

## Exercise 1



## Intermediate: Drinking coffee is the best – The gerund as a subject and as an object

You can also do the tasks in *LearningApps*: <https://learningapps.org/watch?v=p5x2gpjka25>.

### Task 1

Gerunds as subjects: The words in the following sentences are mixed up. Put them in the correct order. Then find the correct verb from the box.

cooking – drinking – choosing – eating – trying – making – eating – drinking

1. spicy food – \_\_\_\_\_ – my favourite – is

*Eating spicy food is my favourite.*

2. coffee – happy – makes me – \_\_\_\_\_ – in the morning

\_\_\_\_\_

3. something – enjoy – I – \_\_\_\_\_ – is – pasta

\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ – always exciting – new drinks – is

\_\_\_\_\_

5. chocolate – a special treat – for me – is – \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. fresh juice – \_\_\_\_\_ – better than soda – tastes

\_\_\_\_\_

7. homemade pizza – fun for dinner – is – \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. healthy snacks – to me – is – \_\_\_\_\_ – important

\_\_\_\_\_

**Task 2**

Gerunds after verbs without a preposition. Find the correct verb + gerund to fill in the gaps.

enjoy watching – keep choosing – stopped playing – admitted preferring – avoids doing –  
started liking – don't mind trying – suggest playing

1. I enjoy watching soccer more than playing it.
2. She \_\_\_\_\_ tennis after her first match.
3. He \_\_\_\_\_ basketball because he prefers running.
4. They \_\_\_\_\_ new sports, but they love swimming the most.
5. I \_\_\_\_\_ volleyball if you enjoy team games.
6. He \_\_\_\_\_ golf over fast sports.
7. She \_\_\_\_\_ extreme sports because she likes safe activities.
8. They \_\_\_\_\_ cycling because it is fun and relaxing.

**TIP**

Remember: After the following verbs a gerund is needed but there is no preposition: *enjoy, start, stop, (don't) mind, suggest, admit, avoid, keep, etc.*

**Task 3**

Gerunds after verbs with a preposition: Match the sentence halves and find the correct gerunds of the verbs in the box.

paint – spend – watch – go – play – waste

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| I dream of ...           | _____ board games because he prefers video games. |
| She looks forward to ... | _____ time on TV instead of doing fun activities. |
| He complains about ...   | _____ to relax and enjoy her free time.           |
| They worry about ...     | _____ to concerts because we love live music.     |
| We talk about ...        | _____ her favourite movies at weekends.           |
| She relies on ...        | <u>spending</u> my free time in nature.           |

**Task 4**

Gerunds after nouns or adjectives with a preposition: Fill in the gaps with the correct noun or adjective with a preposition. Select the noun or the adjective with the preposition first. Then decide which verb in the bracket fits.

am in danger of – have difficulty in – am fond of – am interested in – like the idea of –  
am no good at – am afraid of – look forward to

Frank thinks about a lot of things when it comes to travelling:

1. I am in danger of spending (finding/spending) too much money when I travel.
2. I \_\_\_\_\_ (visiting/meeting) new countries every year.
3. I \_\_\_\_\_ (spending/exploring) small towns and local markets.
4. I \_\_\_\_\_ (travelling/packing) light for a trip.
5. I \_\_\_\_\_ (learning/finding) about different cultures.
6. I \_\_\_\_\_ (finding/avoiding) cheap flights for my trips.
7. I \_\_\_\_\_ (flying/planning), so I prefer travelling by train.
8. I \_\_\_\_\_ (meeting/learning) new people while travelling.