Name: Date: Score: / 8

Verbals: Learn and Practice

Gerunds, participles and infinitives at work

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

Verbals

- Verbals are verb forms that act as other parts of speech.
- A gerund ends in ing and acts as a noun, and a participle acts as an adjective.
- An infinitive is to plus a verb and can act as a noun, adjective or adverb.
- Swimming is fun. Swimming is a gerund.

1. What does every infinitive begin with?
   A. a capital letter B. the word to
   C. the letters ing D. the letters ed

2. Which sentence uses a gerund as the subject?
   A. The hiking boots are new. B. We went to hike.
   C. We are hiking today.
   D. Hiking builds strong legs.

3. In: Skating keeps Ali fit, which word is a gerund?
   A. Skating B. Ali C. fit D. keeps

4. What part of speech does a gerund act as?
   A. a noun B. a conjunction C. an adverb
   D. an adjective

5. In: The barking dog woke us, what job does barking do?
   A. It is the main verb B. It describes the dog
   C. It joins two clauses D. It names an activity

6. In: I love to paint, what is to paint?
   A. an infinitive B. a prepositional phrase
   C. a participle D. a gerund

7. In: The broken vase sat on the shelf, which word is a participle?
   A. broken B. shelf C. vase D. sat

8. Which is an infinitive?
   A. jumping B. jumps C. jumped D. to jump

Explain it! In your own words, write the rule for verbals and one example.

ANSWER KEY

Verbals: Learn and Practice (answers)

Gerunds, participles and infinitives at work

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

1 What does every infinitive begin with?

A. a capital letter **B. the word to**

C. the letters ing D. the letters ed

Infinitives start with to, like to read or to dream.

2 Which sentence uses a gerund as the subject?

A. The hiking boots are new. B. We went to hike.

C. We are hiking today.

D. Hiking builds strong legs.

Hiking is the subject of builds, so it acts as a noun.

3 In: Skating keeps Ali fit, which word is a gerund?

A. Skating B. Ali C. fit D. keeps

Skating names an activity and is the subject, so it is a gerund.

4 What part of speech does a gerund act as?

A. a noun B. a conjunction C. an adverb

D. an adjective

A gerund is an ing word that works as a noun.

5 In: The barking dog woke us, what job does barking do?

A. It is the main verb **B. It describes the dog**

C. It joins two clauses D. It names an activity

Barking describes which dog, so it is a participle acting as an adjective.

6 In: I love to paint, what is to paint?

A. an infinitive B. a prepositional phrase

C. a participle D. a gerund

To plus the verb paint makes an infinitive.

7 In: The broken vase sat on the shelf, which word is a participle?

A. broken B. shelf C. vase D. sat

Broken comes from the verb break and describes the vase.

8 Which is an infinitive?

A. jumping B. jumps C. jumped **D. to jump**

An infinitive is to plus the base form of a verb.