

-ing clauses (Feeling tired, I went to bed early.)**A**

Study these situations:

Joe was playing football. He hurt his knee.

You can say:

- ☐ Joe hurt his knee **playing football**.

You were feeling tired. So you went to bed early.

You can say:

- ☐ **Feeling tired**, I went to bed early.

'Playing football' and 'feeling tired' are **-ing** clauses.If the **-ing** clause is at the beginning of the sentence (as in the second example), we write a comma (,) after it.**B**When two things happen at the same time, you can use an **-ing** clause:

- ☐ Kate is in the kitchen **making coffee**.
(= she is in the kitchen *and* she is making coffee)
- ☐ A man ran out of the house **shouting**.
(= he ran out of the house *and* he was shouting)
- ☐ Do something! Don't just stand there **doing nothing**!

We also use **-ing** when one action happens during another action. We use **-ing** for the longer action:

- ☐ Joe hurt his knee **playing football**. (= while he was playing)
- ☐ Did you cut yourself **shaving**? (= while you were shaving)

You can also use **-ing** after **while** or **when**:

- ☐ Joe hurt his knee **while playing** football.
- ☐ Be careful **when crossing** the road. (= when you are crossing)

CWhen one action happens before another action, we use **having (done)** for the first action:

- ☐ **Having found** a hotel, we looked for somewhere to have dinner.
- ☐ **Having finished** her work, she went home.

You can also say **after -ing**:

- ☐ **After finishing** her work, she went home.

If one short action follows another short action, you can use the simple **-ing** form (**doing** instead of **having done**) for the first action:

- ☐ **Taking** a key out of his pocket, he opened the door.

These structures are used more in written English than in spoken English.

DYou can use an **-ing** clause to explain something, or to say why somebody does something.The **-ing** clause usually comes at the beginning of the sentence:

- ☐ **Feeling** tired, I went to bed early. (= because I felt tired)
- ☐ **Being** unemployed, he doesn't have much money. (= because he is unemployed)
- ☐ **Not having** a car, she finds it difficult to get around.
(= because she doesn't have a car)

Use **having (done)** for something that happened before something else:

- ☐ **Having** already **seen** the film twice, I didn't want to see it again.
(= because I had already seen it twice)

These structures are used more in written English than in spoken English.