

1.8 Language in focus

-ing forms

I can use -ing forms in a range of different contexts.

- 1 Read the information about -ing forms and match uses 1–6 with examples a–f from this unit.

All **-ing forms** express some sense of 'ongoing activity'. **-ing forms** can be used as verbs (I'm **learning** Spanish.); as adjectives (The lessons are **boring**); or as nouns (**Reading** is easier than **listening**).

- 1 Use -ing forms in continuous tenses.
- 2 Use -ing forms after certain verbs.
- 3 Use -ing forms in certain adjective/noun constructions.
- 4 Use -ing forms after prepositions.
- 5 Use -ing forms to describe people or things.
- 6 Use -ing forms as the subject or object of a sentence.

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| a Learning is remembering. | ☐ | d ideas worth spreading | ☐ |
| b Nadal keeps winning. | ☐ | e She's always disturbing people. | ☐ |
| c a shocking piece of news | ☐ | f I'd be good at recognising criminals. | ☐ |

- 2 Translate examples a–f in Exercise 1. What are the differences between your language and English?

- 3 Use the prompts to write sentences with the -ing form. Which sentences do you agree with?

- 1 know how to type / useful skill
Knowing how to type is a useful skill.
- 2 take exams / very stressful
- 3 watch TV / waste of time
- 4 copy your friend's homework / cheat
- 5 always be late / annoy habit
- 6 not have breakfast / bad for you

- 4 Read REMEMBER THIS. Then complete the sentences using the words in brackets. Add **but** and any other words necessary.

REMEMBER THIS

Certain adjective/noun constructions begin with *it* or *there*.
It's nice being here. Is there any use trying to explain?

- 1 It's _____ (no/good/talk) to her – she never listens.
 - 2 Is it _____ (worth/buy) that textbook? All the information is online.
 - 3 It's _____ (no/use/complain) about your exam results. You didn't revise!
 - 4 There's _____ (no/point/discuss) this any more. I've made up my mind.
- 5 Complete the questions with the correct form of the words in the box. There are two extra words. Then answer the questions.
- [do fail forget pass speak write]
- 1 Have you been _____ much exam revision recently?
 - 2 Have you ever listened to yourself _____ English?
 - 3 Do you think speaking is more difficult than _____?
 - 4 Has the thought of _____ your English exams ever entered your head?

01 WORD LIST

Education and schoolwork

attend university/a lesson /ə'tend ju:nɪ'vɜ:səti/ə 'lesən/
do research (into sth) /du: rɪ'sɜ:tʃ (ɪntə ,səməŋ)/
do well (in exams) /du: wel (ɪn ɪg'zæməz)/
drama school /'dræmə sku:l/
drop a course/a subject /drɒp ə 'kɔ:s/ə 'səbdʒɪkt/
education model /ˌedʒu'keɪʃən ,mɒdl/
educator /ˌedʒəkətə/
fail an exam/a subject /feɪl ən ɪg'zæm/ə 'səbdʒɪkt/
get good/top marks /get gud/top 'mɑ:ks/
handwriting /'hænd,rɪtɪŋ/
have/pursue a career /hæv/pə'sju: ə kə'riə/
(high) standard of education /(haɪ) ,stændəd əv ,edʒu'keɪʃən/
learn in an active way /lɜ:n ɪn ən ,æktɪv 'weɪ/
learner /'lɜ:nə/
learning disorders /'lɜ:nɪŋ dɪs'ɔ:dəz/
mentor (n, v) /'mentə/
pass an exam /pɑ:s ən ɪg'zæm/
peer-teaching /piə 'ti:tʃɪŋ/
period /'piəriəd/
problem-solving /'prɒbləm ,sɒlvɪŋ/
revise for exams /rɪ'vaɪz fɔr ɪg'zæməz/
revision timetable /rɪ'vɪʒən ,taɪm,tetəbəl/
school management /sku:l 'mænɪdʒmənt/
skip an exam/a lesson/a subject /skɪp ən ɪg'zæm/ə 'lesən/ə 'səbdʒɪkt/
spokesperson (for a class) /'spəʊks,pɜ:sən (fɔr ə 'klɑ:s)/
spread ideas /ˌspred aɪ'dɪəz/
student representative /ˌstju:dənt ,reprɪ'zentətɪv/
take a course/an exam/a lesson/a subject /teɪk ə 'kɔ:s/ən ɪg'zæm/ə 'lesən/ə 'səbdʒɪkt/
take part in interactive activities /teɪk ,pɑ:t ɪn ,ɪntər,æktɪv æk'tɪvətɪz/
tap into a resource /tæp ,ɪntə ə rɪ'zɔ:s/
teach yourself sth /'ti:tʃ jə'self ,səməŋ/
teamwork /'ti:mwɜ:k/
train hard /treɪn 'hɑ:d/
volunteer /vɒlən'tɪə/

School discipline

cheat /tʃi:t/
complain about sth /kəm'pleɪn əbaʊt ,səməŋ/
disruptive behaviour /dɪs,rʌptɪv brɪ'heɪvjə/
disturb /dɪ'stɜ:b/
fidget /'fɪdʒət/
get into trouble /get ,ɪntə 'trʌbəl/
keep still /ki:p 'stɪl/
pay attention in class /peɪ ,ətənʃən ɪn 'klɑ:s/
unsupervised /ˌʌn'su:pəvaɪzd/

Abilities and learning styles

3D perception /θri:di: pə'sepʃən/
analytic /ə'nælɪtɪk/
brainy/bright/sharp/intelligent /'breɪni/brɑɪt/ʃɑ:p/ɪn'telədʒənt/
competitive /kəm'petətɪv/
curiosity /ˌkjʊəri'ɒsəti/
curious/interested /'kjʊəriəs/ɪn'trəstəd/
deep thinker /di:p 'θɪŋkə/
determined/single-minded /dɪ'tɜ:mənd,sɪŋɡəl 'maɪndɪd/
diligent /'dɪlədʒənt/
do your best /du: jə 'best/
dominance (of the left hemisphere) /'dɒmənəns (əv ðə ,left 'heməsfiə)/
eager to learn /ɪɡə tə 'lɜ:n/
enthusiastic /ɪn'θju:zi'æstɪk/
excel at /ɪk'sel at/
gift for /'ɡɪft fɔ/
hard-working /hɑ:d 'wɜ:kɪŋ/
incapable of doing sth /ɪn'keɪpəbəl əv 'du:ŋ ,səməŋ/
inquisitive /ɪn'kwɪzətɪv/
(innate) ability to do sth /(ɪneɪt) ə'bɪləti tə 'du: ,səməŋ/
logical way of thinking /lɒdʒɪkəl ,wei əv 'θɪŋkɪŋ/
motivate /'məʊtəveɪt/
natural inclination /nætʃərəl ɪŋkɪlɪ'neɪʃən/
self-motivated /self 'məʊtəveɪtəd/
struggle with (Maths) /s'trʌɡəl wɪð ('mæθs)/
studious /'stju:diəs/