Gerunds are verbs that act like nouns. They are formed by adding ‘-ing’ to verbs. For example: swim → swimming

Gerunds can come either after the main verb in a sentence (when they are used as objects) or before the main verb (when they are used as subjects).

Complete the sentences below by using the ‘-ing’ gerund form of the verbs on the right.

1. **Eating** lots of vegetables is important for good health.
2. ____________ a parking space is difficult in the mornings.
3. ____________ to work is a great way to get some exercise.
4. ____________ books and magazines can help you to learn English.
5. ____________ is fun. I love making dinner for my friend.
6. ____________ is a great way to get fit, but I’m afraid of the water!
7. ____________ is an activity that all animals do. However, did you know that cats sleep for two-thirds of their lives?
8. ____________ cigarettes is very bad for your health.
9. ____________ TV is bad for my eyes. That’s what my mother says.
10. ____________ about other people and cultures is fascinating.
11. ____________ is my sister’s favorite hobby. She has a great voice.
12. ____________ and ____________ is a serious crime.
13. ____________ is boring! I hate shopping malls!
14. ____________ is not allowed during the exam.
15. ____________ makes me nervous. I prefer traveling by train.

sleep

eat
cook
read
find
sing
smoke
talk
cycle
learn
fly
drink / drive
shop
swim
watch
Grammar Focus: Gerunds used as Subjects
Level: Intermediate

ANSWER KEY

1. Eating
2. Finding
3. Cycling
4. Reading
5. Cooking
6. Swimming
7. Sleeping
8. Smoking
9. Watching
10. Learning
11. Singing
12. Drinking / driving
13. Shopping
14. Talking
15. Flying

Grades as percentages

15 / 15 = 100%
14 / 15 = 93%
13 / 15 = 87%
12 / 15 = 80%
11 / 15 = 73%
10 / 15 = 67%
9 / 15 = 60%
8 / 15 = 53%
7 / 15 = 47%
6 / 15 = 40%
5 / 15 = 33%
4 / 15 = 27%
3 / 15 = 20%
2 / 15 = 13%
1 / 15 = 7%
0 / 15 = 0%