

The Gerund

7B uses of the gerund (verb + -ing)

- 1 **Eating** outside in the summer makes me feel good.  7.7
Happiness is **getting up** late and **not going** to work.
- 2 I love **having** breakfast in bed.
I hate **not getting** to the airport early.
- 3 I'm thinking of **buying** a new car.
Jim left without **saying** goodbye.

- The gerund is the base form of the verb + *ing*. It can be positive (e.g. *going*) or negative (e.g. *not going*).
- We use the gerund:
 - 1 as a noun, e.g. as the subject or object of a sentence.
 - 2 after some verbs, e.g. *like*, *love*, *hate*, *enjoy*, etc.
See **Verb forms** p.158.
 - 3 after prepositions.

cook	cooking	add -ing
study	studying	
live	living	cut the final e and add -ing
run	running	if verb finishes in consonant-vowel-consonant, double the final consonant and add -ing

a Complete the sentences with a verb from the list in the -ing form.

do not know message practise remember
study swim teach travel

I really enjoy doing exercise. It makes me feel great!

- 1 One thing that always makes me happy is _____ in the sea.
- 2 You can't learn to play a musical instrument well without _____ regularly.
- 3 My mother's very bad at _____ names.
- 4 _____ teenagers is very hard work.
- 5 My sister spends hours _____ her friends.
- 6 I hate _____ the answer when somebody asks me a question.
- 7 _____ by train is usually cheaper than by plane.
- 8 My brother wants to go on _____ French for as long as he can. He'd like to speak it really fluently!

b Put the verbs in the -ing form or infinitive.

I like listening to the radio in the mornings. (listen)

- 1 _____ Pilates is good for your health. (do)
- 2 We offered _____ for the meal. (pay)
- 3 We won't take the car. It's so expensive _____. (park)
- 4 I'm not very good at _____ directions. (give)
- 5 You can borrow the car if you remember _____ some petrol. (get)
- 6 Has it stopped _____ yet? (rain)
- 7 I don't mind _____, but I don't like _____ the washing-up. (cook, do)
- 8 I hate _____ in the dark during the winter. (get up)