



Among the nine prepositional phrases of this sentence are two that take gerunds as their objects: *of diagramming . . .* and *by attaching . . .* I would prefer, for consistency's sake, to place these two gerunds on pedestals; however, it has been done otherwise since the days of Reed and Kellogg, the great 19th-century propagators of this system of diagramming. *Used* and *slanted* are past participles. It is not uncommon for prepositional phrases to function as predicate adjectives.