

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	It's no use... It's worth... I'm (not) used to... I'm looking forward to...
• 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 <u>ing</u> 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.