Gerunds



Definition

Gerunds are the <u>verbs</u> that act as <u>nouns</u>. 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.