

UNIT 3 – HUMANITY

I. GERUNDS

Read the following sentences.

1. He is **swimming** in a pool.
2. **Swimming** is good for health.

In the above two sentences you notice that verbs are used with ‘-ing’. Do you notice any difference between them?

In the first sentence the **verb + ing** is preceded by **is**. The verb is in **progressive form**.

In the second sentence you don’t find is, are, was or were before verb + ing. Such verbs with ‘-ing’ and without helping verbs are known as ‘**Gerunds**’.

Gerunds are normally in the subject position or object position.

Identify the gerunds in the following sentences.

1. The North Wind ceased roaring.
2. The Child did not see the giant coming.
3. I heard the children whispering outside the wall on their way to school.
4. Why is the spring so late in coming?
5. Walking makes you healthy.

SUGGESTED ANSWER

1. The North Wind ceased **roaring**. (Gerund)

2. The Child did not see the giant **coming**. (Gerund)
3. I heard the children **whispering** outside the wall on their way to school. (Gerund)
4. Why is the spring so late in **coming**? (Gerund)
5. **Walking** makes you healthy. (Gerund)

