

The example given below can help us examine the qualities of a verb.

I do my work honestly .
Verb Obj Adverb

If a verb is transitive, it must be followed by an object for the sentence to make a complete sense. Apart from this a verb is qualified by an adverb.

Now let us see an example of gerund whether a gerund retains the characteristics of a verb or not.

Eg.1. I prefer working hard .
 gerund adverb

In this sentence 'hard' qualifies 'working'. This means an adverb can qualify a gerund.

2. He loves playing cricket .
 gerund obj

In this sentence playing is acting as a transitive verb and the meaning of the sentence is clear only when cricket i.e. an object comes in the sentence. Now we have understood why Gerund is called 'Noun-verb'.

But the most important issue is how questions based on gerund are asked in the exam. This has been discussed below.

- ★ There are certain verbs which are followed by the Gerund and not infinitive.

List of such verbs	Example
1. Admit	He admitted cheating me.
2. Appreciate	I would appreciate your talking softly.
3. Avoid	I avoid travelling by bus.
4. Be accustomed to	He got accustomed to drinking .
5. Verb + used to	I am used to getting up late.
6. Can't help	I can't help talking loudly.
7. Consider	I considered moving to Mumbai.
8. Delay	He delayed paying the taxes.
9. Deny	He denied stealing my watch.
10. Like/ dislike	I like/ dislike getting up late.
11. Enjoy	I enjoy watching television.
12. Feel like	I feel like helping all the needy people.
13. Finish	He finished saying his prayers.
14. Imagine	He imagined becoming a rich man one day.
15. Keep	We kept waiting for him.
16. Look forward to	I am looking forward to meeting you.
17. (Not) mind	He doesn't mind getting disturbed.
18. Miss	I miss going to India Gate.
19. Postpone	He postponed returning to Delhi.
20. Practise	I practised writing fast.
21. Recommend	He recommends taking stairs and not an elevator.
22. Regret	I regret going to party with him.
23. Resent	I resent being ill sometimes.
24. Resist	He resisted asking for help.
25. Risk	I risked being all alone at home.
26. Suggest	I suggested staying in a resort.
27. Tolerate	I tolerated being shouted at.

List of such verbs	Example
28. Understand	I understand his avoiding me.
29. Advise	Doctors advise drinking low fat milk.
30. Allow	He allowed my staying at his home.
31. Anticipate	I anticipated his arriving late.
32. Can't stand	He couldn't stand getting insulted.
33. Encourage	He encourages my participating in extra-curricular activities.
34. Permit	We don't permit smoking here.
35. Quit	He quit smoking .

Verbs followed by either Gerund or Infinitive

- Begin**
I began **playing** Cricket.
I began **to play** Cricket.
- Can (not) bear**
I can't bear **separating** from my family.
I can't bear **to separate** from my family.
- Continue**
I continued **working** hard.
I continued **to work** hard.
- hate**
I hate **getting** up early in the morning.
I hate **to get** up early in the morning.
- Intend**
I intend **working** hard.
I intend **to work** hard.
- (dis) like**
I like **going** out for a stroll.
I dislike **to go** out alone.
- love**
I love **watching** television.
I love **to watch** television.
- neglect**
I neglected **taking** care of my health.
I neglected **to take** care of my health.
- Prefer**
I **prefer** to go to college by bus.
I **prefer** getting up late.
- Propose**
He proposed **going** to party with me.
He proposed **to go** to party with me.
- Remember**
I remember **going** to the zoo when I was a kid.
Please, do remember **to post** my letter.
- Start**
I started **working** hard.
I started **to work** hard.
- Stop**
I stopped **playing** cricket.
I stopped **to play** cricket.

See the difference
in meaning →

The 2nd sentence means
'I stopped somewhere to
play cricket' but the 1st
sentence means 'action of
playing cricket was
stopped by me'

Now see some questions based on the rule discussed

- Children enjoy _____ outdoor games
(A) play (B) playing
(C) to play (D) played
- I am looking forward _____ you.
(A) to meeting (B) meet
(C) meeting (D) No improvement
- (A) My father doesn't mind / (B) to be disturbed / (C) any time / (D) No error.
- (A) Do you think / (B) it's worth taking / (C) too much risk / (D) No error.
- I miss _____ my favourite shows after moving to India.
(A) watching (B) watch
(C) to watch (D) to watching

Answer-key

- (B)
- (A)
- (B) being disturbed
- (B) worth taking
- (A)

★ If verb comes after a preposition, it is in Gerund form.

- He is fond of **singing**.
- She was good at **swimming**.
- I am tired of **making** excuses.
- They are addicted to **smoking**.

- He was accused of **stealing** my watch.

★ A Gerund is preceded by a possessive adjective

- (A) I am sorry for (B) mine being / (C) too rude. / (D) No error.
- She was not sure of _____ passing the exam.
(A) his (B) him
(C) he (D) himself
- I am confident of _____ winning the case.
(A) my (B) mine
(C) me (D) myself
- She didn't like _____ helping strangers.
(A) my (B) mine
(C) me (D) myself
- Owing to my _____ a girl, I was given fewer rights and facilities.
(A) be (B) to be
(C) being (D) been

Answer-key

- (B); Change 'mine' into 'my'.
- (A);
- (A);
- (A);
- (C);

Heinous Crime

A girl was raped, I heard in news,
Thanks it's not I, I happily mused.
Why should I bother, why should I care,
I am a good girl, never there.
I have my villa and a personal plane,
The low girls travel by buses and train.
Then came an uncle and few of his friends,
To my villa and played a game.
My soul was shattered, my body bruised.
I felt dirty, pained and misused
I am a girl in Man's world, The heinous of all crimes,
I should have understood this before high time.