

First Year Written Expression

(2020-2021)

Practice: Phrases.

Exercise 01: Identify the type of phrase.

- 1- Songs about rebellion -
- 2- On the waterfront -
- 3- Clocks on the wall -
- 4- From the halls of Montezuma
- 5- With malice toward none -
- 6- Walks with my mother -
- 7- Beyond the blue horizon -

Exercise 02: underline noun phrases, identify the head of each phrase, and identify their function in the sentence.

- 1- My grandmother told me a story as old as time.
- 2- My friend’s family bought a large house in the countryside.
- 3- Last year’s trip to the mountains is the best trip that I ever had.
- 4- The sports car drove the long and winding road.
- 5- The bewildered tourist was lost.
- 6- The flu clinic had seen many cases of infectious disease.
- 7- My younger brother won the previous talent show.
- 8- The manager at the post office assigns different tasks for postal workers.

Exercise 03: Identify the verb phrases in the following sentences. State whether they are main verb phrases, present participle phrases, past participle phrases or gerunds.

- 1- Encouraged by her coach’s praise, Melody repeated her routine on the balance beam.
.....
- 2- Barbara has persuaded the ticket agent to let her on the plane scheduled to depart immediately.
.....
- 3- Though bitten by mosquitoes, the hikers smiled as they neared the peak.
.....
- 4- Described as almost a saint by his mother, Ernesto tried to live up to her expectations
.....
- 5- The jade Buddha reclining in the hall was one of three gifts sent by Sri Lankan monks.
.....

- 6- Jane found the family cabin occupied by strangers.
.....
- 7- Divers searching for pearls discovered the underwater ruins mistakenly believed by some to be part of Atlantis.
.....
- 8- The vegetable soup cooking on the stove is for dinner.
.....

Exercise 04: Underline the prepositional phrase in the following sentences and identify its object, and function in the sentence.

- 1- Both of the trolls lived under the bridge.....
- 2- Some of the elves refused to help Santa make the toys.....
- 3- One of the dragon’s eggs cracked!
- 4- Two of the baby dragon’s claws stuck through the shell.....
- 5- Many of the ogres had blood dribbling down the chins.....
- 6- Most of the knights who had come to slay the ogres had been devoured.....
- 7- None of the children had been switched at birth.....

Exercise 05: Underline the prepositional phrase. Above the phrase write whether it is an adverb or an adjective and circle what it modifies.

Example: The air of magic filled the night with beauty..... 1- Adj 2- Adv

- 1- The sorceress’ bag of winds had been stolen by the sailor.....
- 2- In the dark of the night, the sailor sneaked away from the island.....
- 3- The sailor opened the bag of winds.....
- 4- One of the winds filled the sails.....
- 5- Another of the winds blew open the sorceress’ window.....
- 6- A lamp of crystal fell and shattered, waking the sorceress.....
- 7- The eyes of the sorceress’ cat glowed red with anger.....
- 8- The sorceress of unsurpassed kindness and power awoke.....
- 9- The winds of the bag howled for the sorceress.....
- 10- Most of the winds returned to the sorceress.....
- 11- The one remaining wind blew the sailor far from the island.....

Exercise 06: Cross out the prepositional phrases, then identify the subject and verb.

- 1- A drawer of the bureau opened, and the winds folded themselves into the drawer.
- 2- The sorceress waved her hand, and all of the pieces of crystal reassembled into a lamp.
- 3- The cat with its burning eyes leaped onto the window sill and meowed.
- 4- “Yes,” said the sorceress of the island, “let’s go for a ride. The night is so beautiful.”
- 5- The two of them exited the room.
- 6- Both of the magical creatures passed through the long corridors.
- 7- On the other side of the room were French doors; these the sorceress unlocked.
- 8- In answer, the cat of gleaming, black fur jumped onto the carpet.

Exercise 07: put between brackets [] the prepositional phrases in the paragraph below. What sentence does not contain a prepositional phrase?

Although my room in residence is small, it is very cozy. On the single bed under the window is a spread quilted by my grandmother before her death. It is my most treasured possession. Beside the bed is a small bookcase filled with my books and papers. The bookcase is painted white, and the top and sides have a pattern of vines running over them, stencilled in green. Next to the bookcase is a small antique armchair from my grandmother's house. The chair is upholstered in a rich cream brocade material, sprinkled with tiny pink roses. Over the chair is a framed photograph showing my family's summer camp. In the picture, the sun is setting beyond the hills, which look blue in the distance, under a pink and gold sky. Against the wall opposite the bed is my desk, painted white like the bookcase and covered with more books, papers, pens, and pencils, while on the floor between the bed and the desk is an oval hooked rug in varied shades of blue, green, and rose. The residence is old and crumbling, and the hall outside my room is dingy and dark, but my room itself is always a bright and welcoming haven for me and my many friends.

Exercise 08: draw a tree diagram for the phrases in exercise number 1.