

Exercise 1

Identifying Gerunds. Each of the following sentences contains one gerund. Underline the gerund in each sentence. Then write whether it is used as a *subject*, *direct object*, *predicate noun*, or *object of a preposition*.

EXAMPLE: Dancing is her favorite pastime. subject

- Walking is excellent exercise. sub.
- My little sister observes my birthday by phoning. op
- This plant needs pruning. DO
- Love is caring, and I always try to show I care. PN
- Speeding led to the loss of her driver's license. sub.
- Our goal has always been winning. PN
- Don't you ever get tired of studying? op
- Exercising is one way to burn up calories. subj
- After several months Frank's grandmother stopped writing. DO
- The team finished practicing at five o'clock. DO

Exercise 2

Identifying Gerund Phrases. Underline each gerund phrase. Then write whether the gerund phrase is used as a *subject*, *direct object*, *predicate noun*, or *object of a preposition*.

EXAMPLE: His favorite pastime was writing limericks. predicate noun

- Drinking large amounts of water can help clear the kidneys. Sub.
- His favorite hobby is raising guppies. PN
- A loud knocking interrupted their dinner. subj.
- Nothing can be gained by choosing sides. op
- He enjoys composing all sorts of music. DO
- The secretary kept perfect records by writing the dates of each event. op
- Insulating older homes helps conserve energy. sub
- Tourists at the Acropolis are warned against taking stones for souvenirs. op
- Traveling by air is the fastest way to get there. sub
- My plans for vacation include redecorating my room. DO

Writing Application

Writing Sentences With Gerund Phrases. Use each of the gerund phrases in an original sentence according to the instructions in parentheses.

EXAMPLE: singing in the shower (as a subject)

Singing in the shower was her vocal exercise.

- driving too fast (as the object of a preposition)

Ovi frightened us by driving too fast.

- exercising in the morning (as a subject)

Exercising in the morning is good for health.

- collecting stamps and coins (as a direct object)

Sahab enjoys collecting stamps and coins.

- cleaning her room thoroughly (as the object of a preposition)

Sima pleased her mom by cleaning her room thoroughly.

- raising animals (as a subject)

Raising animals is his favorite hobby.