Adjective and Adverb Phrases A

5c. A prepositional phrase that modifies a noun or a pronoun is called an **adjective phrase**.

An adjective phrase tells *what kind* or *which one*.

**Example**  What do you think influences the changes in hairstyles? [The adjective phrase modifies the noun changes, telling *what kind*.]

5d. A prepositional phrase that modifies a verb, an adjective, or an adverb is called an **adverb phrase**.

An adverb phrase tells *how, when, where, why,* or *to what extent*.

**Example**  Why do you think some hairstyles remain popular for only a short time? [The adverb phrase modifies the adjective popular, telling *to what extent*.]

**Exercise A**  In each of the following sentences, circle the word or words that the underlined prepositional phrase modifies. Then, identify the phrase by writing above it **ADJ** for adjective phrase or **ADV** for adverb phrase.

**Example**  Throughout the night, water from the ceiling annoyingly dripped into the bucket.

1. **ADV**  Sonya is good at soccer.

2. Raphael enjoys reading articles about early space exploration.

3. Throughout the spring, Archimedes spent much time fishing.

4. The young cheetah quietly crouched behind the tall, yellow grass.

5. Herbert watched an informative video on the air battles of World War II.

**Exercise B**  In each of the following sentences, underline each prepositional phrase. Then, identify the phrase by writing above it **ADJ** for adjective phrase or **ADV** for adverb phrase.

**Example**  The store on the corner was damaged during a severe hailstorm.

6. The day before Memorial Day, Henry visited his grandfather for two hours.

7. With great skill, the doctor removed several tiny shards of glass.

8. Elizabeth’s essay about England during Victorian times earned her an A.

9. During the celebration of Mom’s birthday, Uncle Jimmy told hilarious jokes for a whole hour.

10. Helga’s cousin from New Orleans waited in the living room.

11. The cost of the new bridge went beyond the previous estimate.

12. The skateboard was too expensive for Li.


14. That boy with a broken leg had been injured during a soccer game.

15. On the beach of the tiny island, the castaways constructed a hut of leaves and grass.