Phrase Job Sort

Sort gerund phrases and participial phrases by their jobs.

8.L.GC.1.57 "Usage: Form and use verbals and verbal phrases (participles/participials, gerunds, and infinitives) based on function. (Continue)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

GERUND

A gerund phrase begins with an -ing verb form and works as a noun. It can name an action or activity.

[Knitting scarves] comforts Grandma.

PARTICIPIAL

A participial phrase works as an adjective. It describes a noun or pronoun in the sentence.

[Glittering at dawn], lanterns illuminated pavement.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle the category for each bracketed phrase, then choose two items and explain whether each phrase works as a noun or describes a noun.

1. [Solving logic puzzles] sharpens my focus. GERUND PARTICIPLE
2. [Startled by the alarm], the campers packed quickly. GERUND PARTICIPLE
3. The dog, [chasing a falling leaf], ran through the yard. GERUND PARTICIPLE
4. Tara enjoys [sketching city skylines]. GERUND PARTICIPLE
5. [Building a model robot] took all afternoon. GERUND PARTICIPLE
6. [Hidden behind the curtain], the speaker waited. GERUND PARTICIPLE
7. We discussed [recycling old electronics]. GERUND PARTICIPLE
8. My favorite weekend activity is [baking bread]. GERUND PARTICIPLE

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one sentence with a gerund phrase and one sentence with a participial phrase. Put brackets around each phrase.

GERUND _____

PARTICIPLE _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence that contains both a gerund phrase and a participial phrase. Put brackets around the participial phrase and braces around the gerund phrase.

ANSWER KEY # Phrase Job Sort

GRADE 8 · 8.L.GC.1.57

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	[Solving logic puzzles] sharpens my focus.	**GERUND**	The phrase is the subject and names an activity.
2	[Startled by the alarm], the campers packed quickly.	**PARTICIPLE**	The phrase describes the campers.
3	The dog, [chasing a falling leaf], ran through the yard.	**PARTICIPLE**	The phrase describes the dog.
4	Tara enjoys [sketching city skylines].	**GERUND**	The phrase is the object of enjoys and names an activity.
5	[Building a model robot] took all afternoon.	**GERUND**	The phrase is the subject and names an activity.
6	[Hidden behind the curtain], the speaker waited.	**PARTICIPLE**	The phrase describes the speaker.
7	We discussed [recycling old electronics].	**GERUND**	The phrase is the object of discussed and names an activity.
8	My favorite weekend activity is [baking bread].	**GERUND**	The phrase names the activity and completes the linking verb is.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **GERUND**: [Repairing bicycles] saves money.
- **PARTICIPLE**: [Tired from practice], Jordan sat quietly.

Challenge: [Carrying a stack of folders], Ms. Lee enjoyed {organizing tomorrow's materials}.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. Gerund items are 1, 4, 5, 7, and 8. Participial items are 2, 3, and 6; proof explanations should identify the phrase's noun job or the noun it describes.