

## Teaching Gerunds

Gerunds always end with the suffix *ing*, functions as a noun in the sentence, and answers the question "what." Tell students to find the verb and ask themselves "what."

For example: *Surfing **is** fun.*

- First, find the verb: **is**
- Next, ask yourself--what **is**?
- Finally, answer your question--*surfing*. **Surfing** is the gerund.

Finding gerunds is as easy as 1-2-3.

## Teaching Participles

Participles always have verb endings *-ing*, *ed*, *-n*, *-t*, etc. More importantly, participles function as adjectives, which sets them apart from gerunds.

Example of a participle:

*Jack, **walking** down the road, was **looking** at the lake.*

The participle is *walking*, as it ends in *ing* and is describing Jack.

## Teaching Infinitives

Infinitives are verb phrases that begin with the word "to" and will be followed by an action verb.

For example: **To understand** the material, one must study

The Infinitive verb phrase is "to understand the material" with the infinitive being "to understand."