

THE GERUND

The gerund is used like a noun: **Smoking** is bad for you.
Do you like **watching** TV?
She's good at **swimming**.

- It is formed by adding **-ing** to the infinitive:

go – **going**

stay – **staying**

The negative is formed by adding '**not**':

Would you mind **not smoking**?

NOTE: the changes that are sometimes necessary:

lie – **lying** (ie → y)

take – **taking** (single e: 'e' is omitted)

sit – **sitting** (single vowel + single consonant →
→ single vowel + **double** consonant)

1 A. Write the ing-forms of these verbs.

do doing

run _____

play _____

lie _____

travel _____

fly _____

ride _____

try _____

swim _____

get _____

B. Fill in the gaps using the gerunds from the Task A.

Use each verb once only.

1 She likes running every morning before breakfast.

2 After _____ my homework, I usually watch TV.

- 3 I enjoy _____ on the beach.
- 4 She doesn't like _____ with other children.
- 5 _____ is a fast way of _____.
- 6 She likes sport, especially _____ horses and _____.
- 7 After _____ several times, I finally passed my exams.
- 8 I lay in bed and thought about _____ up.

like, dislike and other verbs + gerund

- Some verbs can be followed by a gerund or a noun, including the following:

<i>like</i>	<i>love</i>	<i>finish</i>	<i>start</i>
<i>dislike</i>	<i>hate</i>	<i>stop</i>	<i>enjoy</i>
<i>prefer</i>	<i>miss</i>	<i>give up</i>	<i>begin</i>

NOTE: *like, love, prefer, and start* are sometimes followed by the infinitive.

Put the verbs in brackets into the forms of the gerund.

- 1 Do you like making (make) cakes?
- 2 I dislike _____ (get up) at seven o'clock every morning.
- 3 I started _____ (work) here eight or nine years ago.
- 4 Do you prefer _____ (travel) by plane or by ship?
- 5 I hate _____ (write) 'thank you' letters.
- 6 I gave up _____ (drive) after I had a bad accident.
- 7 I miss _____ (be) able to visit my family.
- 8 I love _____ (sit) here by the sea in the evenings.
- 9 I think it's time to stop _____ (play) football.
- 10 What time did you finish _____ (read) last night?
- 11 Why don't you like _____ (go) to discos?
- 12 I think I'll start _____ (pack) my suitcase.

GERUND AFTER PREPOSITION

- When a verb follows a preposition, it takes the gerund:

*We thought **about leaving** early.*

*I was worried **about getting** home.*

*I'm interested **in hearing** more about your offer.*

*I'm tired **of hearing** excuses.*

***After closing** the door, he looked up and down the street.*

*Check your passport **before leaving**.*

NOTE: That **to** can be a preposition, or part of an infinitive:

*I decided to leave early. (**to + infinitive**)*

*I'm looking forward to seeing them again, (**to + gerund**)*

- A gerund behaves like a noun. Where a gerund can be used, a noun can also be used.

*I'm looking forward **to going** on holiday.*

I'm looking forward to my holiday.

Complete the sentences with the gerund form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 She is good at _____ (dance).
- 2 He is crazy about _____ (sing).
- 3 I don't like _____ (play) cards.
- 4 They are afraid of _____ (swim) in the sea.
- 5 You should give up _____ (smoke).
- 6 Sam dreams of _____ (be) a popstar.
- 7 He is interested in _____ (make) friends.
- 8 My uncle is afraid of _____ (go) by plane.
- 9 We insist on _____ (cook) the dinner ourselves.

B. Put in the correct preposition.

- 1 My friend is good at playing volleyball.
- 2 She complains _____ bullying.
- 3 They are afraid _____ losing the match.
- 4 She doesn't feel _____ working on the computer.
- 5 We are looking forward _____ going out at the weekend.
- 6 Laura dreams _____ living on a small island.
- 7 Andrew apologized _____ being late.
- 8 I don't agree _____ what you are saying.
- 9 The girls insisted _____ going out with Kerry.
- 10 Edward thinks _____ climbing trees this afternoon.

13 Choose the best answer 'a', 'b' or 'c'.

- 1 He likes to sleep / sleeping.
a) to sleep b) sleeping **c) either 'a' or 'b'**
- 2 _____ is bad for you.
a) To smoke b) Smoking c) either 'a' or 'b'
- 3 He took up _____ while on vacation in France.
a) drawing b) to draw c) either 'a' or 'b'
- 4 He wanted _____, but his mother wouldn't let him.
a) coming b) to come c) either 'a' or 'b'

- 5 I really enjoy _____ to you.
a) to talk b) talking c) either 'a' or 'b'
- 6 I like surfing, but I prefer _____.
a) swimming b) to swim c) either 'a' or 'b'
- 7 I tried _____ a cake.
a) to bake b) baking c) either 'a' or 'b'
- 8 I don't remember _____ the lawyer yesterday.
a) to call b) calling c) either 'a' or 'b'
- 9 I have to remember _____ the lawyer tomorrow.
a) to call b) calling c) either 'a' or 'b'
- 10 I don't feel like _____.
a) to go out b) going out c) either 'a' or 'b'
- 11 I don't want _____ an old car.
a) to drive b) driving c) either 'a' or 'b'
- 12 I don't mind _____ an old car.
a) to drive b) driving c) either 'a' or 'b'
- 13 Don't forget _____ say "thank you".
a) to say b) saying c) either 'a' or 'b'
- 14 He tried _____ her.
a) to help b) helping c) either 'a' or 'b'
- 15 What do you think about _____ out tonight?
a) going b) to go c) either 'a' or 'b'
- 16 I really love _____.
a) skiing b) to ski c) either 'a' or 'b'
- 17 Do you want _____ a movie tonight?
a) to see b) seeing c) either 'a' or 'b'
- 18 _____ a new language can be fun!
a) To learn b) Learning c) either 'a' or 'b'
- 19 It's hard _____ a firefighter.
a) to be b) being c) either 'a' or 'b'