Verbal Job Sort

Sort -ing and participial forms by the job they do.

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

NAME _____ DATE _____

GERUND

A gerund is an -ing verb form that works as a noun. It can name an activity or idea.

Climbing steep trails builds stamina.

PARTICIPLE

A participle is a verb form that works as an adjective. It describes a noun or pronoun.

A buzzing drone hovered nearby.

1 SORT

8 items

Read each sentence, then circle GERUND or PARTICIPLE for the verbal form or phrase in the sentence.

1. Collecting old maps interests Priya. GERUND PARTICIPLE
2. We practiced solving equations after school. GERUND PARTICIPLE
3. The whispering crowd filled the hallway. GERUND PARTICIPLE
4. My brother's hobby is repairing radios. GERUND PARTICIPLE
5. Covered in mud, the bicycle leaned against the fence. GERUND PARTICIPLE
6. Startled by thunder, the horses ran into the barn. GERUND PARTICIPLE
7. Reading science fiction helps me relax. GERUND PARTICIPLE
8. Shattered by the storm, the windowpane lay on the floor. 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 new sentence with a gerund and one new sentence with a participle.

GERUND _____

PARTICIPLE _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence that includes both a gerund and a participle. Then identify the gerund and explain which noun the participle describes.

ANSWER KEY # Verbal Job Sort

GRADE 9 · 9.L.GC.1.57

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Collecting old maps interests Priya.	**GERUND**	Collecting old maps is the subject, so it acts as a noun.
2	We practiced solving equations after school.	**GERUND**	Solving equations is the object of practiced, so it acts as a noun.
3	The whispering crowd filled the hallway.	**PARTICIPLE**	Whispering describes the noun crowd.
4	My brother's hobby is repairing radios.	**GERUND**	Repairing radios names the hobby, so it acts as a noun.
5	Covered in mud, the bicycle leaned against the fence.	**PARTICIPLE**	Covered in mud describes the bicycle.
6	Startled by thunder, the horses ran into the barn.	**PARTICIPLE**	Startled by thunder describes the horses.
7	Reading science fiction helps me relax.	**GERUND**	Reading science fiction is the subject, so it acts as a noun.
8	Shattered by the storm, the windowpane lay on the floor.	**PARTICIPLE**	Shattered by the storm describes the windowpane.

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**: Painting murals brightens blank walls.
- **PARTICIPLE**: The folded blanket rested on the chair.

Challenge: Watching the barking dog made Elena laugh. Watching is the gerund. Barking is the participle, and it describes dog.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. Accept a gerund when the -ing form or phrase functions as a noun, even when it follows a verb. Accept a participle when the verbal form modifies a noun or pronoun.