

Verbs Used as Nouns

The *present participle* form of a verb can be used as a noun to be the subject of a sentence, or the object of a verb or a preposition. Present participles are called *gerunds* when they are used as nouns. (See page 96 for the formation of *present participles*.)

Gerund as Subject

Walking is good exercise.

Eating well is important.

Working here is interesting.

Playing with other children
makes her happy.

Gerund as Object

We enjoy **walking**.

I like **eating** at this restaurant.

She is tired of **working** here.

He talks about **playing** with
other children.

EXERCISE

6-1

Fill in each blank with the gerund form of the verb indicated.

1. We are very tired of (wait) _____ for her.
2. (drive) _____ at night can be dangerous.
3. Do you like (live) _____ here?
4. They argued about her (cook) _____.
5. (study) _____ at the university gave him a good background.
6. We're not afraid of (stay) _____ alone.

exercise

6-2

Write sentences that change the verbs to nouns.

1. sing _____
2. drink _____
3. sleep _____
4. write _____
5. study _____