

GRAMMAR TIP #9: PHRASES



A phrase is a group of words that acts together as a unit but does not contain a subject and a conjugated verb, like clauses do.

Examples:

Prepositional Phrases start with a preposition (in, on, at, under, before, after...).

E.g., At the beginning of the semester, everything is always rushed.

Infinitive Phrases start with to + verb.

E.g., Educators must employ strategic scaffolding to facilitate higher-order thinking.

Participial Phrases start with a verb ending in -ing or -ed.

E.g., Acknowledging the limitations of the data, the authors cautioned against generalizations.

Appositive Phrases follow the rules of reduced adjective clauses.

E.g., My sister, recognized for her artistic expertise, developed this design.

Note: Phrases can be placed at the beginning, in the middle, or at the end of a sentence, and the punctuation differs depending on their placement.

GOT
QUESTIONS?

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