

the United Nations tend to be more effective politically than
M.,/r Mnn.ii ijjiioiiKii.s, provided they are supported by an adequate
pm/essioiKil siilT But each case needs to be judged on its merits, there
is no hard and fast rule.

Questions for discussion:

1. The US is compared to a banana republic, but what does the author imply?
2. Why do you think professionalism in diplomacy is prized so low in the U.S.A.?
3. What arguments does Stearns produce in favour of thorough language learning for a diplomat?
4. Why does the author draw some difference between *knowing* a foreign language and *comprehending* a foreign culture?
5. What do you think about secrecy in diplomatic matters? What should be open to public scrutiny and what should remain secret?
6. Do you agree that diplomatic officers are the influential elite which does not represent the public?
7. What is the authors' attitude to professionalism in diplomacy?
8. Must a diplomat be a professional in your opinion? Give your arguments for or against

GRAMMAR SUPPLEMENT

THE GERUND

(verbal - ing form with properties of the noun)

FORMS

	Active	Passive
Non-perfect (refers either to the present or past activity)	doing	being done
Perfect (rare) (used to avoid misunderstanding with clear reference to the prior activity) *	having done	having been done

^Compare:

1) *She is surprised at **being invited** to the party.*

Она удивлена, что ее приглашают /пригласили на вечер.
(the party has not been held yet)

2) *She is surprised at **having been invited** to the party.*

Она удивлена, что ее пригласили на вечер,
(the party has already been held)

Exercise 58

Pitt the verbs in the brackets in the correct form of the Gerund (active or passive, non-perfect)

1. Nobody likes (make) a fool of
2. Good humour is a means of (save) face.
3. He showed no sign of (hurt).
4. It's not worth (get) upset about things beyond your control.
5. Humorous people are perceived as (be) more likeable.
6. He insists on (pay) for the work he has done in time.
7. It's no use / good (cry) over spilt milk.
8. By carefully (prepare) for the talks beforehand they could gain the upper hand.