

UNIT 52. Verb + ~ing (enjoy doing/stop doing etc.)

A. Look at these examples:

- * I enjoy dancing. (not 'I enjoy to dance')
- * Would you mind closing the door? (not 'mind to close')
- * Ian suggested going to the cinema. (not 'suggest-ed to go')

After **enjoy, mind and suggest**, we use ~ing (not to ...). Here are some more verbs that are followed by ~ing:

**stop delay fancy consider admit miss involve finish
postpone imagine avoid deny risk practise**

- * Suddenly everybody stopped talking. There was silence.
- * I'll do the shopping when I've finished cleaning the flat.
- * He tried to avoid answering my question.
- * I don't fancy going out this evening.
- * Have you ever considered going to live in another country?

Note the negative form not ~ing:

- * When I'm on holiday, I enjoy **not** having to get up early.

B. We also use ~ing after:

give up (= stop)

put off (= postpone)

carry on/go on (= continue)

keep or keep on (= do something continuously or repeatedly)

- * Paula has **given up** smoking.
- * We must do something. We can't **go on** living like this! (or ... carry on living ...)
- * Don't **keep** interrupting me while I'm speaking. (or Don't keep on interrupting ...)

C. With some verbs you can use the structure verb + somebody + ~ing-

- * I can't **imagine** George riding a motorbike.
- * You can't stop me doing what I want.

* 'Sorry to **keep** you waiting so long.' 'That's all right.'

Note the passive form (being done/seen/kept etc.):

* I don't mind being kept waiting. (=I don't mind people keeping me ...)

D. When you are talking about finished actions, you can say having done/stolen/said etc.:

* She **admitted** having stolen the money.

But it is not necessary to use having (done). You can also use the simple ~ing form for finished actions:

* She **admitted** stealing the money.

* I now **regret** saying (or having said) what I said.

E. After some of the verbs on this page (especially admit/deny/suggest) you can use that ...

* She denied **that** she had stolen the money. (or She denied stealing ...)

* Ian suggested **that** we went to the cinema. (or Ian suggested going .