

Identifying –ing forms

Background information

- **Gerund**

a nonfinite verb form functioning as a noun with some characteristics of a verb

- **Participle**

a nonfinite verb form functioning primarily as an adjective (sometimes as and adverb) with some characteristics of a verb. The two types of participles in English are past participle (e.g. bored, tired, eaten) and present participle (e.g. interesting, falling, remaining)

- **Finite verbs**

a finite verb has a subject and shows tense (has inflections for tense, person and number, e.g. "I go", "she goes", "we went")

- **Nonfinite verbs**

a nonfinite verb has no subject and does not show tense (has no inflections for tense, person and number); includes (I) infinitives, (II) participles and (III) gerunds

Decide whether the -ing form used in each of the following sentences is a gerund or a present participle. Please tick in the appropriate box.

		Gerund Present	Participle
1	Tony has been working hard.		
2	Drinking is probably not the best thing to do before you drive.		
3	He tells fascinating stories.		
4	Considering the circumstances, they performed really well in this competition.		
5	We were working at the office.		
6	I can't tell you how much I miss backpacking in faraway countries.		
7	The judges said they saw nothing amazing in his debut show.		
8	I wonder how he doesn't get tired of watching the same movie over and over.		
9	The plan was to keep the opponent guessing in the first half of the match.		
10	He stayed silent for a long while before finally rising up to speak.		
11	We saw him leaving at midnight.		

