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Gerunds



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 **bugging**.

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 _____ books is a great way to learn about the world.
- 3 _____ is my favourite thing to do. Sometimes my alarm clock doesn't wake me up!
- 4 _____ 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 _____ on holiday is great fun. I love seeing new places and having a break from being at home and school.
- 6 _____ a foreign language is interesting, but it isn't easy. You have to practise a lot: speaking, reading, writing, listening – everything!
- 7 _____ lots of time with my friends is very important to me.
- 8 _____ a big house isn't important in life.