Gerunds

Gerunds are *nouns* that look like verbs ending in “ing”. The negative of a gerund is formed by adding the word “not” before a gerund. Gerunds may function in the following three ways:

1) As the subject  
2) As the object  
3) As the subject complement

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1) **Gerunds that function as the subject of a sentence.**

Example: *Writing* is fun.

In this example, “Writing” is the subject of the sentence. It is also a gerund.

Example: *Not concentrating* can be dangerous while driving.

In this example, “Not concentrating” is the subject of the sentence. It is also a gerund.

Directions: Fill in the spaces with the appropriate gerund.

1) ____________ is a good way to get exercise.  
2) ____________ too much can cause sickness.  
3) ____________ is very relaxing.  
4) ____________ is an activity done in winter.  
5) Not ____________ is harder than you think.

Directions: Write two of your own sentences using subjective gerunds.

1) ____________________________  
2) ____________________________

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2) **Gerunds that function as the object of a sentence.**

Example: We are tired of *working*.

In this example, “working” is the object of the sentence. It is also a gerund.
Example: He is tired from not getting enough rest yesterday.

In this example, “not getting” is the object of the sentence. It is also a gerund.

Directions: Fill in the spaces with the appropriate gerund.

1) I am sore from ____________.
2) I look forward to ____________ you this afternoon.
3) She likes ____________ on the beach.
4) He was punished for not ____________ on time.
5) We lost because we were not ____________ hard enough.

Directions: Write two of your own sentences using objective gerunds.

1) _____________________________________________________________________
2) _____________________________________________________________________

3) Gerunds that function as the subject complement of a sentence.

Example: Their specialty is fixing computers.

In this example, “fixing” is the subject complement of the sentence. It is also a gerund.

Example: The dog is not eating.

In this example, “not eating” is the subject complement of the sentence. It is also a gerund.

Directions: Fill in the spaces with the appropriate gerund.

1) My hobby is ____________ guitar.
2) Her favorite activity is ____________.
3) His car is ____________ down the road.
4) My computer is not ____________.
5) Their house is not ____________.

Directions: Write two of your own sentences using subject complementary gerunds.

1) _____________________________________________________________________
2) _____________________________________________________________________