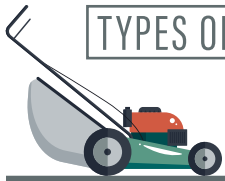


# TYPES OF PHRASES: Gerund, Infinitive, and Participial Phrases



Gerunds, infinitives, and participles are verb forms that function as different parts of speech in a sentence.

A **gerund** is a type of noun made from the *-ing* form of a verb. Gerunds and gerund phrases (gerunds + associated modifiers) can act as subjects or objects of verbs. They can also act as objects of prepositions.

→ Gavin earned money by **mowing his neighbors' lawns**.  
*The gerund phrase functions as the object of the preposition "by."*

An **infinitive** is formed from the word "to" + the base form of a verb. Infinitives and infinitive phrases (infinitives + associated modifiers) can act as nouns, adjectives, or adverbs in a sentence.

→ His goal was **to earn enough money for a new mountain bike**.  
*The infinitive phrase functions as a noun.*

A **participle** is a verb form that is often used as an adjective. A present participle always ends in *-ing*. A past participle often ends in *-ed*, *-d*, *-e*, *-en*, or *-n*, but it may have an irregular form.

→ **Discouraged by the slow progress**, Gavin took on additional jobs around the neighborhood.  
*The participial phrase describes Gavin.*

Write whether the **bolded phrase** in each sentence is a gerund phrase (GP), infinitive phrase (IP), or participial phrase (PP).

1. **Riveted by the spectacle on stage**, the audience remained silent for a full five seconds after the big finale. PP
2. After Manuel's cousin had a birthday party at the local animal shelter, Manuel decided **to volunteer there twice a week**. IP
3. Could you please refrain from **practicing your trombone solo** while I'm on the phone? GP
4. Poet Ralph Waldo Emerson described the onset of the American Revolution in 1775 as "the shot **heard round the world**." PP
5. **Transforming their childhood treehouse into the perfect teen hangout** became a massive summer project for Lana and her sisters. GP
6. The best types of plants **to grow in a desert landscape** include drought-tolerant cactuses and shrubs, such as prickly pear and creosote. IP
7. Avery's favorite summertime activity has always been **whitewater rafting down the wild and scenic Chattooga River**. GP
8. Every spring, the innkeepers open the windows and place fresh flowers in every guest room **to let in the fresh air after a long, cold winter**. IP
9. The twins, **anticipating the arrival of their new baby brother**, fidgeted excitedly in their seats. PP
10. One goal of environmental scientists is **maintaining an ecological balance that is beneficial for all of Earth's inhabitants**. GP