

# Gerunds and Appositives

## Gerunds

A gerund is a verbal that ends in -ing and functions as a noun. The term verbal indicates that a gerund, like the other two kinds of verbals, is based on a verb and therefore expresses action or a state of being. However, since a gerund functions as a noun, it occupies some positions in a sentence that a noun ordinarily would, for example: subject, direct object, subject complement, and object of preposition.

Gerund as subject:

- Traveling might satisfy your desire for new experiences. .

Gerund as direct object (ask about the verb, “what? Or Whom?”):

- They do not appreciate my singing.

Gerund as indirect object (asks about the direct object, to whom? Or to what?):

- He gave studying all his attention

Gerund as a predicate nominative (noun following a linking verb—it restates/stands for the subject):

- My cat's favorite activity is sleeping.

Gerund as object of preposition (a noun or pronoun linked to a preposition):

- The police arrested him for speeding.

## Appositives

Appositive: a noun or pronoun placed beside another noun or pronoun to identify or describe it.

- Both the Tewa and the Hopi are part of the American Indian group Pueblo.
- Tony, did you know that she, Martha, won the race?

Appositive phrase: consists of an appositive and any modifiers the appositive has. (A modifier is a word or group of words that makes the meaning of the another word or group of words more specific.)

- The Alaska moose, the largest deer in the world, inhabits the Kenai Peninsula
- Remember the celebrations held on Monday, January 1, 2001, the first of the twenty-first century?