



Mini lesson 014 - Gerunds: Spelling Rules

A gerund is the verb+ing form. Generally, forming gerunds is straightforward, as there are no irregular gerunds. Simply add 'ing' to the base form of the verb:

- **talk** → **talking**
- **walk** → **walking**

However, there are specific spelling rules that apply in certain cases.

1. Dropping the 'e'

When a verb ends in 'e', we usually drop the 'e' before adding 'ing'. Here are some examples:

- **drive** → **driving**
- **hope** → **hoping**
- **bake** → **baking**
- **dance** → **dancing**
- **taste** → **tasting**
- **explore** → **exploring**
- **breathe** → **breathing**
- **hate** → **hating**
- **name** → **naming**
- **argue** → **arguing**
- **decide** → **deciding**
- **debate** → **debating**
- **move** → **moving**
- **arrive** → **arriving**





2. Doubling the Last Consonant

For verbs that end with a consonant-vowel-consonant (CVC) pattern, and where the last syllable is stressed, we typically double the last consonant before adding 'ing':

- **run** → **running**
- **admit** → **admitting**
- **begin** → **beginning**
- **permit** → **permitting**
- **sit** → **sitting**
- **submit** → **submitting**
- **jog** → **jogging**
- **refer** → **referring**
- **plan** → **planning**
- **occur** → **occurring**
- **hit** → **hitting**

3. Changing -ie to -y

When a verb ends in -ie, change the -ie to -y before adding 'ing':

- **tie** → **tying**
- **vie** → **vying**





Practice Time!

Spell the gerund form of the verbs correctly.

1. hope → _____
2. refer → _____
3. argue → _____
4. admit → _____
5. taste → _____
6. submit → _____
7. decide → _____
8. plan → _____
9. tie → _____
10. drive → _____

Answers

1. hoping
2. referring
3. arguing
4. admitting
5. tasting
6. submitting
7. deciding
8. planning
9. tying
10. driving

