

NAME .....

## Lesson 8.8 Gerund and Gerund Phrases

(pp. 213–214)

### EXERCISE 1 Recognizing Gerunds

Circle each gerund in the paragraph below.

<sup>1</sup>Traveling on the Underground Railroad was difficult. <sup>2</sup>This network of secret routes and houses helped thousands of slaves escape to freedom in the free states and Canada. <sup>3</sup>From 1810 to 1850, hundreds of fugitives were making their way to freedom each month. <sup>4</sup>For safety, most people preferred moving at night and using the North Star for general directions. <sup>5</sup>Conditions were hard, and escaping required both planning and luck. <sup>6</sup>Slave owners frequently offered large rewards for finding and returning a slave. <sup>7</sup>In addition, dogs used for hunting were often sent to track escaped slaves down. <sup>8</sup>How did the slaves know where the next safe house might be? <sup>9</sup>Passing along information by word of mouth or by using coded messages were two main ways.

#### Hint

Remember to underline any modifiers or prepositional phrases that are part of the gerund phrase.

*Alyssa finished reading the book about the Civil War.*

### EXERCISE 2 Identifying Gerund Use

First, underline the gerund or gerund phrase in each sentence. Then label it *S* for subject, *PN* for predicate noun, *DO* for direct object, and *OP* for object of a preposition. If a sentence has no gerund or gerund phrase, write *N*.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. I have enjoyed learning about the Underground Railroad.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Resting spots for runaway slaves were called “stations.”
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Those responsible for guiding slaves were called “conductors.”
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Many people helped the slaves by donating clothes for them.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. One difficulty for the slaves was finding enough food.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Locating the routes on modern maps has proved difficult.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Among notable conductors who made daring rescues of slaves were Levi Coffin, Harriet Tubman, and William Still.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Mr. Still, a writer and civil rights activist, is famous for being the “Father of the Underground Railroad.”
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. I will be reading more about Still’s life this weekend.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Making a poster about Mr. Still is my homework for Monday.