GERUNDS

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Dancing is her favorite habit.

I prefer eating ice-cream.



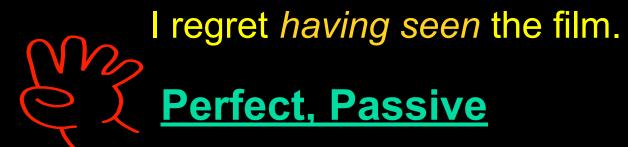
Simple, Passive

Mary prefers being taught by a stern teacher.

The actress stayed at her hotel to avoid being seen by her fans.



I regret having made the remark abort her hairdo.



The film was banned after having been seen by thousands of people.

I regret having been transferred o another class this year.

The gerund can be used:

- 1. As the subject of a verb
- 2. As the object of a verb
- 3. As the object of a preposition
- 4. After a possessive or the possessive form of nouns
- 5. After certain verbs
- 6. Special combination
- 7. Formed by adding "not" before it.

As the subject of a verb



When a gerund is used as the subject of a verb, it is placed at the beginning of a sentence.

Reading romantic novels is my favourite pastime.

Smoking is hazardous to health.

Climbing mountains can be dangerous if we are not careful.

A baby's *crying* woke me up last.

Walking from here to the local supermarket takes only five minutes.











Notes: The gerund is also used in the following constructions:

- 1) It is no use/It is no good
- e.g It is no use *trying* to make her change her mind.It is no good *interfering* with other people's business.
- 2) There is no
- There is no joking about such matters.

 There is no denying the fact that the Clean

 Hong Kong Campaign is a success.

3) It's worth / It's not worth



E.g. Is the film worth seeing?

It is not worth **going** to see that film.

4) It's a waste of money / time

E.g. It's a waste of time writing the report.

It's a waste of money buying the doll.

5) Have difficulty

E.g. Mary has difficulty **doing** her Maths homework .

I'm sorry I'm late. I had difficulty **finding** the place.

6) Go-ing

E.g. Did you go shopping yesterday?

How often do you go swimming in the

summer?









As the object of a verb

When a gerund is used as the object of a verb in a sentence, it is placed after the verb.

She tried to avoid **getting** involved in their quarrels.



Mary disliked *listening* to pop music.

They hate **eating** fatty foods.

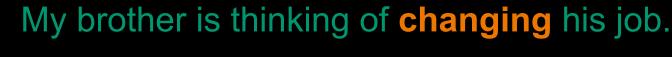
We all enjoy reading a good book.

Note: The following words are followed by gerunds, not infinitives:

Acknowledge, admit, anticipate, appreciate, avoid, celebrate, defer, delay, deny, detest, dislike, like, consider, doubt, enjoy, escape, excuse, fancy, finish, forgive, remember, imagine, include, keep, mention, mind, miss, propose, pardon, postpone, practice, prevent, recall, recollect, report, resent, resist risk , save , stand , suggest , tolerate , erstand, be worth, be busy

As a object of a preposition

A gerund can also be used as the object of a preposition. In this case, the gerund follows the preposition.



She is fed up with teaching English.



I look forward to seeing you in the summer.



I was interested in painting.



He persisted in carrying out the plan





Notes1: There are two exceptions---except and but.



e.g There was nothing left for us to do <u>except</u> complain to the Consumer Council.

He did nothing <u>but</u> (to) watch television yesterday.

Notes2: In the following phrases, <u>to</u> is a preposition.

used to, averse to, closed to, object to, devoted to, when it comes to, opposed to, susceptible to, look forward to, accustomed to, confessed to, key to



After a possessive adjective or the possessive form of nouns

Possessive adjective: my, our, your, his, her, its, their

Possessive form of nouns: John's my brother's



Example:





Would you mind Joan's using your dictionary?

After certain verbs

Avoid enjoy miss recall appreciate finish oppose mind resist dislike prevent waste



Examples:



- 1. I dislike having lunch with John.
- 2. Would you mind answering my question?
 - 3. When will you finish talking?



7. Formed by adding "not" before it.

Example: I apologize for <u>not</u> being able to see you off at the airport tomorrow.

He resented <u>not</u> having been invited to the party.

(1) Some verbs followed by GERUNDS or INFINITIVES without there being any change in meaning.

Such verbs include 'start, begin, cease, continue and can't bear'.

(2) Those which can be followed by either without any difference in meaning.

Eg. They continued to - work after lunch.

STOP

ask

When the teacher came, the children stopped talking at once. The driver stopped his cars to

where the farm was.

REMEMBER. I can't find my key. I remember putting it in my coat, pocket, in this morning.

I hope you will remember to

my letter on your way to school.

FORGET

 He has forgotten asking me the same question yesterday.

He has asked me to lend him my dictionary because he has forgotten to bring it again. mountain.

TRY

After failing twice, they tried climbing

from the other side of the maintain.

This year they will try to climb a high mountain.

REGRET .

I regret telling her the secret. Now, everybody knows that I' m going

to

resign.

successful.

I regret to tell you that your application has not been

I 'll let you know when there is another vacancy.

GO ON

They went on talking until late into the night.

They went on to talk about other things.

Eg. "Allow, advise, acknowledge, encourage, permit", can be followed by an Object + infinitive.

She advised us to start early.

Compare: she advised starting early.

Eg. "deserve, need, want, and require"

Can be followed by either an active gerund or a

passive infinitive without change of meaning.

This needs- painting

to be painted.

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