

EXERCISE 63–3 Identifying Verbal Phrases

Underline the verbal phrases in the following sentences. Be prepared to explain the function of each phrase. Example:

Do you want to be a writer? Then write. (*Infinitive phrase used as direct object of Do want*)

- a. Concealing a disease is no way to cure it. —Ethiopian proverb
- b. The trouble with being punctual is that nobody is there to appreciate it.
—Franklin P. Jones
- c. Fate tried to conceal him by naming him Smith. —Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.
- d. Being weak, children quickly learn to beguile us with charm. —Anonymous
- e. Wrestling with words gave me my moments of greatest meaning. —Richard Wright
1. The thing generally raised on city land is taxes. —C. D. Warner
2. Do not use a hatchet to remove a fly from your friend's forehead. —Chinese proverb
3. He has the gall of a shoplifter returning an item for a refund. —W. I. E. Gates
4. Tact is the ability to describe others as they see themselves. —Mary Pettibone Poole
5. He could never see a belt without hitting below it. —Harriet Braiker