

# TYPES OF PHRASES & WHAT ARE PHRASES?

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# WHAT ARE PHRASES?



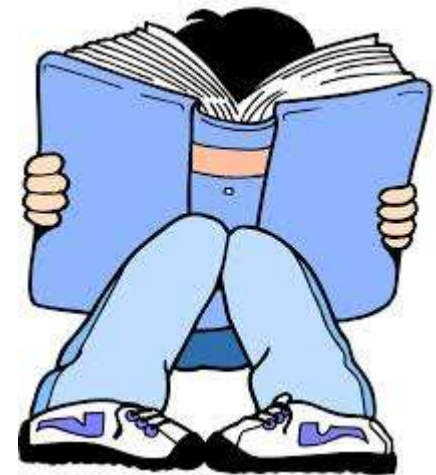
A phrase is a group of words without both a subject and predicate.

Phrases combine words into a larger unit that can function as a sentence element.

For example, a participial phrase can include adjectives, nouns, prepositions and adverbs; as a single unit, however, it functions as one big adjective modifying a noun (or noun phrase).



# TYPES OF PHRASES



# 1. VERB PHRASE

- The verb phrase can refer to the whole predicate of a sentence (I *was watching my favorite show yesterday*) or just the verbor verb group (*was watching*).



## 2. PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE

- “The food *on the table* looked delicious.” A prepositional phrase, which has a preposition as its head, can function as an adjective, adverb, or even as a noun.



### 3. PARTICIPIAL PHRASE

- “*Crushed to pieces by a sledgehammer*, the computer no longer worked” or “I think the guy *sitting over there* likes you.” A participial phrase has a past or present participle as its head. Participial phrases always function as adjectives.



## 4. INFINITIVE PHRASE

- “I love *to bake cakes*.” An infinitive phrase is a noun phrase with an infinitive as its head. Unlike the other noun phrases, however, an infinitive phrase can also function as an adjective or an adverb.





## 5. GERUND PHRASE

- “I love *baking cakes*.” A gerund phrase is just a noun phrase with a gerund as its head.



## 6. APPOSITIVE PHRASE

- “Bob, *my best friend*, works here” or “My best friend *Bob* works here.” An appositive (single word, phrase, or clause) renames another noun, not technically modifying it.



## 7. ADVERBIAL PHRASE

- The adverbial phrase also has two definitions; some say it's a group of adverbs (*very quickly*), while others say it's any phrase (usually a prepositional phrase) that acts as an adverb



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