

Five Types of Phrases: Cheat Sheet

Type of Phrase	Use	Cue	Punctuation Rules
Prepositional	Adjective or adverb	Begins with a preposition	Use a comma after an introductory phrase: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the phrase is long • If two or more words appear together
Participial	Adjective	Verb form ending in -ed or -ing	Use a comma after an introductory phrase
Gerund	Noun	Verb form ending in -ing	None
Infinitive	Noun, adjective or adverb	Starts with “to” + verb	Use a comma after an introductory phrase when <u>NOT</u> used as the subject
Appositive	Adjective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next to pronoun/noun • Is a noun/pronoun 	Use a comma to set off <u>nonessential</u> appositive phrases