Exercise 10 Identifying and Classifying Infinitives and Infinitive Phrases

Identify the infinitives and infinitive phrases in the following sentences. After each, tell whether it is used as a *noun*, an *adjective*, or an *adverb*.

EXAMPLE **1.** Scott is the person to elect.

1. to elect—adjective

1. To dance gracefully requires coordination. **1.** n.
2. Raymond wanted to join the team. **2.** n.
3. Sandy needs to study. **3.** n.
4. I'm going to the pond to fish. **4.** adv.
5. A good way to lose weight is to eat moderately. **5.** adj./n.
6. After our long vacation, we needed to get back in training. **6.** n.
7. The best way to get there is to take the bus. **7.** adj./n.
8. Don't you dare open that present before your birthday. **8.** n.
9. Juanita and Matt tried to find the perfect gift. **9.** n.
10. He lives to swim and water-ski. **10.** adv.

HELP

The sign of the infinitive, *to*, is sometimes omitted. Also, a sentence in Exercise 10 may contain more than one infinitive or infinitive phrase.

Exercise 11 Identifying and Classifying Infinitive Phrases

Identify the infinitive phrases in the following sentences. Then, tell how each phrase is used: as a *noun*, an *adjective*, or an *adverb*.

EXAMPLE **1.** To create a miracle fabric was the aim of the chemist Joe Shivers.

1. To create a miracle fabric—noun

1. He succeeded with spandex, and athletes of all shapes and sizes have learned to appreciate the qualities of his "power cloth." **1.** n.
2. This material has the ability to stretch and snap back into shape. **2.** adj.
3. Its sleek fit lessens friction to give the wearer faster movement through air or water. **3.** adv.
4. Its slick surface makes an athlete such as a wrestler hard to hold. **4.** adv.
5. To say that spandex has athletes covered is not stretching the truth. **5.** n.
6. Spandex is just one of many synthetic fibers to meet today's fashion needs. **6.** adj.
7. Nylon was the first synthetic; it originally was made to take the place of silk in women's garments. **7.** adv.
8. To replace silk was also the purpose of rayon, another early, low-priced synthetic. **8.** n.
9. Polyester, developed later, often is combined with natural fibers to reduce wrinkling. **9.** adv.
10. To distinguish synthetic fibers (most made from plastic) from natural fibers is not easy. **10.** n.

HELP

In Exercise 11 the sign of the infinitive, *to*, is sometimes omitted.