

Gerund, Definition, Examples, Uses, Rules, Exercise or worksheet

Gerund, definition, examples of **gerund**, **gerund** exercise or worksheet, for students, for class 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, uses, rules, pdf.

Definition: A gerund is a word ending with 'ing' and has the force of a noun and a verb. It is also known as [verbal noun](#).

Gerund

- Definition ✓
- Examples ✓
- Uses ✓
- Rules ✓
- Exercise ✓



It is denoted by '**V1 + ing**'. It acts as a **noun and a verb**. Hence Gerund is also **called Verb-Noun**.

1. *Swimming* is a good exercise.
2. I learnt *driving*.
3. I like *watching* television.
 - In sentence 1, '**Swimming**' (V1 + ing) act as subject.
 - In sentence 2, '**Driving**' (V1 + ing) is object.
 - In sentence 3, '**Watching**' is the object of verb '**like**' but if television is taken as an object, then '**watching**' acts as verb. Thus '**V1 + ing**' is both **noun and verb**.

Note: With the following verbs/adjectives/ phrases 'V1 + ing' is used after 'to'.

Examples: Verb + used to, accustomed to, averse to, with a view to, addicted to, devoted to, in addition to, look forward to, object to, owing to, given to, taken to, prone to.

1. He is *addicted to* smoking.
2. I am *looking forward to* meeting you.

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3. He was *used to* driving on the right when he was in London.
In other words, after all the prepositions (including 'to'), if a verb comes, the verb has to be in '**V1 + ing**'.

Examples:

1. I am looking forward to *meeting* you.
2. He is given to *drinking*.
3. He is prone to *making* the same mistake again and again.
4. He got used to *driving* on the right when he was in London.

But in modals '**V1**' comes after '**used to**'.

I used to *drive* on the drive.

Difference between d & e

Sentence (d): If verb comes before '**used to**'.

Sentence (e): If verb does not come before '**used to**'.

Sentence (d): It denotes a **habit**.

Sentence (e): It denotes a routine action of **past**.

Sentence (d): It can be used in any tense. The verb and its form that precedes '**used to**' determines the tense of the sentence.

Sentence (e): It can be only in **past tense**.

Examples:

1. *Writing* is my profession.
2. *Celebrating various festivals* is a common feature of the Hindu culture.
3. I enjoy *teaching* English.

Uses of Gerund

- **As subject of a verb.**

Examples:

1. *Walking* is a good exercise for health.
2. *Reading* books increases our knowledge.
3. *Working* hard makes you successful.

- **Object of a transitive verb.**

Examples:

1. He dislikes *sleeping* long.
2. She hates *worrying* about the future.
3. I prefer *studying* computer science.

- **Object of a preposition.**

Examples:

1. I am tired *of applying* for jobs.
2. He is afraid *of telling the truth*.
3. My father is addicted *to drinking*.

- **Complement of a verb**

Examples:

1. My aim in life *is becoming* a writer.
2. Her objective *is starting* a home for parentless children.
3. What I want to do in life is *achieving* something useful for all.

- **In place of infinitive.**

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Infinitive

Gerund

Teach me to speak.

Teach me speaking.

To advise is easier than to.

Advising is easier than practicing.

To read is easier than to write.

Reading is easier than writing.

To save is to earn.

Saving is earning.

- **The difference between the gerund and participle should be noted carefully.**

Gerund

Participle

She is tired of writing.

Writing letters to her husband, she forgot everything.

I was prevented from meeting Padma.

Meeting Padma for the first time, I decided to marry her.

Respecting our parents is our duty.

Respecting her words, I never tried to meet her.

- **Gerund may be used like an ordinary noun.**

Examples:

1. *The planning of time* helps us succeed in life.
2. *The collection of taxes* is the duty of the Government.
3. *The loving of children* delights me.

The **possessive Case** of the noun and pronoun should be used before gerunds.

Examples:

1. She insisted *on me paying* the money. (Incorrect)
2. She insisted *on my paying* the money. (Correct)
3. Padma objected to *Vijaya talking* like that. (Incorrect)
4. Padma objective to *Vijaya's talking* like that. (Correct)
5. I am sorry for *him having spent* life uselessly. (Incorrect)
6. I am sorry for *his having spent* life uselessly. (Correct)

Note: *The Possessive case should not be used with the gerund in the following cases:*

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- **Gerund in the passive form.**

Examples:

1. I was shocked at *Rajiv Gandhi being assassinated*. (Correct)
2. We were delighted at *Mother Teresa being awarded* Noble Peace Prize. (Correct)
3. I was shocked at *Rajiv Gandhi's being assassinated*. (Incorrect)
4. We were delighted at Mother *Teresa's being awarded* Noble Peace Prize. (Incorrect)

- **Noun denoting a lifeless thing.**

Examples:

1. There is no chance of the snow falling. (Correct)
2. There is no chance of the snow's falling. (Incorrect)
3. There is possibility of the election taking place. (Correct)
4. There is possibility of the election's talking place. (Incorrect)

Gerund Rules

Rule 1

A **gerund** is not preceded by **the** and followed by **of**.

Examples:

1. *The playing* chess is his passion. (Incorrect)
2. *Playing of* chess is his passion. (Incorrect)
3. *Playing* chess is his passion. (Correct)

Rule 2

A **verbal noun** is followed by **of** and preceded by **the**.

Examples:

The playing of chess is his passion

(**Correct**; because 'the playing of' is now **verbal noun** and not 'gerund')

Rule 3

Verbal noun can be used in place of **Gerund**. But if there are two **verbal nouns** or **gerunds** in a sentence, both should be either **verbal noun** or **gerund** to maintain parallelism.

Examples:

1. I dislike *cooking* food and *the washing of* clothes. (Incorrect)
2. I dislike *cooking* food and *washing* clothes. (Correct)

Rule 4

The following verbs take **gerund** in place of **infinitive**.

differ, resent, help, suggest, deny, finish, enjoy, dislike, mind, risk, dread, remember,

avoid, postpone, start, stop, etc.

Examples:

1. Why did you dread *going* to forest without a gun?
2. I do not mind *having* a cup of tea.
3. I enjoy *reading* English novels.
4. Have you postponed *going* to Delhi?

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Rule 5

The **verbal noun** should be qualified by an **adjective** and the **gerund** by **an adverb**.

Examples:

1. The **reading of** a book rapidly is useless. (**Incorrect**)
2. The **rapid reading of** a book is useless. (**Correct**)
3. **Rapid reading** a book is useless. (**Incorrect**)
4. **Reading** a book **rapidly** is useless. (**Correct**)

Rule 6

A **gerund** and not **an infinitive** is used after such **verbs and particles** as are followed by their appropriate prepositions.

Examples:

- He insisted **to go** there alone. (**Incorrect**)
He insisted **on going** there alone. (**Correct**)
He prevented me **to go** there alone. (**Incorrect**)
He prevented me **from going** here alone. (**Correct**)

Rule 7

The **noun** or **pronoun** governing a **gerund** should be put in the **possessive case**.

Examples:

1. I dislike **you** going there. (**Incorrect**)
2. I dislike **your** going there. (**Correct**)
3. I do not mind **Ram** attending the party. (**Incorrect**)
4. I do not mind **Ram's** attending the party. (**Correct**)

Rule 8

But, when a noun or a pronoun happens to be separated by several words from **gerund** to which it belongs, possessive case is not used.

Examples:

1. He **begged of** my **favour** of granting **him** leave. (**Incorrect**)
2. He **begged of** me **the favour of** granting **him** leave. (**Correct**)
3. The party was handicapped by **one's** of their best players **being** ill. (**Incorrect**)
4. The party was handicapped by **one** of their best players **being** ill. (**Correct**)

Gerund Exercise or worksheet

1. I am fond of _____.
2. She is afraid of _____.
3. _____ is injurious to health.
4. _____ in English is not easy.
5. _____ Stories is a difficult task.
6. She prevented me from _____ her.
7. I prefer _____ to _____.
8. I enjoy _____.

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9. I am confident of _____ first class.
10. She is addicted to _____.
11. _____ in India is very traditional and based on blind faith.
12. _____ up early is a good habit.
13. _____ children is a cruel act.
14. She likes _____ with children.
15. I am tired of _____ long distance.

Exercise 2

Correct the following sentences.

1. He is sorry for me failing in the exam.
2. You cannot force me forgetting Kumari.
3. There is risk of Raju's losing the job.
4. There is a chance of the rain's coming.
5. I look forward to receive a reply from Kumari.
6. It is no use to wait for the bus.
7. Don't give up to teach her.
8. The doing this work is very difficulty.
9. Writing of a letter is a simple thing.
10. She prevented me to meet her daughter.

