**APPOSOITIVE AND PARTICIPIAL PHRASE WORKSHEET**

**Appositives** are noun phrases that identify adjacent nouns or pronouns. In an appositive phrase, the subject of the phrase restates the noun it’s describing. They can occur anywhere in a sentence: they can open the sentence, close it, or appear somewhere in the middle, which interrupts the sentence flow.

Below are some examples; you can see more on pages 43-46 in the Grammar section—or Google “appositive phrase examples” and you’ll see plenty.

- The insect, a *cockroach*, is crawling across the kitchen table.
- The insect, a *large cockroach*, is crawling across the kitchen table.
- The insect, a *large cockroach with hairy legs*, is crawling across the kitchen table.
- The insect, a *large cockroach with hairy legs that has spied my bowl of oatmeal*, is crawling across the kitchen table.

**Opener Examples**

*One of eleven brothers and sisters*, Harriet was a moody and willful child.

*A good quiet man*, Poppa spent the last hours before our parting moving aimlessly about the yard, keeping to himself and avoiding me.

**Closer Examples**

Harry was small and tough, a *boy running through life with his chin stuck out a mile*.

It went away slowly, the *feeling of disappointment that came sharply after the thrill that made his shoulders ache*.

However, I looked with a mixture of admiration and awe at Peter, a *boy who could and did imitate a police siren every morning on his way to the showers*.

Hour after hour he stood there, silent, motionless, a *shadow carved in ebony and moonlight*.

**Interrupter Examples**

That night in the south upstairs chamber, a *hot little room where a full-leafed chinaberry tree shut all the air from the single window*, Emmett lay in a kind of trance.

1. Write a sentence about Mercutio using an appositive phrase opener:

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Participles are verbs acting as adjectives. Present participles always end in *ing*. Past participles usually end in *ed*. For a **participial phrase** the phrase has no subject; it begins with a verb form—either *–ing* or *–ed*. As with appositive phrases, participial phrases can occur anywhere in a sentence: they can open the sentence, close it, or appear somewhere in the middle.

Below are some examples; you can see more on pages 47-50 in the Grammar section—or Google “participial phrase examples” and you’ll see plenty.

- **Eaten by mosquitoes**, we wished that we had made hotel, not campsite, reservations. (*Eaten by mosquitoes* modifies the pronoun *we.*)

- **The horse trotting up to the fence** hopes that you have an apple or carrot. (*Trotting up to the fence* modifies the noun *horse.*)

- The water drained slowly in the pipe **clogged with dog hair**. (*Clogged with dog hair* modifies the noun *pipe.*)

**Opener Examples**

*Sitting up in bed eating breakfast*, he could see the lake and the mountains across the lake on the French side.

**Standing there in the middle of the street**, Marty suddenly thought of Halloween, of the winter and snowballs, and of the schoolyard.

**Enchanted and enthralled**, I stopped her constantly for details.

**Closer Examples**

Harry was small and tough, **running through life with his chin stuck out a mile**.

In six months a dozen small towns had been laid down upon the naked planet, **filled with sizzling neon tubes and yellow electric bulbs**.

**Middle Examples**

The sun rose clear and bright, **tinging the foamy crests of the waves with a reddish purple**. Sadao, **searching the spot of black in the twilight sea that night**, had his reward.
4. Write a sentence about the Nurse using a participial phrase opener:

5. a sentence about Lady Capulet using a participial phrase closer:

6. a sentence about Paris using a participial phrase interrupter:

Combinations
7. Write a sentence about Friar Lawrence using an appositive phrase opener and a participial phrase closer:

8. a sentence about Romeo and Juliet using an appositive phrase and a participial phrase, both interrupters somewhere in the middle of the sentence: