

GERUNDS

THEY FUNCTION AS NOUNS!

HOW A NOUN CAN FUNCTION IN A SENTENCE:

- Subject
- Direct object
- Indirect object
- Predicate noun /predicate nominative
- Object of the preposition

NOUN AS THE SUBJECT OF A SENTENCE

- The subject tells who or what the sentence is about
- Typically is the “thing” performing the action (if there is an action verb)
- To find it, find the verb and ask Who?
- Example:
 - Pablo enjoys the game of soccer.
 - Who is this about? Who enjoys?
 - Pablo= subject

TRY THESE. IDENTIFY THE SUBJECT OF EACH SENTENCE.

1. AJ can make the pizza on Friday.
2. Buzzing around the room, the bee frightened the children.
3. The waves rose and soared out over shore.
4. Four cups of sugar are needed for this recipe.
5. Justice will be served.

DID YOU SAY?

1. **AJ** can make the pizza on Friday.
2. Buzzing around the room, the **bee** frightened the children.
3. The **waves** rose and soared out over shore.
4. Four **cups** of sugar are needed for this recipe.
5. **Justice** will be served.

NOUNS CAN ALSO BE USED AS DIRECT OBJECTS

- A direct object
 - Is a noun or pronoun
 - it comes AFTER an action verb
 - And answers the question Subject, Action Verb, WHAT?
- EX: I brought a snack to school.
- Subject = I
- Action verb = Brought
- I brought WHAT?
- I brought a snack.
- snack is the direct object.

TRY THESE. FIND THE DIRECT OBJECT IN EACH SENTENCE.

1. This video clip gives many facts about gorillas.
2. A massive fire destroyed the buildings downtown.
3. “One must never turn his back on life.” ~Eleanor Roosevelt
4. Emon gave a donation to the football team.
5. Hannah knit a sweater for her friend.

DID YOU SAY?

1. This video clip gives many **facts** about gorillas.
2. A massive fire destroyed the **buildings** downtown.
3. “One must never turn his **back** on life.” ~Eleanor Roosevelt
4. Emon gave a **donation** to the football team.
5. Hannah knit a **sweater** for her friend.

NOUNS CAN ALSO BE USED AS INDIRECT OBJECTS

An indirect object:

- is a noun or pronoun
- comes BETWEEN an action verb and a direct object
- answers the question: subject, verb, direct object,

TO WHAT? FOR WHAT? TO WHOM? FOR WHOM?

NOTE: If you do not have a direct object in your sentence, you will not have an indirect object!

EX: He gave the teacher a headache.

Subject: He Verb: gave He gave what? headache to whom? TEACHER

Teacher is the indirect object!

TRY THESE. FIND THE INDIRECT OBJECT IN EACH SENTENCE.

1. She showed me her prom picture.
2. Sheila told Kathryn a story about her vacation.
3. She gave Reggie careful instructions for the assignment.
4. Mom gave Dad a suggestion for dinner.
5. Pete bought Mort a chicken biscuit this morning.

DID YOU SAY?

1. She showed **me** her prom picture.
2. Sheila told **Kathryn** a story about her vacation.
3. She gave **Reggie** careful instructions for the assignment.
4. Mom offered **Dad** a suggestion for dinner.
5. Pete bought **Mort** a chicken biscuit this morning.

A NOUN CAN ALSO FUNCTION AS A PREDICATE NOUN (PREDICATE NOMINATIVE)

A predicate noun is just that: a noun in the predicate of the sentence.

A predicate noun:

- is a noun
- comes after a LINKING VERB
- is found in the predicate of the sentence
- renames the subject of the sentence

Find it just like you do a direct object: subject, verb, what?

EX: Megan is a good leader.

Megan is what? **Leader**. Does leader meet all of the qualifications above? YES! That's your PN!

TRY THESE. FIND THE PREDICATE NOUN IN EACH SENTENCE.

1. Dr. Reuss is a bellhop on weekends.
2. All of the stories are fables.
3. Mark Twain's real name was Samuel Clements.
4. The broiled fish is salmon.
5. A whale is a mammal.

DID YOU SAY?

1. Dr. Reuss is a **bellhop** on weekends.
2. All of the stories are **fables**.
3. Mark Twain's real name was **Samuel Clements**.
4. The broiled fish is **salmon**.
5. A whale is a **mammal**.

A NOUN CAN ALSO BE USED AS AN OBJECT OF THE PREPOSITION

An object of the preposition is the noun or pronoun that comes at the end of a prepositional phrase.

A prepositional phrase starts with a preposition, ends with the OP, and includes any modifiers in between.

Some common prepositions: **by, to, with, without, up, into, from, in, at, around, during, for, since, toward, over, through, upon, under, underneath, between, along, against, inside**

EX: I tried making a fruit salad over the weekend.

Prep = over

Over what? The weekend

Which word is at the end? **Weekend.** Is it a noun? **Yes!** weekend is your OP.

TRY THESE. FIND THE OBJECT OF THE PREPOSITION IN EACH SENTENCE.

1. The sky looks really dark by my house.
2. She saw two mice climb inside his shoe.
3. “I am afraid of the dark,” said the little girl I babysat last night.
4. I told him I put his binder near the door.
5. Whenever I’m at Jennifer’s house, I start sneezing like a madman.

DID YOU SAY?

1. The sky looks really dark (by my **house**).
2. She saw two mice climb (inside his **shoe**).
3. “I am afraid (of the **dark**),” said the little girl I babysat last night.
4. I told him I put his binder (near the **door**).
5. Whenever I’m (at Jennifer’s **house**), I start sneezing (like a **madman**).

WHY ALL THIS REVIEW? SO YOU CAN UNDERSTAND GERUNDS

A gerund is the –ing form of a verb that is used as a noun.

Because it is used as a noun, it can take on ANY of the functions of a noun—like the ones we just went over!

-subject

-direct object

-indirect object

-predicate noun

-object of the preposition

CHECK IT OUT!

LET'S USE **RUNNING** AS OUR GERUND

- Subject: Running is my favorite hobby.
- DO: You should try running on Saturdays.
- IO: I gave running a shot.
- PN: She loves running in races.
- OP: I can't compare anything to running.

BE CAREFUL!

- Just like infinitives, be careful not to identify the VERB of the sentence as the gerund!
- I'm **running** a marathon in three weeks.

**A GERUND WILL ONLY FUNCTION AS A NOUN CAN
FUNCTION!**

TRY THESE. IDENTIFY THE GERUND IN EACH SENTENCE.

1. Her laughing attracted my attention.
2. By studying, you can improve your grades.
3. Mrs. Cherry was discussing baking.
4. Do you really enjoy painting?
5. After swimming, the children were ready to go home.

DID YOU SAY?

1. Her **laughing** attracted my attention. (subject)
2. By **studying**, you can improve your grades. (obj. of prep)
3. Mrs. Cherry was discussing **baking**. (direct object)
4. Do you really enjoy **painting**? (direct object)
5. After **swimming**, the children were ready to go home.
(Obj. of Prep)