

USE OF THE GERUND

I. Like nouns, the Gerund is often preceded by possessive (pro)nouns and prepositions:

e.g. *Your (my, his, her, their, John's) committing a mistake is quite understandable.*

То, что ты совершил ошибку ~ вполне понятно.

I don't mind their joining us.

Я не против того, чтобы они присоединились к нам.

Note the difference in meaning between prepositions 'on' and 'after' before the Gerund:

In (in the process of) negotiating the terms of the contract both parties came across some problems.

В процессе обсуждения (Обсуждая ...) условий контракта у обеих сторон возник ряд вопросов.

On (immediately after) negotiating the terms of the contract both parties thanked each other for cooperation.

После обсуждения (Обсудив ...) условий контракта, обе стороны поблагодарили друг друга за сотрудничество.

After (some time after) negotiating the terms of the contract both parties left his.

После <><><\\/<<>ет/ч (Обсудив ..., После того как...) условий контракта от стороны отбыли на родину.*

Prepositions 'by' and 'without' denote manner of doing:

The conflict must be settled only by negotiating.

Конфликт должен быть улажен только путем переговоров.

He left without saying good bye.

Он ушел, не попрощавшись.

Many nouns are followed by preposition 'of' before the Gerund, but there are some others which require a different preposition.

Most common of (them) are:

*cause /reason /ground/excuse /apology /gift/reputation ,for;
appointment/contribution /objection/promotion /opposition to/
tendency to;
belief/ interest / harm / skill / hesitation /participation in;
attempt/aim /delight /irritation /satisfaction / surprise at;
excitement /doubt/dream /concern about*

Like verbs, the Gerund can be followed by objects and adverbial modifiers and may be translated by a verb or a clause. In all cases the Gerund may be translated into Russian by a noun, a verb, or a clause.

II. The verb 'be' and other link verbs followed by adjectives with prepositions are always followed by the Gerund.

e.g. *He has always been good at learning languages.*

Он всегда был способен к изучению языков.

I am sorry for interrupting you.

Простите, что прерываю вас.

I am sure he is ashamed of having said this.

Я уверен, что ему стыдно, что он это сказал.

Here are some adjectives that are followed by certain **preposition!**

Good / bad / surprised / annoyed at;

Afraid/ashamed/ aware /capable / tired/suspicious of;

*common / responsible / important / essential / necessary / easy /
difficult / good / bad / useless for;*

accustomed/ used/committed/similar to;

bored /fed up / disappointed /pleased / satisfied with;

excited / happy / upset about; interested in