

2.4. INFINITIVES AND GERUNDS

Gerund

A gerund is a verbal noun. It is formed by adding 'ing' to the verb and functions as a noun.

Example:

Swimming is a good exercise.

- a) It is used as a subject of a verb.

Eg: Advising others is easy.

- b) It is used as a object of a verb.

Eg: He likes acting.

- c) It is used after preposition.

Eg: I think of marrying her.

- d) It is used as a complement.

Eg: His aim is becoming an engineer.

Exercise:

Put the bracketed verbs into the appropriate gerund form:

1. Stop _____ (kick) the ball into the river.
2. She enjoys _____ (run) to school.
3. I am looking forward to _____ (meet) you.
4. Please have a drink before _____ (leave).

5. I like _____ (play) cricket.
6. It stopped _____ (rain) an hour ago.
7. I can't help _____ (meet) him today.

Rewrite the infinitives as gerunds:

1. To train young graduates is easy.
2. To make mistakes is human.
3. It is firesome to stand in long queues.
4. It is a bad habit to smoke in the public.
5. To climb Mount Everest seemed an impossible task.

Infinitives

An infinitive is formed from a verb but doesn't act as a verb. It often acts as a noun. It is used as subject of a verb.

Example:

To err is human.

It is used as an object of a verb.

I like to sing.

Put in the bracketed verbs into infinitives:

1. ____ (play) cricket is my hobby.
2. _____ (plan) for our future is very essential.
3. He stopped _____ (play) football.
4. She dislikes _____ (take) bath in ponds.
5. He likes _____ (finish) the work.

Rewrite the gerunds as infinitives:

1. She loves writing poems.
2. They started driving the car.
3. They began working.
4. I hate wasting time.
5. Reading books is a good habit.

WORD FORMATION

Different parts of speech like noun, verb, adjective, and adverb are formed by the addition of a syllabus mostly at the end of a word.

Exercise:

Form different parts of speech by adding suitable syllabus

Verb	Noun	
Adjective		
1. Promote	-----	promotable

Conclude	-----	operative
	Operation	conclusive
Break	-----	-----
	Breakage	
2. Compare	-----	comparable

Ferment	-----	employable
	employment	fermentable
Pollute	-----	-----
	pollution	
3. Destroy	-----	destructible
Organize	-----	-----

-----	organization	
	continuation	

-----	diplomatic	diplomat
3. Geography	geographical	-----
-----	mechanical	mechanic
Linguistics	linguistic	-----
Technology	-----	technologist

