

## Gerunds used as subjects

- **Gerunds** are verbs that act like nouns.
- They are formed by adding '-ing' to verbs.  
For example: swim → swimming
- **Gerunds** can come either after the main verb in a sentence (when they are used as objects) or before the main verb (when they are used as subjects).

**Exercise 1.** Complete the sentences below by using the '-ing' gerund form of the verbs on the right.

1. Eating lots of vegetables is important for good health.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ a parking space is difficult in the mornings.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ to work is a great way to get some exercise.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ books and magazines can help you to learn English.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is fun. I love making dinner for my friend.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ is a great way to get fit, but I'm afraid of the water!
7. \_\_\_\_\_ is an activity that all animals do. However, did you know that cats sleep for two-thirds of their lives?
8. \_\_\_\_\_ cigarettes is very bad for your health.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ TV is bad for my eyes. That's what my mother says.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ about other people and cultures is fascinating.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ is my sister's favorite hobby. She has a great voice.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ is a serious crime.
13. \_\_\_\_\_ is boring! I hate shopping malls!
14. \_\_\_\_\_ is not allowed during the exam.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ makes me nervous. I prefer traveling by train.

sleep  
eat  
cook  
read  
find  
sing  
smoke  
talk  
cycle  
learn  
fly  
drink / drive  
shop  
swim  
watch

**Exercise 2.** Listen and complete the sentences with the correct gerund. The audios are in Google Classroom.



1. Glen says, " \_\_\_\_\_ is a lot of fun."
2. Glen says, " \_\_\_\_\_ is difficult, but I really enjoy it."
3. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ make Rita nervous.
4. Rita says, " \_\_\_\_\_ doesn't worry me."
5. \_\_\_\_\_ quietly isn't pleasant for Glen.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ keeps Glen healthy.
7. Glen says, " \_\_\_\_\_ is dull."
8. \_\_\_\_\_ relaxes Rita.
9. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are Rita's favorite hobbies.

## GERUNDS AFTER PREPOSITIONS



These phrasal verbs and phrases are always followed by a gerund!

### Verb + preposition

apologize for  
care about  
care for  
decide on  
plan on  
talk about  
think about  
think of

### BE + adjective + preposition

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| be proud of      | be nervous about |
| be afraid of     | be scared of     |
| be excited about | be tired of      |
| be fond of       | be frightened of |
| be bored with    | be worried about |
| be happy about   |                  |
| be interested in |                  |

**Exercise 3.** Fill in the blanks with verb-ing. Circle the prepositions that go with them.

help      speak      be      buy      play      study      learn      save

1. My daughter **is afraid of** \_\_\_\_\_ alone in the dark.
2. I'm not **interested in** \_\_\_\_\_ Russian.
3. **Was** Mike **nervous about** \_\_\_\_\_ in front of the class?
4. **Instead of** \_\_\_\_\_, John went to the movies.
5. John isn't **thinking about** \_\_\_\_\_ another car.
6. Are the children **bored with** \_\_\_\_\_ the game?
7. **Are** you **worried about** not \_\_\_\_\_ enough money?
8. Thank you **for** \_\_\_\_\_ me.

**Exercise 4.** Unjumble the words to form a correct sentence. Remember to use the gerund form after the preposition. Capitalize the first letter and add periods

1. apologized / she / yesterday / for / late / being / dinner / to /
2. have / decided / we / on / new / buying / a / sofa /
3. be / talking / they / about / weekend / the / going / to / beach / will / next /
4. has / thought / he / of / recently / cooking / Italian / food /
5. plans / on / she / shopping / going / next / Saturday /
6. cared / brother / my / about / cleaning / room / his / last / week /
7. will / be / thinking / I / about / starting / exercise / daily / soon /
8. don't / my / care / students / about / doing / homework / until / it / is / too / late /

**Exercise 5.** Change each affirmative sentence into a question using the question word in brackets. Keep the preposition + gerund structure. Write the full question.

1. They talked about moving to Canada next year.

What

2. My brother is interested in learning Japanese.

What

3. We have decided on painting the kitchen blue.

What colour

4. Sarah plans on visiting her grandparents this weekend.

Who

5. The children are afraid of swimming in deep water.

Where

6. We often talk about travelling around Europe.

How often

7. They care for looking after their old neighbor.

Who

8. He's fond of eating spicy food.

What kind of

9. We will be nervous about giving the presentation.

When

10. The dog is scared of loud noises.

What

11. John has been thinking about changing his job.

How long