

Answer the following before seminar, and discuss your answers during seminar. Read appropriate sections from a writing guide (Messenger or Hacker) if you need help with understanding the grammatical terms. You might want to review the following sections of Messenger: Adjectives (section 19), Verbals, including participles (section 21), and Prepositions and prepositional phrases (section 22). During seminar, please ask for clarifications on any concepts that are not clear to you.

A. Identify the adjectives in the following sentences. Underline the adjectives and draw a line to the word(s) the adjectives modify.

1. Slowly, I walked to my house.
2. I knew the street was quiet.
3. The quiet street was also wet and dirty.
4. It was late evening, so everyone was inside their warm houses.
5. I longed for my house, though I knew it wouldn't be as cozy as everyone else's house.
6. The evening was turning into night and was getting darker, so I ran quickly home.
7. I stumbled on a large rock that was in my way, and I could not get up: I had hurt my knee.
8. My hurt knee was not bleeding, but I was anxious I had broken a fragile bone.
9. Fortunately, a doctor drove by in his large, red, convertible car and saw me in my pain.
10. The nice doctor was fast in wrapping up my knee, and he kindly drove me home in great style.

B. Identify the participles in the following sentences. Underline the participles twice, underline the participial phrase (if there is one) once, and draw an arrow to the word(s) that the participles modify.

1. Knowing more about grammar, she did better on the test than I did.
2. She had studied a lot the night before, hoping to do well.
3. Speaking as someone who doesn't know much about grammar, it is all ridiculous nonsense.
4. Why would we need to know about dangling phrases?
5. Though discussed in seminar, I still can't figure out the complicated comma rules.
6. My friend, who knows a lot about commas, is also perplexed and having trouble.
7. She, finding more interesting things to do, decided to stop studying commas.
8. A broken comma rule adds spice to writing.
9. Writing can be creative and doesn't need suffocating rules.
10. I want my writing to flow freely, soaring into the skies and lifting up myself and everyone who reads it, while giving both great pleasure and knowing insight into life's many mysteries.

C. Identify the prepositions in the following sentences. Underline the prepositions twice, and underline the prepositional phrase once.

1. The bird flew over the house.
2. Under the tree, I found a nest.
3. The mother bird attacked me with great vigour.
4. Knowing I should not disturb the nest, I ran to my home.
5. Regardless of the mother bird's pecking, though, I stole an egg.
6. Without the egg, I would not be able to complete my project.
7. The bird still flew at me underneath the tree, and beat its wings in my face.
8. I am tired of putting up with mother birds who attack me.
9. I would climb the tree, but I am worried about falling off a branch.
10. This is my last sentence about the bird's nest, I promise you, for I wouldn't lie about such a thing.