

## BOOST YOUR GRAMMAR SKILLS

## THE GERUND

Verb + -ing

### Step 1, level B1

Complete this message posted on Facebook by a young British boy who has just come back from Australia.

I loved (visit) \_\_\_\_\_ Sydney. (discover) \_\_\_\_\_ the city was a unique experience. As I am fond of (swim • sail • dive • snorkel • surf) \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_, Sydney is the place to be. My Australian friends spend their lives outdoors, (do • relax) \_\_\_\_\_ sport or \_\_\_\_\_ on beaches. Frankly speaking, I'm not used to (be) \_\_\_\_\_ outdoors all day long, yet, I've never liked (walk) \_\_\_\_\_ so much! Amazing but over there I felt like (trek) \_\_\_\_\_ every morning. I didn't mind (stay) \_\_\_\_\_ abroad for 2 months at all. This city is just outstanding. It's really worth (go) \_\_\_\_\_ there and I can tell you I look forward to (go) \_\_\_\_\_ back to Australia soon.

**REMEMBER: The gerund is COMPULSORY after...**

• a preposition	about, before, after, instead of, without, at, in, on...
• verbs indicating the beginning or the end of an action	start, carry on/keep on/go on stop/quit
• the expressions	<b>It's no use...</b> <b>It's worth...</b> <b>I'm (not) used to...</b> <b>I'm looking forward to...</b>
• verbs that express an appreciation, a judgment, a feeling	Like, love, enjoy, prefer, hate, loathe, resent sb for..., feel like, deny, avoid, remember... I can't stand... / I can't bear... I don't mind... I'm fond of / I'm keen on
• when the verb is the subject of the sentence	Learning English is such a pleasure ☺

### Step 2 Level B1

Translate the following sentences

J'ai hâte d'être bientôt en vacances.

Au lieu de travailler, je pourrai me reposer.

J'arrêterai de courir tout le temps.

Je ne supporte plus de prendre la voiture ou le métro tous les jours.

J'ai envie de marcher sur la plage, de bronzer sur le sable et de ne rien faire.

### Step 3 Level B2

Read this summary from Roal Dahl's, *Lamb to the Slaughter* (1954).

Include the given verbs in the gaps and use the correct forms each time.

**couldn't help • resent • feel like • carry on • look forward to • mind • start (x 2).**

Mary Maloney was (welcome) \_\_\_\_\_ her husband home.

When he arrived, he told her he wanted to get a divorce.

She \_\_\_\_\_ (be left), so she murdered him with a frozen leg of lamb she intended to cook for dinner. Then, she (think) \_\_\_\_\_ of an alibi to fool the police. After (put) \_\_\_\_\_ the lamb into the oven, she went to the grocer's and had no difficulty(speak) \_\_\_\_\_ normally.

She returned home, phoned the police and pretended she had just found the body.

Surprisingly, she(talk) \_\_\_\_\_ as if nothing had happened. She even didn't (sleep) \_\_\_\_\_. She(stay) \_\_\_\_\_ in the same room as the policemen. She ended up inviting the policemen to join her for dinner.

They (eat) \_\_\_\_\_ the lamb without (realize) \_\_\_\_\_ it was the murder weapon. Mary(laugh) \_\_\_\_\_ because it was a perfect crime.