EXERCISE 12-10

Verbal Phrases: Identifying Function (12c-2)

Each of these sentences contains an italicized verbal phrase. On the line at the left, identify the type of phrase—participial (p), gerund (g), or infinitive (i). If the phrase functions as an adjective or an adverb, draw an arrow to the word it modifies. If it functions as a noun, indicate on the line whether it is subject (S), direct object (DO), subject complement (SC), or object of a preposition (OP).

Example:  \( \text{i DO} \) Reading before writing helps me focus on an idea.

_____ 1. Students asked to write about how they write say a variety of things.

_____ 2. Most agree that they must first have something to write about.

_____ 3. Finding a subject of interest is often the most difficult part.

_____ 4. Besides being interested in the subject, the writer must know something about it.

_____ 5. When composing a personal experience essay, writers often find that the words flow easily.

_____ 6. Writing a research paper is much more difficult.

_____ 7. Some students say that the hardest papers for them to write are reactions or responses to journal articles.

_____ 8. They are uncertain about the angle to take in their response.

_____ 9. When writing research papers, some students are more organized than others.
10. The organized students make note cards to organize the information they have gathered and use the cards as a guide for their writing.

11. Students differ on the usefulness of writing an outline.

12. Some students report that they make outlines to organize their thoughts for any of their papers.

13. They find it exciting to write once without an outline.

14. They begin by putting down whatever they are thinking on the subject.

15. Rereading what they’ve written lets them see if the paper follows along logically.

16. They make necessary changes, adding needed details.

17. Sometimes, seeing irrelevancies, they delete material.

18. Since errors are to be expected when we write, most writers make corrections at some point.

19. Some writers edit as they write, others preferring to wait until they have stopped writing.

20. The way students write is often determined by the subject and the amount of time they have for writing the paper.