

# IDENTIFYING PHRASES

A **phrase** is a group of related words that is used as a single part of speech and that does not contain both a verb and its subject.

## EXAMPLES:

- **PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE:** Several accidents occurred over the weekend.
- **VERBAL PHRASE:** Standing at the podium, Jalen practiced his speech.
- **APPOSITIVE PHRASE:** The first in line, Mia bought two tickets.

**EXERCISE:** In each of the following sentences, decide whether the underlined group of words is a PHRASE (**P**) or NOT A PHRASE (**NP**). Check (✓) the correct box for each sentence.

SENTENCE	P	NP
1. What was the last book <u>that Mark Twain wrote?</u>		
2. For us, the easiest way <u>to get the perfect pizza</u> is to call the local pizza place.		
3. <u>After seeing the movie</u> , Ryan decided to read the book.		
4. <u>Frustrated by too many problems</u> , we dumped our "creation" into the garbage can.		
5. Don't forget <u>to wear a hat</u> while you're out in the sun!		
6. When we took the mozzarella out of the refrigerator, we saw <u>that it had grown mold</u> .		
7. We pressed the lumpy mass <u>into the pizza pan</u> anyway and forged on.		
8. The highway <u>that goes around the city</u> is usually less crowded at night.		
9. The dough, sticking to the countertop, didn't rise <u>as the cookbook said it should</u> .		
10. The cat, <u>sitting serenely on the top shelf of the bookcase</u> , watched us cleaning up the mess.		
11. The bird <u>with the bright red feathers</u> is a cardinal.		
12. We thought pizza, <u>my favorite food</u> , would be easy to make.		
13. <u>Even when the sun is shining</u> , this forest is dark and gloomy.		
14. <u>Mixing the dough</u> was the first task that gave us trouble.		
15. <u>Seventeen trees in the neighborhood had fallen</u> before the storm ended.		

## **ANSWERS:**

1. NP
2. P
3. P
4. P
5. P
6. NP
7. P
8. NP
9. NP
- 10.P
- 11.P
- 12.P
- 13.NP
- 14.P
- 15.NP