

The Gerund -ing

Introduction

1) *The gerund* looks exactly the same as the present participle but *the gerund* always has the same function as a noun (although it looks like a verb).

Cooking at home can help you save a lot of money.

2) The gerund is a noun made from a verb by adding *-ing*.

Verbs ending in *-e* drop *-e* and add *-ing*.

make – making, write – writing

Verbs with one syllable, ending in *one vowel and one consonant*, double the consonant and add *-ing*.

knit – knitting, swim – swimming

Verbs ending *-ie* change *-ie* to *-y* and add *-ing*.

lie – lying, die – dying

The gerund can be made negative by adding *not*.

The best thing for your health is not smoking.

The gerund can function as:

a) the subject of the sentence.

Smoking causes lung cancer.

Flying makes him anxious.

b) the complement of the verb *to be*.

One of her duties was ***writing weekly reports***.

The hardest thing about learning Russian is ***memorizing the verbs of movement***.

The gerund can be used:

a) after prepositions or as part of certain expressions (*there's no point in, in spite of etc.*)

*Can your brother count to ten **without looking** at his fingers?*

***There's no point in** going back to his place now.*

b) after phrasal verbs. They are composed of *a verb + preposition/adverb*.

*I **ended up buying** a new computer.*

*Rachel **gave up drinking** sugar drinks.*

Short Story Dialogue

- *Why don't we go to the beach this weekend?*
- *Mmm I don't know. **I'm really afraid of swimming in the ocean.***
- *But you can still play volleyball with us.*
- ***I'm not good at volleyball. I keep on dropping the ball.***
- *You'll be our cheerleader then!*
- ***Cheerleading is not something I like doing.***
- *If you make up your mind, give me a call.*

Independent Practice - The gerund -ing

1) Fill in the gaps.

<i>volunteering</i>	<i>parking</i>	<i>cooking</i>	<i>making</i>
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- a. is a great way to make friends.
- b. James surprised Helen by her a romantic dinner.
- c. Parking is not easy for someone who has 5 hours of driving experience.
- d. I keep on the same mistakes all over again.

2) Write the correct sentence.

a. He was sorry for (to shout) at his wife the day before.
b. Are you interested in (to go) to a concert with me?
c. I am tired of (to get) your packages all the time.

3) Answer the questions.

a. Should people give up on their dreams?
b. What are you good at?
c. Is there anything that you can't live without?

Independent Practice: Answers - The gerund - ing

1) Fill in the gaps.

- a. **Volunteering** is a great way to make friends.
- b. James surprised Helen by **cooking** her a romantic dinner.
- c. **Parking** is not easy for someone who has 5 hours of driving experience.
- d. I keep on **making** the same mistakes all over again.

2) Open the brackets.

- a. He was sorry for **shouting** at his wife the day before.
- b. Are you interested in **going** to a concert with me?
- c. I am tired of **getting** your packages all the time.

3) Answer the questions. Sample Answers:

- a. No, people shouldn't be giving up on their dreams.
- b. I am good at making people laugh.
- c. I can't live without traveling.