

Gerunds



Definition

Gerunds are the **verbs** that act as **nouns**. They're very easy to spot, since every gerund is a verb with ing tacked to its tail, with no exceptions.

Gerunds are defined as the "ing" form of a verb.

Let's take a look at some examples which will clarify these unique members of the English language. Remember, in every instance below, the gerund is working as a noun.

Identifying Gerunds in a Sentence:

1. Gerunds as subjects:

- *Reading* is relaxing.
- *Writing* is an exchange of ideas.

2. Gerund phrases as subjects:

- *Swimming laps* is the most relaxing activity in the world.
- *Filing papers* can give you a paper cut.