

Gerunds

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looks the same as the present participle.

uses the “ing” verb form.

are nouns but look like verbs.

can be the subject in a sentence.

can be a direct object.

can be an object of a preposition.

can be a complement of the verb *to be*.

can be used to form compound nouns.

Gerunds look like Present Participles

looks the same as the present participle.

uses the “ing” verb form.

Examples:

➤ eating

➤ swimming

➤ painting

Gerunds are Nouns

As a gerund is a noun, you can replace it with a pronoun.

You can try to replace it with (e.g.) *something, it*.

Gerunds also requires a possessive form.

Examples:

- ***Swimming*** is good for you. ***Something/it*** is good for you. YES.
- These are ***confusing*** instructions. These are ***something/it*** instructions. NO.
- ***Peter's*** playing has improved a lot lately.

Gerunds as Subject

can be the subject in a sentence.

Examples:

- ***Swimming*** is good for your health.
- ***Smoking*** is bad for your health.
- ***Reading*** is one of my hobbies.
- ***Eating*** too much will make you fat.

Gerunds as Object

can be an object of verbs, prepositions and phrasal verbs.

Examples:

- I really enjoy ***swimming***. (direct object of verb)
- Suzi is very good ***at drawing***. (object of preposition)
- I ***look forward to hearing*** from you. (object of phrasal verb)

Gerunds and *to be*

can be a complement of the verb *to be*.

Examples:

- One of my duties ***is attending*** meetings.
- One of my guilty pleasures ***is sleeping*** in late at the weekend.
- My favourite thing about Germany ***is drinking*** beer.
- My favourite thing about Japan ***is eating*** sushi.

Gerunds and Compound Nouns

can be used to form compound nouns.

Examples:

- I am having a ***driving lesson*** tomorrow.
- The ***working conditions*** here are terrible.
- Can I give you a ***helping hand***?