Verbs in Disguise

Gerunds, participles, and infinitives in action



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BIG IDEA

A verbal looks like a verb but does a different job.



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Key words

verbal

a verb form that works as another part of speech

gerund

-ing form that works as a noun

participle

verb form that works as an adjective

infinitive

to + verb that works as noun, adjective, or adverb

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Spot the job in 4 steps

1. Find the word that looks like a verb
2. Check: is it the main action of the sentence?
3. If no, ask: noun, adjective, or adverb job?
4. Label it gerund, participle, or infinitive

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Think, pair, share

Swimming is fun.
The swimming fish darted away.
Same job?



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All three verbals together



▶ 0:00 – 5:00

- Listen for the three jobs: noun, adjective, adverb
- Catch one school example of each type

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Three verbals at work



Gerund = Noun

Swimming builds strength in the pool.



Participle = Adjective

The broken cup sat on the shelf.



Infinitive = Flexible

To learn is exciting for a student.

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Telling them apart



▶ 0:00 – 5:00

- Watch the test for -ing words: noun or adjective?
- Notice clues for to + verb phrases

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Your task

Label these verbals G, P, or I and state the job.

1. Read: 1 Swimming is fun. 2 The barking dog woke us. 3 To write takes practice.
2. Label each G, P, or I plus noun, adjective, or adverb.
3. Compare with another pair and defend your choice.

10 min

In pairs

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Don't get tricked

1. Progressive verbs are not gerunds: is running is a verb
2. Keep participles close to the noun they describe
3. Keep to and verb together; do not split them



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Quick quiz

1. Swimming builds strength. What is Swimming and its job?
2. The barking dog woke us. What is barking and its job?
3. To write takes practice. What is To write and its job?
4. To pass the test, a student studied hard. What job is To pass?

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