

# GERUNDS AND INFINITIVES



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# Gerunds

A gerund is a verb in its ing (present participle) form that functions as a noun that names an activity rather than a person or thing. Any action verb can be made into a gerund.

## Spelling Tip

### Verbing

- Add ing to most verbs. Ex. play > playing, cry > crying, bark > barking
- For verbs that end in e, remove the e and add ing. Ex: slide > sliding, ride > riding
- For verbs that end in ie, change the ie to y and add ing. Ex: die > dying, tie > tying
- For a verb whose last syllable is written with a consonant-vowel-consonant and is stressed, double the last letter before adding ing. Ex: beg > begging, begin > beginning. However: enter > entering (last syllable is not stressed)

# Gerund Examples

Gerunds can appear at the beginning of a sentence when used as a subject:

**Example:** **Jogging** is a hobby of mine.

Gerunds can act as an object following the verb:

**Example:** Daniel quit **smoking** a year ago.

Gerunds can serve as an object after a preposition:

**Example:** I look forward to **helping** you paint the house.

**Note:** The same spelling rules that apply to the progressive tenses also apply to gerunds.

Some verbs and verb phrases are directly followed a gerund:

**Example:** Paul avoids **using** chemicals on the vegetables he grows.

Some verbs can be followed by a gerund or an infinitive without causing a change in meaning:

1. Some people prefer **getting up** early in the morning.

2. Some people prefer to get up early in the morning

Some verbs can be followed by a gerund or infinitive but with a change in meaning:

3. He remembered **sending** the fax. (He remembered the act of  
send the fax)

4. He remembered to send the fax. (He remembered the fax and  
sent it.)

# Give The Correct Gerund Form Of These Verbs

She likes (paint)

I can't bear (listen) to loud music

He enjoys (play) tennis

Leila dreams of (set) up her own business

He is interested in (emigrate) to Canada

Are you good at (dance)

She is crazy about (read) romantic poems

I can't help (laugh) when I watch Mr Bean

I can't imagine (be) anywhere else but here

You should give up (smoke)

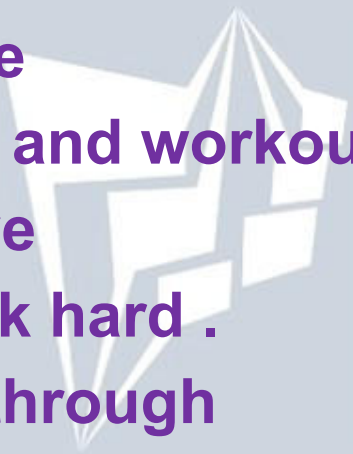
# Gerund used as a subject

Complete the sentences with the gerund form of the verbs in parentheses.

1. (cook) is one of her hobbies.
2. (cycle) is fun.
3. (Get) a good job is not easy.
4. (Find) a parking space is quite difficult in this area.
5. (drive) becomes more and more expensive.
6. No (smoke) in this area.
7. (work) overtime is quite common in this company.
8. (eat) fruits and vegetables is good for your health.
9. (make) fun of other people is not nice.
10. (learn) about other cultures makes people more tolerant.

# Frame sentences using gerunds from the following verbs.

- read
- play.
- Bake
- Diet and workout
- solve
- Work hard .
- Go through
- make
- have
- Go to bed early and wake
- Consider
- dance



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# Infinitives

An infinitive is a verb form that acts as other parts of speech in a sentence. It is formed with to + base form of the verb. Ex: to buy, to work.

## Infinitive Examples

Infinitives can be used as:

an object following the verb:

**Example:** Jim always forgets **to eat**

a subject at the beginning of a sentence:

**Example:** **To travel** around the world requires a lot of time and money.

an adverb modifying a verb:

**Example:** You promised **to buy** me a diamond ring.

an adjective modifying a noun:

**Example:** Tara has the ability **to succeed**.



Some verbs are directly followed by a noun or pronoun and then by an infinitive:

1. I convinced Catherine **to become** vegetarian.
2. He advised me to sell all my shares of stock.

Some verbs can be followed by an infinitive or a gerund without causing a change in meaning:

3. Will you continue **working** after you give birth?
4. Will you continue to work after you give birth?

Some verbs can be followed by an infinitive or a gerund but with a change in meaning:

5. He stopped **drinking** coffee. (He never drank coffee again.)
6. He stopped to drink coffee. (He stopped what he was doing and drank some coffee.)

# Rewrite using gerunds

1. He began to read the lesson.
2. The orator started to speak.
3. To ride a horse is quite delightful.
4. To jump over this wall is not easy.
5. He started to play violin when he was four.
6. To ask John would be a mistake.
7. I like to paint.
8. To sell insurance is a pretty boring job.
9. The doctor advised to take a holiday.
10. He continued to work.



# Exercises – Gerunds and Infinitives

Choose the correct gerund or infinitive from the parenthesis at the end of the sentence.

1. She likes to get up early in the morning. (likes / dislikes)
2. Alan can't stand \_\_\_\_\_ on trains. (riding/ to ride)
3. Mr. Harris enjoys \_\_\_\_\_ people out to dinner. (inviting / to invite)
4. In the old days, gentlemen challenged their rivals \_\_\_\_\_. (fighting / to fight)
5. As the famous saying goes, there's no use \_\_\_\_\_ over spilt milk. (crying / to cry)
6. Jim stopped \_\_\_\_\_ his shoelace. Wait for him. (tying / to tie)
7. My wife always volunteers \_\_\_\_\_ cakes PTA meetings. (baking / to bake)
8. Don't waste my time \_\_\_\_\_ about your salary. (complaining/ to complain)
9. Eva is having trouble \_\_\_\_\_ on the exam. (concentrating / to concentrate)
10. Please allow me \_\_\_\_\_ your Facebook page. (joining / to join)
11. You won't forget \_\_\_\_\_ milk on your way home, will you? (picking up /to

# FRAME SENTENCES USING INFINITIVES USING THE FOLLOWING VERBS:

- advise
- allow
- ask
- cause
- challenge
- command
- convince
- expect
- forbid
- force
- hire
- instruct
- invite
- order
- pay
- permit
- program



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# Additional worksheets



# Fill in the blanks with infinitives:

1. We eat fruit and vegetables \_\_\_\_ healthy.
2. She went to the park \_\_\_\_ with her friends.
3. I called my friend \_\_\_\_ about the party.
4. Dad promised \_\_\_\_ us to the zoo.
5. Please don't forget \_\_\_\_ the children.
6. My brother is learning \_\_\_\_.
7. I would love \_\_\_\_ your program.
8. We can afford \_\_\_\_ a new house.
9. Where do you want \_\_\_\_ for the holidays?

# Fill in the blanks with gerunds:

1. We like \_\_\_\_\_ magazine.
2. They prefer \_\_\_\_\_ by plane.
3. He avoids \_\_\_\_\_ during the night.
4. I remember \_\_\_\_\_ my homework.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ to music is my favourite pastime.
6. Ria hates \_\_\_\_\_ house chores.
7. My dad gave up \_\_\_\_\_ several years ago.
8. I enjoy \_\_\_\_\_ in the rain.
9. Tim is interested in \_\_\_\_\_.
10. I persisted in \_\_\_\_\_ the decorations.