluctant to testify.
10. In your opinion, what is the easiest word-processing program to use?
11. If you want to wait, Ms. Hobson will meet with you in a few minutes.
12. For any writing assignment, you should allow yourself time to proofread.
13. “Time is too valuable to waste,” our teacher reminded us.
14. Is that the only way to solve the problem?
15. To celebrate, Coach Pierce and her team went to a restaurant after the game.
16. The explorers agreed that the journey would be too dangerous to undertake.
17. Which career do you intend to pursue?
18. According to my grandmother, sweet-potato pie is easy to prepare.
19. If you enjoy mysteries, Agatha Christie’s Witness for the Prosecution is a good play to read.
20. Am I too late to volunteer?

**Exercise B**

6. To earn our own spending money, my sister and I began a pet-care service.
7. The person to ask that question is Kathryn.
8. Do you like to play computer games?
9. The efforts to save the bald eagle from extinction have succeeded.
10. The manufacturer is planning to change the design of the car next year.
11. Carolyn’s dream is to visit Spain.
12. The Riveras were the first ones to volunteer their services.
13. “I am very happy to be here with you this evening,” the guest speaker said.
14. Are you sure this is the correct way to keep score?
15. Will Chris help us cook dinner tonight?

**Infinitives and Infinitive Phrases, p. 75**

**Exercise A**

1. ADJ
2. ADV
3. N
4. N
5. ADJ

**Exercise B**

6. ADJ
7. N
8. ADV
9. ADV
10. ADJ

**The Infinitive Phrase, p. 74**

**Exercise A**

1. ADJ
2. N
3. ADV
4. N
5. ADV
11. Still, he was grateful to be in a free country.

12. One of his dreams is to visit his homeland.

13. Monica is eager to write about her grandfather’s life.

14. Her grandfather will give her some details to include in the biography.

15. Here are the best pictures to include in the report.

Verbal Phrases A, p. 76

Exercise A
1. GER
2. INF
3. GER

Exercise B
6. A successful project requires researching the topic carefully.
7. Do you intend to plant a vegetable garden?
8. At the end of the summer, I will have saved enough money to buy a new stereo.
9. Riding along the bike trail, Matthew spotted a coyote on the ridge.
10. This young woman teaches water-skiing for beginners.
11. Someday Masud hopes to play the cello with a symphony orchestra.
12. From the kitchen window we saw an armadillo burrowing under the fence.
13. Interrupting others is rude.
14. The thought of speaking to the school assembly frightens me a little.
15. Hundreds of people were in line to buy tickets.

Verbal Phrases B, p. 77

Exercise A
1. INF
2. INF
3. GER
4. PART
5. PART

Exercise B
6. Maxine gets her exercise by dancing at least three hours a week.
7. To pass the time, Eddie makes model ships for his friends.
8. I watched the carpenter repairing our roof.
9. Yolanda went to get her book.
10. The man pushing that grocery cart is my karate instructor.
11. Winning the contest was a thrill for our cheerleaders.
12. We went to the theater to see a new play.
13. Richard’s job is delivering groceries to the hospital.
14. Tired of the noise outside, we closed the windows.
15. Preparing for that test took several hours.

The Appositive, p. 78

Exercise
1. The Mexican painter David Alfaro Siqueiros created large murals on public buildings.
2. Ramon, this is my cousin Lim Sing.
3. One of my favorite books, The Yearling, was made into a movie in 1946.
4. Terence won the spelling bee when he correctly spelled the word aficionado.
5. The artist Faith Ringgold rose to fame with her story quilts.
6. Our dance instructor told us about the first time she saw the dancer Maria Tallchief perform.

7. The Greek god Poseidon ruled the sea.

8. Have you read the Seneca myth “Sky Woman”?

9. Doesn’t your uncle Jeremy play the accordion in a zydeco band?

10. August Wilson won a Pulitzer Prize for his play The Piano Lesson.

11. I am reading a book about the aviator Amelia Earhart.

12. Charles Lutwidge Dodgson is better known by his pen name, Lewis Carroll.

13. This magazine features some of the buildings designed by the architect I. M. Pei.

14. The name Oklahoma is from Choctaw words meaning “red people.”

15. In social studies we have been studying the life of the Hindu leader Mohandas Gandhi.

16. How much larger than Earth is the planet Jupiter?

17. My English teacher, Mr. Olmos, also directs plays at the community theater.

18. Julia’s essay, “The Job of a Border Patrol Officer,” was expertly researched.

19. The first space shuttle, Columbia, was launched on April 12, 1981.

20. Where is the famous painting The Last Supper displayed?

**The Appositive Phrase, p. 79**

**Exercise**

1. Our trip included a visit to Stratford-upon-Avon, the birthplace of Shakespeare.
15. After the performance, there will be a reception, an informal party for close friends.

16. Michael Jordan, the legendary basketball player, also played professional baseball for a while.

17. Ms. Estevez won first prize, a trip to Hawaii.

18. Chau Yong, a new student from Vietnam, speaks fluent English.

19. Do you know Tom, the boy next door?

20. Sarah Langford, a police officer, will be tonight’s guest speaker.

Appositives and Appositive Phrases, p. 80

Exercise A

1. Paris, the son of the Trojan king, had kidnapped Helen.

2. Agamemnon, the brother of King Menelaus, led his warriors to Troy to rescue her.

3. The king of the gods, Zeus, tried to remain impartial.

4. How was the Greek goddess Athena involved in the Trojan War?

5. Thetis, Achilles’ mother, tried to protect her son from death.

6. She dipped him into the Styx, a sacred river.

7. Achilles killed Hector, the Trojan king’s son.

8. The king of Troy, Priam, saw this spectacle and wept.


10. Achilles, a brave Greek warrior, was killed by a poisoned arrow that pierced his heel.

Exercise B

11. San Francisco, home of the famed cable cars, was named for St. Francis.

12. Pennsylvania is named for William Penn, one of its founders.

13. Quebec City, a Canadian city in the province of Quebec, is a seaport.

14. New York City, a mixture of many ethnic groups, is the largest city in the United States.

15. Montreal, the name of a city in Quebec Province, means “Mount Royal.”

16. Lake Champlain, a lake in upstate New York, was named for Samuel de Champlain.

17. San Jose, the name of a city in California, is Spanish for “Saint Joseph.”

18. The Spanish, early settlers of California, left their mark with these place names.

19. American Indian place names abound in Oklahoma, home of the Choctaw and other peoples.

20. Reflections of history, all these names provide clues about the past.

Review A: Identifying Phrases, p. 81

Exercise A

1. At times we treat objects as if they were living creatures with human traits.

2. In reports writers often give mythological names to heavenly bodies.

3. Imagine how drab the reports of asteroids would be without mythical names.
4. We might read in our daily newspapers, “Asteroid Approaches Surface of Sun.”
5. Instead, we can read livelier headlines like this one: “Icarus Flies Toward Sol.”

**EXERCISE B**
6. GER
7. PART
8. GER

**EXERCISE C**
11. My grandfather believes that turquoise, a blue-green mineral, should be classified as a precious gem.

12. NONE
13. The film is based on *Frankenstein*, a novel by Mary Shelley.
14. *I Wonder as I Wander*, the autobiography of Langston Hughes, is a fascinating book.
15. Jefferson City, the capital of Missouri, is on the banks of the Missouri River.

**Review C: Identifying Phrases, p. 83**

**EXERCISE A**
1. I will call you after the game between the Bulldogs and the Wildcats.
2. In October, the trees here burst with color.
3. The meeting will be held at 3:30 P.M. in the school library.
4. Ms. Leguizamo has been the principal of the school for fifteen years.
5. We are planning a trip to Mammoth Cave National Park in Kentucky.

**EXERCISE B**
7. The celebration, lasting from December 26 to January 1, is a special time for African Americans.

8. Many take time to reflect upon their African heritage.

9. Seven candles, representing the seven principles of Kwanzaa, are placed in a kinara, a candleholder.

10. Lighting one of the candles is a daily ritual.

**Exercise C**

11. Mount Rushmore, part of the Black Hills of South Dakota, is a popular tourist attraction.

12. Featured on the one-dollar coin is the image of Sacagawea, the Shoshone guide for the Lewis and Clark expedition.

13. For dinner we are preparing kimchi, a tasty Korean dish.

14. None

15. An early twentieth-century American artist, Grant Wood is best known for painting American Gothic.

**Literary Model: Description, pp. 84–85**

**Exercise A**

1. In a forest—adverb—stood

2. of mixed growth—adjective—forest

3. on the eastern spurs—adverb—somewhere

4. of the Carpathians—adjective—spurs

5. of the woods—adjective—beast

6. of his vision—adjective—range

7. for whose presence—adjective—outlook

8. in the sportsman’s calendar—adverb—figured

9. in quest—adverb—patrolled

10. of a human enemy—adjective—quest

**Exercise B** Responses will vary. A sample response is given.

1. But the game he kept so keen an outlook was none that figured as lawful and proper; Ulrich von Gradwitz patrolled the dark forest.

2. Without the phrases, the passage is incomplete and much more difficult to understand. Removing the phrases takes away most of the information about the mood and many of the details that describe what the man appears to be doing.

**Exercise C**

Revisions will vary. A sample response is given.

Beneath an awning of red and white stripes somewhere on the upper west side of Manhattan, a man stood one winter night watching and listening, as though he waited for a taxi with a lit sign to come within sight of his person and, later, of his raised hand. But the taxi for whose headlights he kept so keen an outlook was none that figured in the transportation guidelines as lawful and proper for hire; Ulrich von Gradwitz patrolled the dark city in search of an unlicensed cab.

**Exercise D**

Responses will vary. Sample responses are given.

1. Yes. My phrases changed the setting from a forest in the Carpathian mountains to a street in Manhattan. The tone in my revised paragraph is much lighter than the original paragraph’s tone—even funny.

2. Adverb phrases can answer the questions how, when, where, why, and to what extent, so changing them can alter almost every aspect of setting, tone, mood, and motivation.

**Writing Application: Speech, p. 86**

Writing Applications are designed to provide students immediate composition practice in using key concepts taught in each chapter of the Language and Sentence Skills Practice booklet. You may wish to evaluate student responses to these assignments as you do any other writing that students produce. To save grading time, however, you may want to use the following scoring rubric.
Scoring Rubric

Formal written language is adapted well for a speech to children.

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Several interesting, basic facts about the subject are included in the speech.

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Prepositional phrases are used successfully to present details in the speech.

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The speech is relatively free of errors in usage and mechanics.

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**Total Score**

5 = highest; 1 = lowest