

## Grammar Review Sheet Phrases and Clauses

**Phrase:** Two or more words (without a subject and its verb) that act as a single part of speech

**Clause:** A group of words with a subject and its predicate

**APPOSITIVE PHRASE:** a noun or pronoun that follows another noun or pronoun to identify or explain it and its modifiers

Ex.: George, *the star quarterback*, is tall.

**PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE:** A group of words beginning with a preposition and usually ending with a noun or pronoun

Ex: *Before the concert* Mr. Clayton reviewed the pieces to be played.

### VERB PHRASES

--**Participial phrase:** Adjective phrase beginning with a participle

Present participle: asking

Perfect participle: having asked

Past participle: asked

Passive participle: having been asked

Ex.: *Having been asked to participate in the discussion*, Dan offered some valid analysis of the novel.

--**Gerund phrase:** Verb form ending in *-ing* that is used as noun together with its complements and modifiers, all of which act together as a noun

Ex.: *Having been asked to participate in the discussion* gave Dan the opportunity to share his analysis of the novel.

--**Infinitive phrase:** A verb preceded by *to* together with its complements and modifiers.

Ex. *To gain success as an actor*, one must have self-confidence.

**INDEPENDENT CLAUSE:** Expresses a complete thought and can stand by itself.

Ex. *John is a good violinist, and he also plays the guitar well.*

**SUBORDINATE CLAUSE:** Does not express a complete thought and cannot stand by itself

Ex.: *Whenever I try to burn a CD on my computer*, the computer crashes.

**ADVERB CLAUSE:** subordinate clause (introduced by subordinating conjunctions) used as an adverb.

Subordinating conjunctions:

after

before

unless

although

if

until

as

in order that

when

as if

since

whenever

as long as

so that

where

as soon as

than

wherever

because

though

while

Ex.: *Before the concert began*, Mr. Clayton made some announcements.

**ADJECTIVE CLAUSE:** subordinate clause used as an adjective

Ex. The book *that Kaitlyn borrowed from the library* was overdue.

**NOUN CLAUSE:** subordinate clause used as a noun

Ex. *Whoever stole my purse* is in big trouble!