



THE GERUND

Thirty-third lesson – Trente-troisième leçon



SOMMAIRE

- 1) Definition
- 2) Uses
- 3) Forms



1. DEFINITION

- **Le gérondif** is used when expressing two actions happening at the same time.
 - It can be used to avoid repetition or to set the context for further action.
- Gerunds do not agree with the subject and each verb has just one form.
- It corresponds to the construction *while + verb+ing* in English.



1. USES

- *Je marche et je chante.*

→ *Je marche **en chantant**.*

I walk and I sing. I walk while singing

- *À table, nous mangeons et nous buvons.*

→ *Nous mangeons **en buvant**.*

At the table, we eat and we drink. We eat while drinking.



3. FORMS

- To form a regular gerund, take the **nous** form of a verb in the present tense and replace the ending **-ons** with **-ant**, forming the present participle.

Then place the preposition **en** before the present participle.

- Ex. Manger → nous mange**ons** → **en mangeant**



2. FORMS

| Infinitive | Present Participle | Gerund | |
|------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Penser | pens <u>ant</u> | en pensant | <i>while thinking</i> |
| Manger | mange <u>ant</u> | en mangeant | <i>while eating</i> |
| Finir | finiss <u>ant</u> | en finissant | <i>while finishing</i> |
| Prendre | pren <u>ant</u> | en prenant | <i>while taking</i> |
| vendre | vend <u>ant</u> | en vendant | <i>while selling</i> |



2. FORMS

- Some verbs don't follow this pattern:

| Infinitive | Pres. Part | gerund | |
|------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Être | étant | en étant | <i>while being</i> |
| Avoir | ayant | en ayant | <i>while having</i> |
| savoir | sachant | en sachant | <i>while knowing</i> |



C'est tout pour aujourd'hui!

Au revoir!

Merci!

