

Name _____

Date _____

Gerunds are verbal words, which end in *-ing* and function as nouns.

Eating satisfies the rumble in my tummy.

Participles are verbal words, which usually end in *-ing* or *-ed*, and functions as adjectives.

I am uplifted by Tom, constantly smiling.

Infinitives are verbs in their simplest form (to + verb), which functions as nouns, adjectives, or adverbs.

I wanted to leave yesterday.

Circle the gerunds, draw squares around the participles, and underline the infinitives in the following sentences.

1. The scientist classified living organisms.
2. The exoskeleton, consisting of a chitin-protein matrix and calcium salts, protects the internal organs of the crawfish.
3. When young red crawfish are threatened, they may curl up into a ball to protect themselves.
4. The young will continue to return to their mother, because they are attracted by her pheromone.
5. The claw meat is tasty but difficult to pick out.

6. You'll need 10 pounds of whole crawfish to get one and half pounds of meat.
7. Crawfish farming is big business in Louisiana.
8. The harvest takes place during winter and spring.
9. Boiling crawfish is a popular way to prepare the meat.
10. Heavy feeding by adult crawfish takes place between dusk and daybreak.

Superlative Adjective: Of, relating to, or being the extreme degree of comparison of an adjective or adverb, as in *best* or *brightest*.

Comparative Adjective: Of, relating to, or being the intermediate degree of comparison of adjectives, as *better*, *sweeter*, or *more wonderful*, or adverbs, as *more softly*.

Draw a line under the superlative adjectives and circle the comparative adjectives in the following sentences.

1. Red Swamp crawfish are the most aggressive.
2. Red Swamp crawfish are darker than cave crawfish.
3. Red Swamp crawfish of Louisiana are hardier than White-Clawed Crawfish of Ireland.
4. Arthropods are the most successful terrestrial invertebrates.

3. Crustaceans are the most successful aquatic arthropods.
4. The antennae (plural) are longer than the antennules.
5. Female crawfish are usually smaller than males
6. Males have the largest claws.
7. Boiled crawfish are redder than live crawfish.
8. Crawfish have more legs than insects but fewer legs than centipedes.