**The Gerund**

***Exercise 1 Complete the following sentences using gerunds.***

1. (Be) free and alone is a good thing if you are tired of big cities. 2. (Find) you here was a quite a surprise. 3. If this is what you intend (ask) me, stop (waste) your time. 4. They kept on (talk) though the band began (play). 5. Everyone enjoyed (swim) in the river. 6. My watch needs (repair). 7. He never mentioned (live) in Prague. 8. He does not seem to mind (air) the room. 9. Just imagine (go) there together! 10. Don't put of (do) it now. If you postpone (receive) a visa again, you will miss an excellent opportunity of (go) there.

***Exercise 2 Match the parts of the sentences.***

1) Making money

2) Being born in my provincial town

3) There is a general feeling all around

4) He promised them that no harm

5) Would you mind

a) would come to them for signing the papers.

b) looking up his tele­phone number?

c) is my dream also.

d) wasn't much different from being born in Brooklyn.

e) that her running away was a good thing.

***Exercise 3 Complete the following sentences with gerunds formed from the verbs in the box.***

buy comment

answer sign

pay help

recognize make go see

escape

1.\_\_\_big prices for famous pictures is now a wealthy man's way of\_\_\_taxation. 2. English grammar is very difficult and few writers have avoided\_\_\_mistakes. 3. Maurice was saved from\_\_\_.by Kate's entry with the tray. 4 The elderly ladies enjoyed\_\_\_who came in and

out,\_\_\_old friends, and\_\_\_unfavourably how these had aged. 5. Of course the contract is mutually beneficial and he is all for\_\_\_it. 6. The important part of his life is\_\_\_people. 7. Parks at night is a dangerous place to walk. Avoid\_\_\_there after darkness. 8. Father suggested

\_\_\_a new machine.

***Exercise 4 Make up sentences using gerunds.***

1. Forgive (I, take up) so much of your time. 2. Do you mind (he, join) us? 3. Does he feel like (stay) here for another week? 4.1 appreciate (you, encourage) him when he failed in his experiment. 5. Do you know the reason for (he, feel) disappointed? 6. "It's no good (you, hate) it," he said becoming didactic. 7. Only the other day they had been talking about (something, happen), 8, She was listening hard all the time for any sound of (Jan, descend) the stairs. 9. He wishes he'd never told you the truth but it's no use (he, deny) it. 10. Cursing himself for (not learn) to drive a car he woke up Toni. 11. Of course, I should insist on (you, accept) the proper professional fee. 12. Bob was feeling rather unwell, and was not really looking forward to (we, visit) him. 13. My father thinks I am not capable of (earn) my own living. 14. He warned us that there was no point in (we, arrive) half an hour earlier. 15. They were talking about (she, give up) the job and (go) to live in the country.

***Exercise 5 Open the brackets and use the proper gerund either in the active or passive voice.***

1. The speaker was annoyed at (interrupt) every other moment. 2. He showed no sign of (hurt). 3. They showed no sign of (recognize) us. 4. He insists on (pay) for his work done. 5. We did not want to speak to the correspondent and tried to avoid (interview) by him. 6. Excuse me for (give) so much trouble to you. 7. After (examining) by the doctor I was given a sick leave. 8. They deny (rob) the bank, but admit (make) plans about it. 9. The problem is not worth (speak of). 10. Why does he avoid (meet) journalists? 11. She insisted on (show) the files to her. 12. She does not stand (remind) people of their duties and (remind) of hers. 13. He is not used to (speak to) like that. 14. He had never thought of security because he had no idea of (kidnap). 15. Did you succeed in (persuade) your colleagues? 16, The TV set needs (repair). 17. He is looking forward to (give) the main part in the play. 18. After (look through) the papers were registered. 19. He can't do anything without (disturb) anybody or (disturb). 20. Have you ever dreamed of (earn) a million dollars?

***Exercise 6 Complete the sentences on the right using the gerunds formed from the verbs in the box.***

persuade go

remember gamble

do see

try visit

talk watch

buy get

speak cry

1. Do you ever watch TV? Never. I think it's a waste of time\_\_\_. 2.1 advise you to see the film which is on at our local cinema. It is worth\_\_\_. 3. He is speaking too much. I think it's no use\_\_\_into every detail. 4. Why are you speaking so much of it? To my mind, the matter is not worth\_\_\_of. 5. Why are you crying? You are seven years old already. Is it good\_\_\_over the broken doll? 6. Stay in bed then. It is no good.\_\_\_anything if you feel bad. 7. Have you talked to Alice? Yes, but we had difficulty \_\_\_ to her. I did not expect her to be so stubborn. I think it's a waste of time\_\_\_her to follow cur advice. 8. She has bought a new fur coat. Well, to my mind, there is no point in\_\_\_a new one if she has already got four coats! 9. What are you going to do tonight? Let's go to the casino. I think it is a waste of money\_\_\_. 10. Where have you been this summer? In Moscow, I had difficulty\_\_\_, a visa. 11. She has left for Paris. It's no use\_\_\_to get in touch with her, 12. England and Brazil are going to play tomorrow. I've already bought tickets. Matches between England and Brazil are worth \_\_\_. 13. Ronald Reagan often used Russian proverbs in his speech. I think he supposed they were worth\_\_\_.

***Exercise 7 Fill in the blanks with prepositions after, before, by, on, without.***

1. What did she mean\_\_\_boasting like this? 2. His knowledge has improved\_\_\_taking a training course. 3. He could tell the funniest story\_\_\_smiling. 4.\_\_\_ entering the house she rushed to the telephone\_\_\_greeting anybody. 5. You can keep healthy and fit\_\_\_jogging in the morning. 6. Where did he go\_\_\_finishing his work? 7.\_\_\_writing an article about the events he must go to

the place where they are taking place. 8.\_\_\_hearing a woman's cry he jumped up from his seat. 9.\_\_\_ going through the customs office he went aboard the plane. 10. She was upset\_\_\_not getting an answer from him.

***Exercise 8 Fill in the blanks with proper gerunds (use the verbs in the box).***

|  |
| --- |
| Send call go take speak find accomplish come part laugh gamble explain steal  Cheat support live take buy |

1, He has succeeded in\_\_\_a difficult task and we are proud of him. 2. You should ask him for help. It seems to me that he is very good at\_\_\_everything. 3, Mr. Grimsby hasn't got enough experience. I am against\_\_\_in our work and I object\_\_\_to the conference. 4. The audience burst out\_\_\_at the sight of the monkey going through different tricks. 5. Do you know he has given up\_\_\_? 6.1 don't insist on \_\_\_there by plane. 7. Though nobody suspected him of\_\_\_, his companions accused him of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ them when he was responsible for\_\_\_goods for their company. 8. They are engaged in\_\_\_new people for their firm. 9. Why do you persist in\_\_\_him? 10. He is fed up with\_\_\_alone. He is looking forward to his family\_\_\_ in two days. 11. They prevented us from\_\_\_rash steps. 12. She feels like\_\_\_too much when she drinks a glass of

champagne. 13. He decided against\_\_\_her again.

***Exercise 9 Fill in the blanks with prepositions or adverbs where necessary.***

1. The policeman accused him \_\_\_exceeding the speed limit. 2. She has been dreaming\_\_\_flying to the Bahamas. 3. The rain prevented him\_\_\_going to the country. 4. They have decided\_\_\_buying a new car. 5. He succeeded\_\_\_being promoted. 6.1 feel\_\_\_staying at home. It is rather cold. Let's watch a new film on TV instead\_\_\_going to the picnic. 7. She is fed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ staying in the village. 8. He went to the disco despite \_\_\_having a headache. 9. She is looking\_\_\_\_\_\_\_playing the leading part in the performance. 10.1 think it's no use \_\_\_ trying to get him home. 11. Everybody congratulated her\_\_\_passing the exam so well. 12. He is not very good\_\_\_taking decisions quickly. 13. They don't approve\_\_\_her getting married to James. 14. The police suspect him\_\_\_drug smuggling. 15. We have difficulty\_\_\_installing the new equipment.

***Exercise 10 Paraphrase the sentences using the gerunds. Use prepositions or adverbs where necessary (gerundial phrases are in bold type).***

*Example: We have no objections.* ***They may leave at once.*** *— We have no objections to their leaving at once.*

**1. He is unable to resist her charm.** It's funny. 2» **They told the truth.** You shouldn't deny it. **3.You shouldn't take advantage of people's weakness.** It's no good. **4.1 confided in this man.** I admit it. 5. **She accepted the proposal.** Her mother was displeased with it. **&.** We **rang the bell»** and we were admitted to the hall. 7. I'd like **to speak to you frankly.** I hope you don't mind it. 8. **He is admitted to our closed circle.** I object to it. 9. He was afraid **that I would change the decision. 10.1** regiet that **I gave you so much trouble. 11. After he had studied the weather forecast in great detail,** he said he would go back to London. 12. Why do you insist that he **should be present there?** 13.1 am really ashamed **that I haven't written to you for so long. 14. You submitted the report to the secretary.** I remember it. 15.1 was prepared to dislike Mr. Kalada **even before I met him. 16.** He suggested that we **should start at once.** 17. Mrs, Knight disliked tbatl **told the truth.** 18. We are looking forward to the fact tl at you **will spend the summer with us.** 19. He **is** responsible that **the letter is delivered only today.** 20. This woman's face attracted his attention as familiar for he remembered that **she had passed by him several times.**

***Exercise 11 Open the brackets with either gerunds or infinitives. Use prepositions or adverbs where necessary.***

1. There is no point (worry) about these things. 2. Do you want me (order) a long-distance call? 3. Before (give) evidence you must swear (speak) the truth. 4. I've seen him (leave) the office early this afternoon. He seemed (be) unhappy about something. 5. She didn't succeed (be) economical. 6. Would you mind (look up) his telephone number? 7. I'm looking forward (make) an appointment with this businessman. 8. It was a lovely day, so I suggested (go) to the country. 9. Would you mind (close) the window? I hate (sit) in. a draught. 10. It's worth (arrange) the things properly. 11. I'd like you (arrange) everything by the time I come back. 12. Jt's very difficult (deal) with him because he got used (do) everything in his own way. 13. The teacher was very strict. Nobody dared (speak) to each other. 14. They don't have much money. They can't afford (go) out very often. 15. It is no use (have) a car if you don't know how (drive).

***Exercise 12 Choose the right variant with the following verbs.***

A *remember*

1. Remember (to look/looking) ahead when driving.

2. When you go on that mission please remember (to point out/pointing out) to people there that our stand on this issue remains the same. — I won't fail to do that. 3. Do you remember (to meet/meeting) them last summer? 4. Remember (to phone/phoning) as soon as arrive. 5. The policeman asked me if I clearly remembered (to lock/ locking) the door before I went to bed. 6.1 remember (to pay/paying) him. I gave him two pounds. 7. Did you remember (to give/giving) him the key to the safe? — No, I didn't. I'll go and do it now. 8.1 don't remember ever (to see/seeing) you. 9. She does not remember (to ask/asking) this question. 10. We remember (to stay/ staying) a weekend with her. She is a nice woman. 11. When you are on holiday remember (to send/sending) postcards to a few close friends.

*В regret*

1.1 regret (to tell/telling) you all the tickets for this performance have been sold. 2. He's always regretted (not to learn/not learning) to play a musical instrument. 3. They regret (to fail/failing) to understand the importance of your proposal. 4.1 regret (to inform/ informing) you that your application has been rejected. 5.1 don't regret (to quarrel/quarrelling) with him. 6. The manager regrets (to say/saying) that your proposal has been turned down. 7. We regret (to miss/missing) this film. It is worth seeing. 8.1 regret (to say/saying) I won't be able to come. 9. She regrets (not to be able/not being able) say goodbye to him. 10. If you regret (to do/doing) something, you are sorry about an action in the past.

С *be (get) used to/used to*

1. He used to (be/being) good at mathematics. 2.1 got used to (get up/getting up) very early. 3. In the Dark Ages people used to (think/thinking) that the sun goes round the earth. 4. He wasn't used to (work/working) late at night. 5. He used to (study/studying) late at night when a youth. 6. She was used to (wander/wandering) about the fields by herself. 7. In my childhood my aunt used to (bring/bringing) little presents for me. 8. He quickly got used to (have/having) a good meal and nice suits. 9. He used to (say/saying) that there was nothing like warm crisp brown bread spread with honey. 10. The mother was used to (do/doing) all the work about the house alone. 11. The mother used to (do/doing) all the work about the house,

D *try*

1. Why don't you try (to lose/losing) some weight? 2. He tried (to go/going) to evening classes but his English was still hopeless, 3. She tried (to explain/explaining) the situation but he refused to listen and went on grumbling. 4. Do stop talking, I am trying (to write/ writing) a letter. 5. He tried (to persuade/persuading) them to sign a contract. 6. Try (to forget/forgetting) it, it is not worth worrying about. 7.1 tried (to catch/ catching) his eye, but he sat motionless. 8. He tried (to cook/cooking) but failed. 9. They had tried (to introduce/ introducing) many other methods in return to the initial one.

E *stop*

1. If you stop (to do/doing) something, you finish an action. 2. If you stop (to do/doing) something, you interrupt one action in order to do something else. 3. We stopped (to buy/buying) food in the store because the owner raised the prices. 4. We stopped (to buy/buying) food in the store because we were hungry. 5. Do stop (to make/making) this awful noise! 6. We've only stopped (to buy/buying) some petrol. 7. They stopped (to produce/ producing) refrigerators because of their workers' strike. 8. He suddenly stopped (to speak/speaking), got up and left without saying anything.

F *be afraid to/be afraid of*

1. I'm afraid (to take/taking) an exam because I'm afraid (to fail/failing) it. 2. He was afraid (to leave/ leaving) the house because he was afraid (to meet/meeting) someone who might recognise him. 3. He was afraid (to say/saying) a word because he did not know anybody. 4.1 am afraid (to go/going) by plane. 5. He was afraid (to tell/telling) her the sad news. 6. My sister is such a coward! She can't see horror films because she is afraid (to meet/ meeting) a ghost at night. 7. He was afraid (to make/ making) the next step because he was afraid (to fall/falling) because he was standing on the brink of the precipice.

G *can't help*

1. It is silly of me, but I can't help (to feel/feeling) anxious. 2.1 can't help (to laugh/laughing)) at his jokes. 3. They can't help him (to do/doing) the exercise. 4. She could not help (to be attracted/being attracted) by the fact that she was being looked at. 5. He couldn't help his son (to solve/solving) the problem. 6. She couldn't help (to phone/phoning) her mother when she heard the news.

***Exercise 13 Open the brackets with either gerunds or infinitives.***

1.1 don't remember (switch off) the TV set. I'd better (go) and (check) it. 2. The weather is very nice. Let's (go) for a swim. — I am not particularly good at (swim). What about (go) for a drive instead of (bathing)? 3. We stopped once (buy) some food, and then we stopped again (ask) the way. 4. Do you feel like (dine) out or would you rather (have) dinner at home? — I'd like (go) out. I always enjoy (have) dinner at a restaurant. 5.1 don't mind (travel) by bus but I hate (stand) if there are a lot of people. I think it's better (go) by tube. 6. Would you like (come) to the conference devoted to the theatre? — No, thanks. I like (see) performances but I don't enjoy (listen) to people talking about it. 7. I'm delighted (hear) that you can come for the weekend. We are all looking forward to (see) you. 8. The autumn is wonderful! You got used to (swim) in September, so remember (bring) your bathing suit. 9.1 remember (lend) that book to you. You wanted (write) a report. — Oh, I'm so sorry! I'll bring it back tonight. 10. When would you like (start off)? — In a few moments. — Let's (wait) till it stops (snow) otherwise we may get lost. 11. Do you remember (meet) her at my birthday party? — Yes, certainly. Thank you for the chance (meet) such a beautiful and witty girl. 12. The results are very disappointing, I regret (say). I allow you (to rewrite) the test. But I allow (rewrite) on condition everyone is present. 13. You know I meant (buy) something for supper but the shop was closed. — OK. It means (have) sandwiches and tea for supper.

***Exercise 14 Find and correct the mistakes if any.***

1.1 think you made a mistake to come here. 2. When he told me about his plans, I couldn't help to be surprised. It absolutely wasn't in his line. 3.1 can't help you preparing this historical sketch. 4. It's no use persuading such a stubborn person. 5. People often have difficulty to learn a foreign language. 6.1 congratulated Ann to enter University. 7. We called after him, but he did not even stop turning his head. 8.1 don't remember him to tell anything of the kind. 9. They couldn't forgive me for wasting so much time. 10. It is not worth to take up the matter now; it can wait.

***Exercise 15 Choose the correct variant.***

1. He was clever enough\_\_\_\_\_\_\_in this delicate situation.

a) avoiding, speaking

b) to avoid, to speak

c) avoiding, to speak

d) to avoid, speaking

2.1 wonder if there is any use\_\_\_\_\_\_\_him.

a) trying, improving

b) trying, to improve

c) to try, to improve

d) to try, improving

3. Please let it \_\_\_ clearly. I am not used \_\_\_something twice.

a) understand, to saying

b) to understand, to say

c) be understood, to saying

d) be understood, to say

4. Suddenly she burst out\_\_\_with the words, "I'm sick and tired\_\_\_soups and porridges for him. I can't go on\_\_\_my best years."

a) crying, of making, wasting

b) to cry, to make, to waste

c) to cry, of making, wasting

d) crying, to make, wasting

5. He had some difficulty,\_\_his temper. This scene was worth\_\_\_. After that he avoided\_\_\_by his friends.

a) to control, to watch, to see

b) controlling, watching, seeing

c) controlling, watching, being seen

d) being controlled, being watched, to be seen

***Exercise 16 Translate into English using gerunds where possible.***

1. Я настаиваю, чтобы ты показал нам свой новый автомобиль, 2. Маленький мальчик гордился тем, что у него такой благородный (noble) друг. 3. Этот фильм стоит посмотреть. Вам не сможет не понравиться прекрасная игра (performance) актеров. 4. Было невоз­можно достать билет, и ему пришлось отказаться от мысли послушать знаменитого пианиста. 5, Я помню, он громко смеялся, когда рассказывал эту историю. 6. Она была уверена, что мальчики уже давно переста­ли работать и убежали на речку. 7. Она сидела в гости­ной (drawing room), не говоря ни слова и не обращая внимания на болтовню (chat) своей сестры. 8. Не отве­чая на приветствия, он быстро прошел в зал. 9. Мне надоело быть старым и мудрым, и я не выношу, когда ко мне относятся (treat) как к инвалиду. 10. Он наме­ревался начать свое расследование (investigation) с осмотра сада. 11. Помыв посуду и прибрав все на кух­не, она легла на диван. 12. Если ты не скажешь мне, в чем дело, какая польза оттого, что я здесь? 13. Я даже не мог прогуляться без того, чтобы он ко мне не подо­шел. 14. Он терпеть не может, когда его хвалят. 15. Ему не нравилось, что дочь часами болтает по телефону. 16. Он пытался найти предлог (pretext), чтобы уйти пораньше. 17. Надеюсь, вы не возражаете, если ему все расскажут? 18. Вы не забыли отправить письмо, кото­рое он вам дал? 19. Видя наши затруднения, они пред­ложили свою помощь. 20. Они не могли не рассмеять­ся при виде (at the sight of) клоуна.