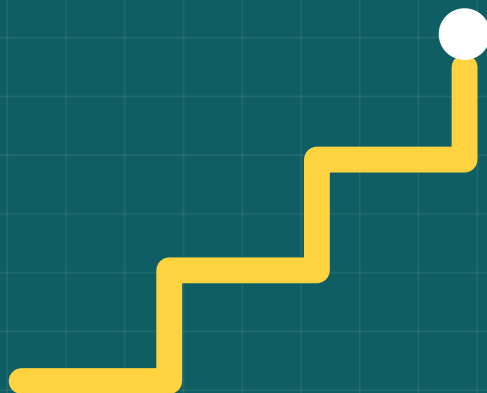




UpOnly Learning



GRADE 8

FREE SAMPLE WORKBOOK

English & Writing Grade 8

One step at a time. · Ages 13–14 · Free sample: 1 of 8 topics

UO-WRIT-8

One step at a time

I'm Dr. Evan J. Hasson. I've run a specific chiropractic practice for over twelve years, and I'm a dad of three. My work is about alignment: get the structure right, and everything else works better.

At home, nothing was aligned. I was spending thousands a month on tutors, extracurriculars and programs, and when I asked about enrolling a second or third child the answer was always the same: that'll be double, that'll be triple. The charter school had a waiting list. The good public school had a waiting list. The private schools had the kind of list where it helps to know someone, or to give generously first.

And underneath all of it, the same quiet threat: if you don't pay for this, your child will fall behind. Not sold with evidence. Sold with fear.

So I did my own research, and here is what I found: none of it is secret. The standards are published. The order a child should learn in is written down and freely available. It is just scattered. Nobody had done the work of pulling it together, putting it in order and handing it over. So I did.

When every step has its place, confusion has nowhere to hide.

I built this for my own kids. I'm giving it to yours.

Dr. Evan J. Hasson, DC

Founder and dad of three

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No guaranteed results, and mistakes happen. Every student learns differently. We write and review every question and answer key carefully, and we still get things wrong — an answer key can be wrong, and a question can be worded badly or have two defensible answers. Check the answer key before you hand it over, and trust your own judgement over ours. Found a problem? **Photograph the page and email it to support@uponlylearning.com** — the picture tells us more than a description, and we fix it for every family.

Safety. Some activities use household items such as scissors, coins or food. An adult should supervise and skip anything unsafe for the student.

Not professional advice. This workbook does not replace an evaluation by a qualified educator or specialist. The founder is a Doctor of Chiropractic; UpOnly Learning does not provide medical or health advice.

Full terms: uponlylearning.com/legal

How to use this workbook

Each topic follows the same steps, so your student always knows what comes next.

1. ① **Quick Check.** 10 questions before you teach. Read them aloud for younger students. A high score means you can move faster.
2. ② **Learn It.** Key words, step-by-step teaching with lines you can read aloud, worked examples and the mistakes to watch for.
3. ③ **We Do It Together.** 10 questions you do side by side. The answer and the "why" are printed right after each question, so you can talk it through.
4. ④ **You Try.** 10 questions your student does alone.

Answers with short explanations for every question are in the **Answer Key** at the end of each topic, so students can work without peeking. Go over each wrong answer together using the explanation.

This workbook is printed in full color. To save ink, choose "Black and white" or "Grayscale" in your printer settings; every page still works in black and white.

Want online checks that score themselves and track each student's progress? Visit uponlylearning.com.



How to use this English & Writing book in Grade 8

Pace

Plan on 1 to 2 weeks for each of the 8 topics, about 8 to 16 weeks for the book, in 2 to 4 sessions a week.

A typical session

A 40 to 45 minute session runs Quick Check, Learn It, We Do It Together, and a block of You Try questions, with Show What You Know saved for its own day at the end of the topic.

Tips for this book

- Verbals: gerunds, participles and infinitives, Active and passive voice, and Verb mood are grammar-heavy; work a few sentences at a time and read each aloud.
- For Active and passive voice, ask your student who is doing the action and whether the sentence needs to name that person.
- Judging source credibility and accuracy works best with real sources; compare a news site, a blog, and a reference book on the same topic.
- Encourage your student to check their own work with the answer key and rewrite any sentence they corrected.

Your eighth grader is writing for a wider audience, and your thoughtful questions about their drafts help them sharpen their ideas.

GRADE 8

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English & Writing: Grade 8

Free Sample Workbook · Ages 13–14 · 1 of 8 topics, with a Quick Check, a lesson, We Do It Together, You Try and an answer key

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<i>Explain the function of verbals in general and in particular sentences L . 8 . 1a</i>	
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Verbals: gerunds, participles and infinitives

The student will identify gerunds, participles and infinitives and explain how each functions in a sentence.

① Quick Check

Do this before the lesson. It shows what your student already knows. Score: ____ / 10

- Which word is the gerund? My brother loves cooking.
A brother **B** loves **C** cooking **D** My
- What is a verbal?
A A helping verb that comes before a main verb
B A word made from a verb that acts as a noun, adjective or adverb
C A verb form that always acts as the main verb of a sentence or clause
D A verb that only shows the tense of a sentence
- Is Dancing a gerund or a participle? Dancing makes me happy.
A Main verb **B** Participle **C** Infinitive **D** Gerund
- Which word is the gerund? Swimming is good exercise.
A exercise **B** Swimming **C** is **D** good
- Which words form the infinitive in Hoping to win, the tired runner kept going?
A to win **B** Hoping to **C** tired runner **D** kept going
- What is the function of painting landscapes in Her hobby is painting landscapes?
A An adverb telling when **B** A noun that renames hobby **C** An adjective describing hobby
- Which sentence uses a participle to describe a noun?
A Melting is what ice does. **B** The ice began to melt. **C** The ice is melting.
D The melted ice dripped on the floor.
- Why is dancing not a verbal in She is dancing?
A It follows a preposition **B** It describes a noun **C** It follows a helping verb
D It ends in -ing, so it must be a verb

9. A student says all words with to are infinitives. How should the student check?

- A** Look for a noun after to **B** Look for -ing at the end **C** Look for a comma before to
D Look for a verb right after to

10. Identify the verbals: Practicing every day is the key to improving.

- A** Practicing (participle), improving (gerund) **B** Practicing (gerund), improving (gerund)
C Practicing (gerund), improving (participle) **D** is (gerund), key (infinitive)

② Learn It

Key words

- **verbal:** A word made from a verb that acts as a noun, adjective or adverb instead of a verb
- **gerund:** An -ing verbal that acts as a noun: Swimming is fun.
- **participle:** A verbal, often ending in -ing or -ed, that acts as an adjective: the swimming dog, the broken vase
- **infinitive:** To plus a verb, acting as a noun, adjective or adverb: I want to swim.
- **verbal phrase:** A verbal plus its modifiers or objects, such as baking bread or to finish the race

Warm-up

1. Write: Running is my favorite exercise. The running water was cold. I like to run.
2. Ask: Is running or to run doing the action of the sentence in each one?

Some words look like verbs but are wearing a disguise. Today you will unmask them.

Teach

1. Gerund: -ing word acting as a noun. Test: replace it with it or something. Running is fun becomes It is fun.
2. Participle: -ing or -ed word acting as an adjective, describing a noun. The running water; the frozen lake.
3. Infinitive: to + verb. It can act as a noun (To win is the goal), an adjective (a book to read) or an adverb (She practiced to improve).
4. Show how to tell a gerund from a participle: a gerund names an activity; a participle describes a noun.
5. Remind: in She is running, running is part of the verb is running, not a verbal.
6. Color-code gerunds, participles and infinitives in three colors.

Ask: What job is this word doing? Naming, describing or explaining why?

Guided practice

1. Go through the two examples.
2. Do problems 1 to 4 together, color-coding.

Try the it test for gerunds, and look for the noun being described for participles.

Worked examples

Identify the verbal and its function: Baking bread fills the house with a wonderful smell.

Baking (bread) is a gerund phrase acting as the subject (a noun). Test: It fills the house with a wonderful smell.

Identify the verbal and its function: The excited puppy jumped on the couch.

Excited is a participle acting as an adjective describing puppy.

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Watch for these mistakes

Mistake: Every word ending in -ing is a verb.

Fix: Show that in Dancing makes me happy, dancing is the subject, a noun. Only when it pairs with a helping verb, as in She is dancing, is it part of the main verb.

Mistake: To always signals an infinitive.

Fix: Show that in I walked to the store, to is a preposition followed by a noun. An infinitive is to plus a verb: to walk.

③ We Do It Together: 10 questions

Do these side by side. Read each question together, let your student answer, then read the answer and the "why" right below it and talk it through.

1. What kind of verbal phrase is baking bread in Baking bread fills the house?

- A** An infinitive phrase **B** A gerund phrase **C** A participial phrase **D** A prepositional phrase

Answer: **B** A gerund phrase

Why: Baking bread names an activity and acts as the subject.

2. How does the infinitive work in a book to read?

- A** As an adjective **B** As a subject **C** As a noun naming the thing read **D** As an adverb

Answer: **A** As an adjective

Why: To read tells which kind of book, so it describes a noun.

3. Which statement about -ing words is true?

- A** They can be nouns, adjectives or part of a verb **B** They are always verbs that show an action in progress
C They are always nouns

Answer: **A** They can be nouns, adjectives or part of a verb

Why: The job an -ing word does depends on how the sentence uses it.

4. Which test tells you a word may be a gerund?

- A** Add -ed to the end of the word **B** Add the word to **C** Replace the word with it

Answer: **C** Replace the word with it

Why: Swimming is fun becomes It is fun, so swimming is a noun.

5. In She joined the club to meet new friends, what does to meet new friends do?

- A** Names the club she joined **B** Describes friends **C** Tells why she joined

Answer: **C** Tells why she joined

Why: The infinitive phrase acts as an adverb of purpose.

6. Which sentence contains both a gerund and an infinitive?

- A** Learning to swim takes practice. **B** She wants to swim in the lake today. **C** The swimming coach smiled.
D Swimming is fun.

Answer: **A** Learning to swim takes practice.

Why: Learning is a gerund and to swim is an infinitive.

7. In Running down the hill, Nora tripped, what does the phrase describe?

- A** The tripping **B** Nothing, it names an activity **C** The hill **D** Nora

Answer: D Nora

Why: Running down the hill is a participial phrase describing Nora.

8. What is the function of Baking bread in Baking bread fills the house with a smell?

- A** An adjective **B** The object of the sentence **C** An adverb **D** The subject

Answer: D The subject

Why: Baking bread is the thing that fills the house, so it acts as a noun subject.

9. A student says swimming is a participle in I love swimming in the lake. Which answer corrects the student?

- A** Swimming is a helping verb **B** Swimming is an adverb **C** Swimming is an infinitive
D Swimming is a gerund, the object of love

Answer: D Swimming is a gerund, the object of love

Why: Swimming in the lake names what the speaker loves, so it acts as a noun.

10. Which sentence has a participial phrase beginning with a past participle?

- A** Smiling at the gift, Ana laughed. **B** Delighted by the gift, Ana smiled. **C** Ana likes delighting.

Answer: B Delighted by the gift, Ana smiled.

Why: Delighted by the gift is a participial phrase describing Ana.

④ You Try: 10 questions

Now your student works alone. Check answers in the Answer Key at the end of this topic. Score: ____ / 10

1. Which word is the participle? The tired hikers rested.
A rested **B** The **C** hikers **D** tired
2. Is to the store an infinitive in I walked to the store?
A Yes, because store is a verb **B** No, to is a preposition here **C** Yes, because it begins with to
3. Which word is the participle? The locked door would not open.
A door **B** locked **C** would **D** open
4. Which word is the participle? The scorched toast smelled bitter.
A smelled **B** scorched **C** toast **D** bitter
5. Which sentence uses to plus a verb as an infinitive?
A We went to the beach. **B** She likes to dance. **C** He gave it to Sam.
6. He decided to leave early. How does to leave early work?
A As an adjective **B** As an adverb telling when he decided **C** As the subject
D As a noun, the object of decided
7. In The speaker paused to think, what kind of word is think?
A A verb inside the infinitive to think **B** A participle that describes the speaker **C** A gerund
8. Which sentence contains an infinitive acting as an adverb?
A She loves to save. **B** She has money to spend. **C** She saved money to buy a bike. **D** To save is wise.
9. Which sentence has a participial phrase that is in the wrong place?
A Barking loudly, the mail carrier ran from the dog. **B** Barking loudly, the dog chased the mail carrier.
C The dog, barking loudly, chased us. **D** We heard the dog barking loudly.
10. Which sentence has the participle after the noun it describes?
A The students, tired from the trip, went to bed. **B** Being tired is common. **C** Tired students need rest.
D The tired students went to bed.

Verbals: gerunds, participles and infinitives: Answers and explanations

① Quick Check

- Which word is the gerund? My brother loves cooking.
C cooking
Cooking is the object of loves and names an activity.
- What is a verbal?
B A word made from a verb that acts as a noun, adjective or adverb
A verbal comes from a verb but does a different job in the sentence.
- Is Dancing a gerund or a participle? Dancing makes me happy.
D Gerund
Dancing is the subject of the sentence, so it acts as a noun.
- Which word is the gerund? Swimming is good exercise.
B Swimming
Swimming names an activity and is the subject, so it acts as a noun.
- Which words form the infinitive in Hoping to win, the tired runner kept going?
A to win
The infinitive is to plus the verb win.
- What is the function of painting landscapes in Her hobby is painting landscapes?
B A noun that renames hobby
It follows the linking verb is and renames the subject.
- Which sentence uses a participle to describe a noun?
D The melted ice dripped on the floor.
Melted describes the noun ice. In the others it is a verb or noun.
- Why is dancing not a verbal in She is dancing?
C It follows a helping verb
Helping verb plus -ing makes the main verb phrase.
- A student says all words with to are infinitives. How should the student check?
D Look for a verb right after to
An infinitive is to plus a verb. To plus a noun is a preposition.
- Identify the verbals: Practicing every day is the key to improving.
B Practicing (gerund), improving (gerund)
Both -ing words name activities: Practicing is the subject and improving follows to. Neither describes a noun.

④ You Try

- Which word is the participle? The tired hikers rested.
D tired
Tired describes the noun hikers.

2. Is to the store an infinitive in I walked to the store?
B No, to is a preposition here
An infinitive needs a verb after to. Store is a noun.
3. Which word is the participle? The locked door would not open.
B locked
Locked describes the noun door, which makes it a participle.
4. Which word is the participle? The scorched toast smelled bitter.
B scorched
Scorched describes the noun toast, so it is a participle.
5. Which sentence uses to plus a verb as an infinitive?
B She likes to dance.
To dance is to plus a verb. In the others to is a preposition.
6. He decided to leave early. How does to leave early work?
D As a noun, the object of decided
It names what he decided, so it acts as a noun.
7. In The speaker paused to think, what kind of word is think?
A A verb inside the infinitive to think
Think is the verb in the infinitive phrase to think.
8. Which sentence contains an infinitive acting as an adverb?
C She saved money to buy a bike.
To buy a bike explains why she saved.
9. Which sentence has a participial phrase that is in the wrong place?
A Barking loudly, the mail carrier ran from the dog.
Barking loudly seems to describe the mail carrier, but the dog is barking.
10. Which sentence has the participle after the noun it describes?
A The students, tired from the trip, went to bed.
Tired from the trip comes after students and describes them.

Keep going with the full English & Writing workbook

You just tried one topic. The full Grade 8 workbook has every topic below, each with a Quick Check, a lesson, We Do It Together, up to 90 You Try questions, Show What You Know and a full answer key.

1. Verbals: gerunds, participles and infinitives	L.8.1a
2. Active and passive voice	L.8.1b
3. Verb mood: indicative, imperative, conditional and subjunctive	L.8.1c
4. Commas, ellipses and dashes for a pause or break	L.8.2a
5. Narratives that shift time and setting	W.8.3
6. Informative essays with formal style	W.8.2
7. Arguments with counterclaims	W.8.1
8. Judging source credibility and accuracy	W.8.8

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— Dr. Evan J. Hasson, founder

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