

Unit 59

Preposition + -ing

a If a verb comes after a preposition (*in/at/with/about* etc.), the verb ends in **-ing**. Study these examples:

Are you interested I'm not very good I'm fed up The children are excited What are the advantages This knife is only John went to work I bought a new bicycle	in at with about of for in spite of instead of	working learning studying going having cutting feeling going	for us? languages. on holiday. a car? bread. ill. (See Unit 109 .) away on holiday.
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b You can use **-ing** with **before** and **after**:

- **Before going** out I phoned Ann.
You can also say: '**Before I went** out I...'
- What did you do **after leaving** school?
You can also say: '... **after you left** school?'

c You can use **by -ing** to say *how* something happened:

- They got into the house **by breaking** a kitchen window and climbing in.
- You can improve your English **by doing** a lot of reading.

d You can use **-ing** after **without**:

- Tom left **without finishing** his dinner.
- She ran five miles **without stopping**.
- He climbed through the window **without** anybody **seeing** him.
(or '... **without being** seen.')
- She needs to work **without** people **disturbing** her. (or '... **without being** disturbed.')
- It's nice to go on holiday **without having** to worry about money.