



LANGUAGE AND USAGE

6

Verbals: Gerunds

Subject: Weaving can be a peaceful pastime.

Direct Object: You can learn simple **weaving** from a book.

Object of Preposition: There are many different kinds of **weaving**.

Predicate Noun: A very practical hobby is **weaving**.

A. Write each gerund. Then write *subject*, *direct object*, *object of a preposition*, or *predicate noun* to tell how each gerund is used in the sentence. Write *none* if a sentence does not have a gerund.

1. Some people enjoy cooking as a hobby.

2. Skiing is a popular winter pursuit.

3. There is always more to learn about gardening.

4. One of the most daring hobbies is flying.

5. Painting provides a creative outlet for many.

6. Many people are taking singing lessons.

7. By snorkeling you can learn much about underwater life.

8. People often pursue writing as a hobby.

9. A challenging hobby is juggling, which develops your concentration.

10. In recent years quilting has drawn much interest.

(continued)



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7 Gerund Phrases

Subject: *Cindy's creating the report* took careful preparation.
Direct Object: Cindy began *researching her subject*.
Object of Preposition: Before *writing the report*, she took notes.
Predicate Noun: Her first priority was *getting facts*.

A. Write each gerund phrase and underline the gerund. Then write *subject, direct object, object of a preposition, or predicate noun* to tell how each gerund phrase is used in the sentence.

1. Cindy began choosing the subject for her paper in October.

2. Her goal was finding an interesting and workable topic.

3. Finding primary sources was an important task.

4. After studying her sources, she began her first draft.

B. Rewrite each sentence correctly.

5. The next priority was she writing a good first draft.

6. Cindy revising the draft took several hours.

7. A well-planned first draft did not prevent us needing corrections.

8. Cindy's report came out well, in spite of she worrying about it.

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Level 8 Unit 13 Phrases (Use with pupil book pages 475–477.)

Skill: Students will identify gerund phrases and will use possessive nouns and pronouns correctly with gerund phrases.

Gerunds

- A gerund is a verb form ending in *-ing* used as a noun.

A. Write the gerund from each sentence.

EXAMPLE: Eating is important for growth and health. Eating _____

1. Walking is good exercise. _____
2. His favorite exercise is rowing. _____
3. You should relax after exercising. _____
4. I like jogging more than any other exercise. _____
5. One can often learn about good exercises by reading. _____
6. By practicing, you improve your performance. _____
7. Thinking is important in any physical activity. _____
8. Don't be too afraid of failing. _____
9. Planning will help you a great deal. _____
10. We watched the skating, and I learned a lot. _____

B. The gerund is underlined in each sentence. Label it subject, direct object, predicate nominative, or object of a preposition.

EXAMPLE: Hiking can be a worthwhile activity. subject _____

1. I prefer dancing. _____
2. She plans on a career in swimming. _____
3. Another aerobic exercise is skiing. _____
4. My instructor stresses training. _____
5. Listening is an important communication skill. _____

C. Underline the gerund in each sentence. Write whether it is a subject, direct object, predicate nominative, or object of a preposition.

EXAMPLE: Reading is my favorite hobby. subject _____

1. Cooking requires skill. _____
2. Many people enjoy knitting. _____
3. I get a great deal of pleasure from boating. _____
4. His favorite activity is sailing. _____
5. Gardening is her favorite pastime. _____

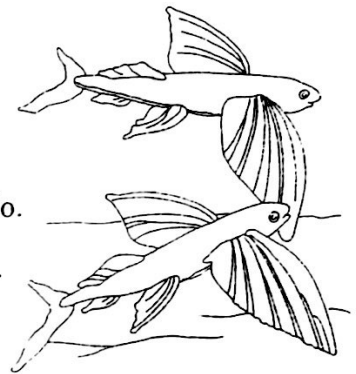
Gerund Phrases

- A gerund phrase is a gerund and its related words. A gerund phrase acts as a noun.

A. Circle the gerund in each sentence. Then underline the gerund phrase.

EXAMPLE: Flying in the air is not what fish do.

1. Flying on wings is what is expected of birds.
2. Some fish try gliding through the air.
3. This fish is capable of moving almost like a bird.
4. Having fins like wings is the fish's "secret."
5. For swimming underwater the fish uses its fins as all fish do.
6. On leaving the water the fish holds its fins close to its body.
7. The tail is used for steering the fish.
8. Then, after spreading its fins, the fish moves through the air.
9. It is capable of flying several yards.



B. Write the gerund phrase in each sentence.

EXAMPLE: Their job is studying ocean life. studying ocean life

1. Puffer fish are known for puffing themselves up. _____
2. Making their bodies larger protects them. _____
3. Clinging to seaweed is common among sea horses. _____
4. The job of looking after the eggs is done by the male sea horse. _____
5. The male's job is carrying the eggs in a pouch in its belly. _____
6. Some deep-water fish are good at supplying light for themselves. _____
7. This light is useful in attracting other fish of the same kind. _____