

Expressions + -ing

A

When these expressions are followed by a verb, the verb ends in -ing:

It's no use / It's no good ...

- ☐ There's nothing you can do about the situation, so **it's no use worrying** about it.
- ☐ **It's no good trying** to persuade me. You won't succeed.

There's no point in ...

- ☐ **There's no point in having** a car if you never use it.
- ☐ **There was no point in waiting** any longer, so we left.

But we usually say 'the point of doing something':

- ☐ **What's the point of having** a car if you never use it?

B

It's (not) worth ...

- ☐ I live only a short walk from here, so **it's not worth taking** a taxi.
- ☐ Our flight was very early in the morning, so **it wasn't worth going** to bed.

You can say that a film is **worth seeing**, a book is **worth reading** etc. :

- ☐ What was the film like? Was it **worth seeing**?
- ☐ Thieves broke into the house, but didn't take anything. There was nothing **worth stealing**.

C

Have trouble -ing, have difficulty -ing etc.

Have **trouble / difficulty / a problem doing** something:

- ☐ I had no **trouble finding** a place to stay. (*not trouble to find*)
- ☐ Did you have any **difficulty getting** a visa?
- ☐ People sometimes have **problems reading** my writing.

D

Spend time / waste time / be busy

spend/waste (time) doing something:

- ☐ He **spent** hours **trying** to repair the clock.
- ☐ I **waste** a lot of time **doing** nothing.

(be) busy doing something:

- ☐ She said she couldn't see me. She was too **busy doing** other things.

E

Go swimming / go fishing etc.

We use **go -ing** for a number of activities (especially sports).

For example, you can say:



go sailing
go camping
go riding



go swimming
go surfing
go hiking



go fishing
go scuba diving
go sightseeing



go skiing
go jogging
go shopping

- ☐ How often do you **go swimming**?
- ☐ I'd like to **go skiing**.
- ☐ When was the last time you **went shopping**?
- ☐ I've never **been sailing**. (For **gone** and **been**, see Unit 7D.)