

GERUNDS

A **gerund** is a word that is created with a verb but functions as a noun, always ending in *-ing*. Being used as a noun, a gerund can function as a subject, a subject complement, a direct object, an indirect object, or an object of a preposition.

It's important to note that though gerunds may look a lot like present **participles**, they are not the same thing. Gerunds are specifically placed in the noun position of a sentence, whereas present participles are placed with the verb phrase, usually as modifiers.

Gerund	Participle
Annie loves <u>singing</u> .	Annie is <u>singing</u> .
<u>Running</u> is good for exercise.	She was <u>running</u> very quickly.
He enjoys <u>smiling</u> .	I saw that he was <u>smiling</u> .

EXAMPLE AS A SUBJECT:

Brushing your hair prevents it from tangling.

EXAMPLE AS A SUBJECT COMPLIMENT:

Her number one priority is working.

EXAMPLE AS AN OBJECT OF A PREPOSITION:

"There is no use in standing in line for three hours," Grandma said.

