

**Take turns talking for a few minutes on one of these topics. After you give your opinion, ask other group members their opinion.**

- best city I have visited in the U.S.
- best thing to eat when you are really hungry
- the most unpleasant household chore
- something to do when you are really bored
- an appointment that makes you nervous
- thing that is the most fun to shop for
- body part that wears out first in old age
- hair color that looks best on women/men
- best place to read a good book
- best thing to bring your girlfriend when you're trying to make up after a fight

**Work with a partner to write a paragraph that begins with one of these phrases. Then read your paragraph to the class. Teachers correct where needed.**

As she entered the room, everyone gasped. \_\_\_\_\_

When the teacher called on me, I froze. \_\_\_\_\_

All of a sudden the lights went out. \_\_\_\_\_

**Grammar Patterns: verb + preposition + ing**

Many verbs have the structure: verb + preposition + object.

Example: We talked about the problem. Hal apologized for his remark. I congratulated Greta on her award.

If the object is another verb, it ends in ING.

Ex: We talked about going to America. I apologized for lying to my parents. He succeeded in finding a job. I'm thinking of buying a house. I don't approve of swearing. She decided against moving to London.

**The following verbs can have the structure verb + object + preposition + ing.**

congratulate on: I congratulated Liz on getting a new job.

accuse of: They accused us of telling lies.

suspect of: No one suspected the general of being a spy.

prevent from: What prevented you from coming to see us?

stop from: The rain didn't stop us from enjoying our vacation.

thank for: I thanked the policemen for saving my life.

excuse for: I couldn't excuse him for yelling at my child.

forgive for: Please forgive me for writing only one letter.

**Complete each sentence below with an "ing" word. Only use one word.**

1. Our neighbors apologized for \_\_\_\_\_ so much noise.
2. I feel lazy. I don't feel like \_\_\_\_\_ any work.
3. I wanted to go out alone, but Father insisted on \_\_\_\_\_ with me.
4. I'm fed up with my job. I'm thinking of \_\_\_\_\_ something else.
5. We decided against \_\_\_\_\_ a new car right now.
6. I'm looking forward to \_\_\_\_\_ from my sister in France.
7. The weather was really bad. It prevented us from \_\_\_\_\_ out.

8. The man who was arrested is suspected of \_\_\_\_\_ a fake passport.
9. I think you should apologize to Ruth for \_\_\_\_\_ so rude to her.
10. Some parents don't approve of their kids \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of TV.
11. I can't come to your party, but thanks very much for \_\_\_\_\_ me.
12. Tom insisted on \_\_\_\_\_ me to the station.
13. Are you looking forward to \_\_\_\_\_ on vacation.
14. When I moved to Britain, I had to get used to \_\_\_\_\_ on the left side of the road.
15. I'm thinking of \_\_\_\_\_ a new business.