2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1 Definition of Gerund

In the beginning of a book titled English Grammar, Jeffrey Coghill and Stacy Magendanz (2003:16), the two founders of the McNeese State University and Library in Lake Charles, Los Angeles, define grammar as this: "The grammar of a language is the set of rules that govern its structure. Grammar determines how words are arranged to form meaningful units."

As well as the definition above, Michael Swan (2005:19), a linguist who is more likely to pay attention to the original English (British English) defines grammar as the following: "Grammar is the rules that show how words are combined, arranged or changed to show certain lands of meaning."

Gerund is one of grammar's parts which cannot be underestimated. The significance of it in studying language has no question. Besides its importance, the complicated uses of gerund is also one of factors showing that students, especially those who study in English Program, have to pay more attention to make it sure before they say that they are competent students of English Program.

Betty (1992:368) says that gerund is the —ing form of a verb. It functions as a noun. From the statement above, we can say that gerund is verb + ing and used as a noun in a sentence. However, there is another part in language which has the same verb form called present participle. Still, both have different role in a sentence. Gerund, as explained before, acts as a noun while present participle acts as adverb or adjective.
Examples:

(1) The crying baby woke her parents up. → Crying is a present participle which acts as an adjective. It modifies the noun 'baby'.

(2) The baby kept crying all night. → Crying is a gerund which acts as a noun. It is the object of the verb 'kept'.

2.2 Forms of Gerund

Gerund has four forms, they are: simple gerund, perfect gerund, active gerund, and passive gerund. The simple and perfect gerund can be in either active or passive form.

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<th>Active gerund</th>
<th>Passive gerund</th>
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<td>Simple gerund</td>
<td>Singing</td>
<td>Being sung</td>
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<tr>
<td>Perfect gerund</td>
<td>Having sung</td>
<td>Having been sung</td>
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Azar (2006:369) says, “Simple gerund is the –ing form of a verb which simply appears right after a certain verb and expresses present tense.” If it is clear that an earlier time is meant, we use the simple gerund.

Formula: S + V + Gerund (Ving) + Object/Complement

Examples:

(1) Bella likes singing,

(2) They do not mind waiting for hours.

(3) Would you denied stealing my book?

The simple gerund can refer to the same time as that of the verb in the main clause.
Examples:

(1) I hate arguing with you. (*Arguing* refers to the same tune as hate: I hate when we argue.)

(2) Tom suggested going back to our tents. (*Going* refers to the same time as suggested: Tom suggested that we should go back to our tents.)

The simple gerund can also refer to a time before that of the verb in the main clause.

Examples:

(1) I don't remember saying anything like that. (*Saying* refers to a time before don't remember: I don’t remember that I said anything like that.)

(2) She regretted not studying harder when she was at school. (*Not studying* refers to a time before regretted; she regretted that she hadn't studied harder when he was at school.

Betty (1992:369) defines the perfect gerund as the gerund using the modal *have* + ing which expresses perfect tense. “The perfect gerund refers to a time before that of the verb in the main clause. However, it is only used if the time of the action expressed by the gerund is not obvious from the context.” she adds.

Formula: S + V1 + Having + V3 + Object/Complement

Examples:

(1) Bella regrets having done such terrible thing. (Bella regrets that she has done such terrible thing).

(2) She denied having got married. (She did not admit that she has got married.)

Betty (1992:370) explains that active gerund is the gerund that expresses active voice.
Formula: S + V + Gerund (Ving) + Object/Complement

Examples:

(1) I postponed going on vacation.

(2) They keep looking at me seriously.

Betty (1992:370) states that passive gerund is the gerund that expresses passive voice.

Formula: S + V + Being + V3 + Complement

Examples:

(1) I hate being lied to.

(2) She loves being sent shopping.

(3) He denied being married.

2.3 Functions of Gerund

1) As subject

The parts of speech which can be a subject of a sentence are noun and pronoun. Therefore, gerund can behave as subject for gerund itself is a noun. It can be identified the same as a normal noun is identified such as: in front of predicate, after articles (a, an, or the), and usually singular noun; however, if two or more gerund are joined by conjunction ‘and’, it will be plural.

Examples:

(1) Shooting is good.

(2) Smoking is a bad lifestyle.

(3) Fighting does not make you look tough.

(4) Falling taught me how to wake up.
(5) *Hiking* was one of my favorite sports until I broke my leg.

(6) *Stealing and murdering* are despicable deeds.

Gerund as subject can be independent; consisting of only one word, the gerund itself, as examples given above. But it can also be followed by object or modified by adverb.

Examples:

(1) *Eating* vegetables helps your body fight against illness.

(2) *Coming* on time to class shows that you respect your lecturer.

A gerund behaves as a verb within a clause (so that it may be modified by an adverb or have an object); but the resulting clause as a whole (sometimes consisting of only one word, the gerund itself) functions as a noun within the larger sentence. In the first example, the gerund is the verb a *eating*, which takes an object *vegetables*. The entire clause *eating vegetables* is then used as a noun, which in this case serves as the subject of the larger sentence. Just the same with the first example, the gerund *coming* becomes the subject of the sentence but this time it's modified by adverb *on time to class*.

**2) As the object of verb**

The gerund can act as object of a verb. It may be only the gerund itself; it may be modified by adverb or have an object. In most cases, there is nothing complicated about using gerund as object of verb. For example, consider the sentence *Bella loves singing*. The gerund is the word *singing* which simply shows that *Bella loves to sing* (in *to infinitive*). But in some cases, it may cause a shift in meaning.
Examples:

a) like, love, prefer

In some contexts, following these verbs with a to-infinitive when the subject of the first verb is the subject of the second verb provides more clarity than a gerund.

(1) I like to box. (I enjoy doing it myself.)
(2) I like boxing. (Either I enjoy watching it, I enjoy doing it myself, or the idea of boxing is otherwise appealing.)
(3) I do not like gambling, but I do like to gamble.

b) dread, hate, cannot bear

These verbs are followed by a to-infinitive when talking subjunctively (often when using to think), but by a gerund when talking about general dislikes.

(1) I dread / hate to think what she will do.
(2) I dread / hate seeing him.
(3) I cannot bear to see you suffer like this. (You are suffering now.)
(4) I cannot bear being pushed around in crowds. (I never like that.)

c) forget, remember

When these have meanings that are used to talk about the future from the given time, the to-infinitive is used, but when looking back in time, the gerund.

(1) She forgot to tell me her plans. (She did not tell me, although she should have.)
(2) She forgot telling me her plans. (She told me, but then forgot having done so.)
(3) I remembered to go to work. (I remembered that I needed to go to work.)
(4) I remembered going to work. (I remembered that I went to work.)
d) go on

(1) After winning the semi-finals, he went on to play in the finals. (He completed the semi-finals and later played in the finals.)

(2) He went on giggling, not having noticed the teacher enter. (He continued doing so.)

e) mean

(1) I did not mean to scare you off. (I did not intend to scare you off.)

(2) Taking a new job in the city meant leaving behind her familiar surroundings. (If she took the job, she would have to leave behind her familiar surroundings.)

f) regret

(1) We regret to inform you that you have failed your exam. (polite or formal form of apology)

(2) I very much regret saying what I said. (I wish that I had not said that.)

g) try

When a to-infinitive is used, the subject is shown to make an effort at something, attempt or endeavor to do something. If a gerund is used, the subject is shown to attempt to do something in testing to see what might happen.

(1) Please try to remember to post my letter.

(2) I have tried being stern, but to no avail.

h) stop, quit
When the infinitive is used after 'stop' or 'quit', it means that the subject stops one activity and starts the activity indicated by the infinitive. If the gerund is used, it means that the subject stops the activity indicated by the gerund.

(1) She **stopped** to smell the flowers.

(2) She **stopped** **smelling** the flowers.

Or more concisely:

(1) She **stopped walking** to smell the flower.

(2) He **quit working** there to travel abroad.

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<th>Verbs Followed by a Gerund</th>
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<td>Admit</td>
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<td>Advise</td>
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<td>Appreciate</td>
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<td>Avoid</td>
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<td>Complete</td>
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<td>Consider</td>
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Note: If the verbs *need*, *require*, and *want* are followed by gerund, it expresses passive voice.

Examples:

(1) The flowers need *watering*. → The flowers need to be watered.

(2) My cat, Shino, wants *feeding*. → It wants to be fed.

(3) That old building requires *repairing*. → It requires to be repaired.

1) **As the object of preposition**
Prepositions are always followed by a noun-phrase. If we want to use a verb after a preposition, it must be a gerund (which functions as a noun). It is impossible to use an infinitive after a preposition. So, for example, we say:

(1) I will call you **after** arriving at the office.

(2) Please have a drink **before** leaving.

(3) She is insisted **on** going abroad.

(4) Do you afraid of **walking** alone in the dark?

(5) Tara always dreams **about** going on holiday.

Notice that you could replace all the above gerunds with "real" nouns:

(1) I will call you after my **arrival** at the office.

(2) Please have a drink before your **departure**.

(3) I am looking forward to **our lunch**.

(4) Do you object to **this job**?

(5) Tara always dreams about **holidays**.

Gerund after preposition has four patterns, they are:

a) **Gerund after prepositions that stand alone**

(1) After
   
   **After** having a shower, I waited for Steven.

(2) Before
   
   The tablet must not be taken **before** getting up in the morning.

(3) By
   
   I manage it **by** working much longer than 40-hour weeks.

(4) In spite of
   
   **In spite of** studying a lot he didn't pass the exams.

(5) On
   
   She insisted **on** calling her sister.

(6) Without
He told the joke **without** laughing.

b) Gerund after Adjective + Preposition

1. Afraid of
   They are **afraid of** losing the match.
2. Angry about/at
   Pat is **angry about** walking in the rain.
3. Bad at/good at
   John is **good at** working in the garden.
4. Clever at
   He is **clever at** skateboarding.
5. Crazy about
   The girl is **crazy about** playing tennis.
6. Disappointed about/at
   He is **disappointed about** seeing such a bad report.
7. Excited about
   We are **excited about** making our own film.
8. Famous for
   Sandy is **famous for** singing songs.
9. Fed up with
   I'm **fed up with** being treated as a child.
10. Fond of
    Hannah is **fond of** going to parties.
11. Glad about
    She is **glad about** getting married again.
12. Happy about/at
    The children are not **happy about** seeing a doctor.
13. Interested in
    Are you **interested in** writing poems?
14. Keen on
    Joe is keen on **drawing**.
15. Proud of
She is **proud of** riding a snowboard.

(16) Sick of

We're **sick of** sitting around like this.

(17) Sorry about/for

He's **sorry for** eating in the lesson.

(18) Tired of

I'm **tired of** waiting for you.

(19) Used to

She is **used to** smoking.

(20) Worried about

I'm **worried about** making mistakes.

c) **Gerund after Noun + Preposition**

(1) Advantage of

What is the **advantage of** farming over hunting?

(2) Chance of

There's a **chance of** catching a cold these days.

(3) Choice between

There's a **choice between** flying to London Heathrow or Stansted.

(4) Danger of

Peggy is in **danger of** making a mistake.

(5) Difficulty in

He has **difficulty in** texting.

(6) Doubt about

He is in **doubt about** buying the correct software for his computer system.

(7) Hope of

There's little **hope of** catching the new Corvette.

(8) Idea of

I like the **idea of** setting up a new email account.

(9) Interest in

There's no **interest in** writing letters.

(10) Method of
This is a simple **method** of finding solutions.

(11) **Opportunity of**

There's some **opportunity** of bringing her parents together again.

(12) **Possibility of**

These wheels offer the **possibility** of riding tubeless.

(13) **Problem of**

He has the **problem** of swimming too slow.

(14) **Reason for**

There's a real **reason** for winning the contest.

(15) **Risk of**

There's a **risk** of digging too deep.

(16) **Trouble for**

He was in **trouble** for stealing.

(17) **Way of**

This is a new **way** of building a wall.

d) **Gerund after Verb + Preposition**

(1) **Accuse of**

They were **accused** of breaking into a shop.

(2) **Agree with**

I **agree with** playing darts.

(3) **Apologize for**

They **apologize for** being late.

(4) **Believe in**

She doesn't **believe in** getting lost in the wood.

(5) **Blame for**

The reporter is **blamed for** writing bad stories.

(6) **Complain about**

She **complains about** bullying.

(7) **Concentrate on**

Do you **concentrate on** reading or writing?

(8) **Congratulate (subject) on**
I wanted to **congratulate you on** making such a good speech.

(9) Cope with

He is not sure how to **getting** older.

(10) Decide against

They **decided against** stealing the car.

(11) Depend on

Success may **depend on** becoming more patient.

(12) Dream about/of

Sue **dreams of** being a pop star.

(13) Feel like

They **feel like going** to bed.

(14) Get used to

You must **get used to** working long hours.

(15) Insist on

The girls **insisted on** going out with Mark.

(16) Look forward to

I'm **looking forward to** seeing you soon.

(17) Prevent (subject) from

How can I **prevent Kate from working** in this shop?

(18) Rely on

He doesn't **rely on** winning in the casino.

(19) Succeed in

How then can I **succeed in studying** chemistry?

(20) Specialize in

The firm **specialized in designing** websites.

(21) Stop (subject) from

I **stopped Andrew from smoking**.

(22) Talk about/of

They often **talk about travelling** to New Zealand.

(23) Think of

Frank **thinks of playing** chess.

(24) Warn (subject) against
We **warned them against** using this computer.

Worries about

- The patient **worries about** having the check-up.

### 2) As complement

Gerund as complement is usually preceded by *to be*. It may stand alone or have object or be modified by adverb.

Examples:

1. My mother's hobby is **cooking**.
2. What I always miss is **holding** her hand.
3. They took a rest in the **waiting** room.
4. My habitual activity in the morning is **running** fast from the kitchen to the living room.

### 3) As apposition

Apposition means further information or a confirmation. It is usually a noun, noun phrase, or series of nouns placed next to another word or phrase to identify or rename it. Nonrestrictive appositives are usually set off by commas, parentheses, or dashes. An appositive may be introduced by a word or phrase such as *namely, for example, or that is*.

Examples:

1. My hobby, **playing football**, sometimes makes me very tired in the night.
2. His method, **shooting and killing**, eventually came to an end.
3. She has a bad habit, **gambling**.
4. Her favorite exercise, **swimming in the pool**, makes her body strong.
5. That difficult work, **cutting down trees**, makes him exhausted.
4) After possessive case

As explained before, gerund is a noun, so we can modify it by using possessive case where the gerund is located after the possessive case.

Examples:
(1) I'm sorry for my coming late to the class.
(2) All troubles in your life come from your not thinking.

This function may seem easy. However, there is a fatal mistake which comes from misusing gerund in possessive case. The failure to use the possessive case with the gerund makes you misunderstand and get a totally different meaning of what someone really means. We can take this following example as a consideration: if a woman says to you, "I love your singing the love song." Do not get high too fast. The point is not that she loves you; it is the fact that she loves your voice when you sing a song. Another example: "Bella hates a man's standing right in front of her in the ceremony." The sentence does not tell that Bella hates the man; she may not even know the man. But she hates that the man stands right in front of her; he may cover Bella from seeing the ceremony.

5) After certain idiomatic expression

There are some common idiomatic expressions in English that can normally be followed by gerund:

a. It is / There is no good
   (1) There is no good playing game.
   (2) There is no much good sleeping too much.
   (3) Is there any good spending our money for cigarette?

b. It is / There is no use
   (1) There is no use waiting for you.
(2) There is no use loving you.
(3) Is there any use memorizing new concept?

c. It is / There is no fun
(1) There is no fun hating a beautiful girl.
(2) There is no fun studying with you.
(3) Is there any fun visiting a scared girl?

d. It is worth
(1) Is it worth loving you so much if you don’t love me?
(2) It is not worth helping a bad guy.
(3) It is so much worth reading a book.

e. Subject + Can’t stand (bear / endure)
(1) I can’t stand standing up any longer.
(2) I can’t stand bringing a heavy bag.
(3) I can’t stand memorizing new concept book.

f. Subject + Can’t help (avoid / prevent)
(1) I can’t help meeting you in this morning.
(2) I can’t help crying because of meeting you.
(3) I can’t help getting low value.

8) To show short prohibition

Gerund is used in short prohibitions. We usually find it them in certain places and conditions where we are not allowed to do something or to approach an area.

Examples:
(1) No littering!
(2) No cheating!
(3) No smoking!