

What are Verbals?

Verbals are formed from verbs BUT do not function as verbs.

There are three verbals: infinitives, participles, and gerunds.

Infinitives are formed by adding a verb to the word "to". *To love* is an infinitive. It can function in three different ways.

1. As a noun
2. As an adjective
3. As an adverb

Participles are formed from verbs that end in "ing", "ed", or irregular verbs that are in the past tense. Participles always function as adjectives and **ONLY** adjectives.

Gerunds are formed from verbs ending in "ing". They always function as nouns and **ONLY** nouns.

If a verbal functions as a **noun**, it can do whatever a noun can do. A noun can function as a

1. Subject
2. Direct object
3. Indirect object
4. Object of a preposition
5. Predicate nominative

- Direct objects** follow action verbs and receive the action. (Mom baked a cake.)
- Indirect objects** indirectly receive the direct object's action. (Mom baked me a cake.)
- Objects of prepositions** are nouns that complete the meaning of the preposition. (I am from Virginia.)
- Predicate Nominatives** rename the subject and following a linking verb. (Mom is a baker.)

Infinitives are formed by adding a verb to the word "to". Infinitives can function in three different ways.

1. As a noun
2. As an adjective
3. As an adverb

INFINITIVE AS AN ADJECTIVE (MODIFYING A NOUN)

The desire to practice medicine was strong in Jeffrey.

INFINITIVES AS NOUNS:

Subject
To practice medicine requires dedication.

Object of a Preposition
Jeffrey is about to practice medicine.

Predicate Nominative
Jeffrey's dream was to practice medicine.

Direct Object
Jeffrey wants to practice medicine.

Modifying adjective:
It is difficult to earn a medical degree.

INFINITIVE AS AN ADVERB

Modifying verb:
Jeffrey endured medical school to reap the rewards.

Note: Infinitives cannot be indirect objects.

“ED” ENDING PARTICIPLE

Exhausted children...
Bored audience...
Frustrated teacher...
Neglected garden...

Participles are formed from verbs that end in “ing”, “ed”, or irregular verbs that are in the past tense. Participles always function as adjectives and **ONLY** adjectives. They only modify nouns or pronouns.

“ING” ENDING PARTICIPLE

A flying monkey...
Soaring prices...
Failing grades...
Sickening results...

PAST TENSE IRREGULAR PARTICIPLE

Broken dishes...
Drunken sailor...
Bent metal...
Lost toys...

Gerunds are formed from verbs ending in “ing”. They always function as nouns and **ONLY** nouns.

If a verbal functions as a noun, it can do whatever a noun can do. A noun can function as a

- ❖ Subject
- ❖ Direct object
- ❖ Indirect object
- ❖ Object of a preposition
- ❖ Predicate nominative

- Subject: Flying a space ship sounds like fun.
- Direct Object: The alien enjoyed flying.
- Indirect Object: Monica gave hiking a favorable opinion.
- Object of a Preposition: I was rewarded for washing the car.
- Predicate Nominative: The problem is finding a replacement.

Remember that all verbals can also be verbal phrases.

Verbal phrases include the verbal and words attached.

VERBAL

To love

Parting

Wanted

fishing



VERBAL PHRASE

To love a pet...

Parting from loved ones...

Two wanted men from Ohio...

Fishing for tuna...