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Gerunds



It's true. **Seeing** the sunrise from space is an incredible experience.

Language focus

The **gerund** is the **ing** form of a verb. Use the gerund as a noun.

Learning languages is interesting.

I enjoy learning languages.

In general, to form a gerund, add **ing** to the infinitive:

do doing

If the verb ends in a single **e**, cut the **e** before writing **ing**:

have having

Be is an exception. The gerund is **being** not **bing**.

If the verb ends with a consonant–vowel–consonant

pattern, double the final consonant, then add **ing**:

swim swimming

Don't double the letter **y** – for example, the gerund of **buy** is **buying** not **buuying**.

1 Put the words in the correct order to make sentences.

1 is / fun / cooking / good / .

Cooking is good fun.

2 us / tired / makes / late / bed / going / to / .

3 is / new / exciting / learning / things / .

4 idea / every / a good / isn't / eating / day / chocolate / .

5 your / dangerous / a helmet / riding / without / is / bike / .

6 bad for / in / your feet / footwear / is / running / wrong / the / .

2 Write the gerunds.

1 swim swimming
2 live
3 get
4 travel
5 study
6 make

7 come
8 play
9 go
10 write
11 see
12 watch

3 Complete the sentences with gerunds from Activity 2.

1 Swimming in the sea is more enjoyable than in a pool.
2 to the cinema is always lots of fun.
3 hard for exams can be difficult, but it's worth it.
4 a good night's sleep is very important.
5 friends in a new school isn't easy.
6 the world by train, bus, boat and plane – that is my mother's dream.



4 Complete the sentences with a gerund.

1 Doing homework is really boring.
2 Reading books is a great way to learn about the world.
3 Waking is my favourite thing to do. Sometimes my alarm clock doesn't wake me up!
4 Playing the guitar is my sister's favourite thing to do – she does it morning, noon and night. She's so noisy! She's quite good at it, though.
5 Travelling on holiday is great fun. I love seeing new places and having a break from being at home and school.
6 Learning a foreign language is interesting, but it isn't easy. You have to practise a lot: speaking, reading, writing, listening – everything!
7 Spending lots of time with my friends is very important to me.
8 Having a big house isn't important in life.