

## GERUND PHRASE

### WHAT IS A GERUND PHRASE?

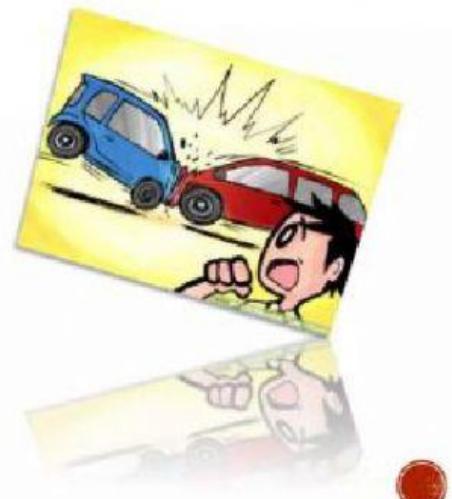
It is a phrase that starts with a gerund and acts as a noun. To understand this better lets, define a gerund. A gerund is a verb that ends with -ing, but it functions as a noun.



## SUBJECT

### EXAMPLE:

- **Driving** a car is not easy at all!
- **Running** keeps you in shape.
- **Smoking** is not good for your health.



1. Running helps me clear my head.
2. Eating healthy is important to me.
3. Talking on the phone is annoying.
4. Studying is hard.
5. Paying attention is important.
6. Dancing is a good way to exercise.
7. Chewing gum is against school rules.
8. Napping is refreshing.
9. Walking is good for you.
10. Crying is sad. Laughing is fun.
11. Hoping for the best is all we can do.
12. Working hard is the key to success.
13. Being lazy is a bad idea.
14. Seeking help is not a sign of weakness.
15. Asking for directions is not difficult.
16. Avoiding confrontation is often best.
17. Feeling angry is normal.
18. Being sad is okay.
19. Reacting with jealousy is human.
20. Admitting defeat can be

Instructions: Let's imagine you work for a local newspaper, and you are in charge of the social column. The edition of tomorrow will be about the tips below (Target grammar: gerund as a subject).



## 6 Tips for keeping your job



## 6 Tips for Learning English Effectively



## 6 Tips for being healthy



# I AM GOOD AT

## Good at + ing form of verb

I am good at **playing** football.

You are good at **playing** basketball.

He is good at **writing**.

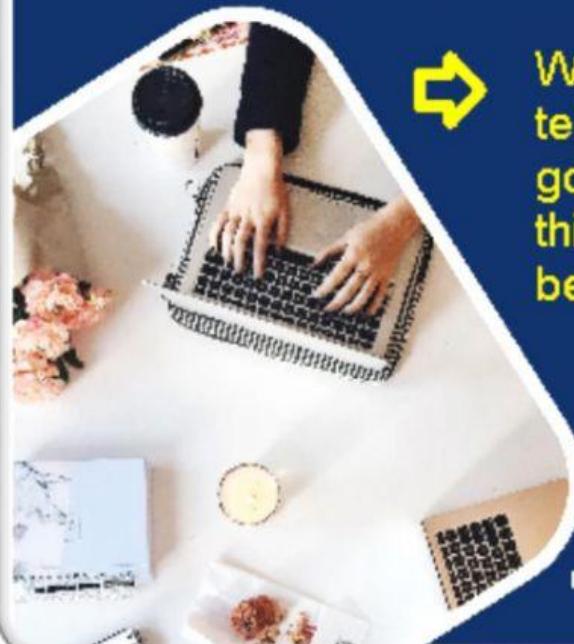
She is good at **making** sandwiches.

They are good at **solving** problems.



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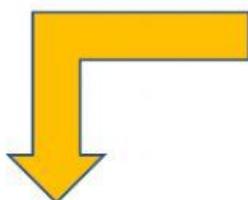
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From:

To:

Subject:



# REMEMBER

## PREPOSITIONS WITH GERUNDS

FOR  
IN  
ABOUT  
FROM  
TO

+

-ing

\*A gerund is the -ing form of a verb used as a noun.

I apologize for **saying** that.



I'm interested in **learning** more.



We're excited **about visiting** a new place.



We stopped him **from crossing** the street.

I look forward **to meeting** you.



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TAKENOTE



## GERUND AFTER A PREPOSITION

### EXAMPLE:

We use gerunds when the verb is immediately after a preposition

- I went to the park **after going** to school.
- I will call you **before arriving** at the office.



Directions: Using the verbs in parentheses, choose the preposition and gerund to complete each sentence.

- 1) I believe \_\_\_\_\_ (tell) \_\_\_\_\_ the truth no matter what.
- 2) I wish the weather would get better. I am tired \_\_\_\_\_ (be) \_\_\_\_\_ inside all the time.
- 3) I do not go swimming because I am afraid \_\_\_\_\_ (drown) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) I don't know how to thank you \_\_\_\_\_ (help) \_\_\_\_\_ me.
- 5) Are you interested \_\_\_\_\_ (go) \_\_\_\_\_ to a bullfight?
- 6) I just can't get excited \_\_\_\_\_ (visit) \_\_\_\_\_ Disneyland for the third time in two years.
- 7) Why do you constantly worry \_\_\_\_\_ (please) \_\_\_\_\_ your parents?
- 8) Every summer, I look forward \_\_\_\_\_ (take) \_\_\_\_\_ a vacation with my family.
- 9) I apologize \_\_\_\_\_ (lie) \_\_\_\_\_, but I was trying to protect you from the truth. Sometimes the truth hurts.

10) Why do you always insist \_\_\_\_\_ (pay) \_\_\_\_\_ for everything when we go out for dinner?

11) I want you to know that I'm sorry. I don't know if you can ever forgive me \_\_\_\_\_ (cause) \_\_\_\_\_ you so much trouble.

12) I'm not very good \_\_\_\_\_ (remember) \_\_\_\_\_ names.

13) I am not happy in my work. I often dream \_\_\_\_\_ (quit) \_\_\_\_\_ my job.

14) How do you stop someone \_\_\_\_\_ (do) \_\_\_\_\_ something you know is wrong?

15) Who is responsible \_\_\_\_\_ (spill) \_\_\_\_\_ these beans all over the floor?

16) Anna made a lot of big mistakes at work. That's why she was afraid \_\_\_\_\_ (lose) \_\_\_\_\_ her job.

17) My students practiced the new topic before \_\_\_\_\_ (come) to class today.

18) The supervisor changed the project after \_\_\_\_\_ (analyze) each possible impact on the company.

## USING **BY** AND **WITH** TO EXPRESS HOW SOMETHING IS DONE

(a) Pat turned off the tape recorder **by pushing** the stop button.

**By** + a gerund is used to express how something is done.

(b) Mary goes to work **by bus**.

**By** or **with** followed by a noun is also used to express how something is done.

(c) Andrea stirred her coffee **with a spoon**.

### BY IS USED FOR MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION

by (air)plane\*

by subway\*\*

by mail

by air

by boat

by taxi

by (tele)phone

by land

by bus

by train

by fax

by sea

by car

by foot (OR on foot)

by e-mail

### OTHERS

by chance

by mistake

by check (but in cash)

by choice

by hand\*\*\*

by credit card

### By + gerund to describe how to do things

You could improve your accent **by watching** movies.

I learn new words best **by writing** them down and **reviewing** them many times.

The best way to learn slang is not **by watching** the news but **by watching** TV series.

**GRAMMAR PLUS** see page 119

### □ EXERCISE 17. BY + a gerund. (Chart 13-6)

*Directions:* Complete the following by using **by** + a gerund. Use the words in the list or your own words.

eat

smile

wag

wave

drink

stay

wash

✓ write

guess

take

watch

1. Students practice written English by writing compositions.
2. We clean our clothes by washing them in soap and water.
3. Khalid improved his English by watching a lot of TV.
4. We show other people we are happy by smiling.
5. We satisfy our hunger by eating something.
6. We quench our thirst by drinking something.
7. I figured out what “quench” means by thinking.
8. Alex caught my attention by waving his arms in the air.
9. My dog shows me she is happy by wagging her tail.
10. Carmen recovered from her cold by resting in bed and by taking care of herself.



**SITUATION:** Let's imagine you read an advertisement, on the bulletin board of your company, and it pretends to gather ideas on how employees could feel more motivated at work. Explain from 4-5 ideas on the next management meeting and if your ideas are selected you will be given \$10.000 as a bonus. Remember, use by+ gerund and explain your proposals.



## NOTES



(Just write clue words)