



USING POSSESSIVES to MODIFY GERUNDS
An English-Zone.Com Worksheet

NAME: _____

DATE: _____



Example A) John stays late at work every night. That makes his wife suspicious.

John's staying late at work every night makes his wife suspicious.

Example B) John doesn't come home from work on time. His wife is suspicious about that.

John's wife is suspicious about his not coming home from work on time.

EXERCISE A. Replace the word THAT by combining the sentences using a possessive and a gerund phrase.

1. Peter eats lemons all the time. That is ruining the enamel on his teeth.

Peter's

2. Peter eats lemons all the time. His teeth are being damaged by that.

Peter's teeth

3. Marissa comes late to class every morning. The teacher is concerned about that.

The teacher

4. Marissa doesn't pass any of her tests. That worries the teacher.

Marissa's not

5. You won the race! That is wonderful!

Your

6. Micha complained about everything yesterday. I just couldn't tolerate that.

I

7. Baby Renata cried all day yesterday. That drove me nuts!

Baby Renata's

8. Yukita gives gifts to people. That makes her feel good.

Yukita's

9. Frank stole his friend's car. I can't understand that.

I

10. The thief stole a seeing-eye dog from a blind man last night. That was very cruel!

11. You passed the test! I'm proud of that!

12. Susan didn't want to eat the cake because of her diet. I can emphasize with that.

13. I didn't finish my homework. My parents are upset about that.

14. You ate the last piece of pizza. I'm angry about that because I was saving it for my dinner.

15. Ben has to go to a meeting. He doesn't want to go because it's raining. I can understand that.

I can understand Ben's

EXERCISE B. Write your own sentences using a possessive and a gerund phrase.

16.

17.

18.



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-ANSWER KEY-



Example A) John stays late at work every night. That makes his wife suspicious.

John's staying late at work every night makes his wife suspicious.

Example B) John doesn't come home from work on time. His wife is suspicious about that.

John's wife is suspicious about his not coming home from work on time.

EXERCISE A. Replace the word THAT by combining the sentences using a possessive and a gerund phrase.

1. Peter eats lemons all the time. That is ruining the enamel on his teeth.

Peter's eating lemons all the time is ruining the enamel on his teeth.

2. Peter eats lemons all the time. His teeth are being damaged by that.

Peter's teeth are being damaged by his eating lemons all the time.

3. Marissa comes late to class every morning. The teacher is concerned about that.

The teacher is concerned about Marissa's coming to class late every morning.

4. Marissa doesn't pass any of her tests. That worries the teacher.

Marissa's not passing any of her tests worries the teacher.

5. You won the race! That is wonderful!

Your winning the race is wonderful!

6. Micha complained about everything yesterday. I just couldn't tolerate that.

I just couldn't tolerate Micha's complained about everything yesterday.

7. Baby Renata cried all day yesterday. That drove me nuts!

Baby Renata's crying all day yesterday drove me nuts!

8. Yukita gives gifts to people. That makes her feel good.

Yukita's giving gifts to people makes her feel good.

9. Frank stole his friend's car. I can't understand that.

I can't understand Franks' stealing his friend's car.

10. The thief stole a seeing-eye dog from a blind man last night. That was very cruel!

The thief's stealing a seeing-eye dog from a blind man last night was very cruel!

11. You passed the test! I'm proud of that!

I'm proud of your passing the test.

12. Susan didn't want to eat the cake because of her diet. I can emphasize with that.

I can emphasize with Susan's not wanting to eat the cake because of her diet.

13. I didn't finish my homework. My parents are upset about that.

My parents are upset at my not finishing my homework.

14. You ate the last piece of pizza. I'm angry about that because I was saving it for my dinner.

I'm angry about your eating the last piece of pizza because I was saving it for my dinner.

15. Ben has to go to a meeting. He doesn't want to go because it's raining. I can understand that.

I can understand Ben's not wanting to go to the meeting because of the rain.

EXERCISE B. Write your own sentences using a possessive and a gerund phrase.

16. (various answers)

17. (various answers)

18. (various answers)