

Definition.  
Practical  
Exercises.

} As in former plans.

### THE GERUND.

NOTE.—See Note under “Infinitive Mood” in plan for that lesson.

Topic.

The gerund (verbal noun) is a part of the verb. It ends in *ing*, is used as a noun, and may, therefore, be the subject of a verb, the object of a verb, or the object of a preposition.

If it is formed from a transitive verb, it retains the governing power of the verb.

Introduc-  
tion.

Review verb, action, how that action is named generally, — *read, reading; walk, walking; etc.*

Develop-  
ment.

1. Place on B.B. the following sentences: “Rowing is a healthy exercise,” or, “Skating is a healthy exercise.”
2. Bring from the class the subject of the verb. What is the subject of the verb in the first sentence? *Rowing.*
3. Now investigate: From what part of speech is *rowing* derived? From the verb *row*. How is it formed? By adding *ing*. What is its use? It is the subject of the verb, and therefore *takes the place of a noun*, and may be called a noun. Drill on this general use.
4. Take another illustration, such as the following: “I like walking,” or, “I like reading.”
5. Bring from class the function of the words *walking* and *reading*, and then investigate as in 3.
6. (At the discretion of the teacher.) Such examples as the following may now be introduced: “*Losing* his fortune drove him mad.” “He injured himself in *injuring* them,”—where the verbal form is a part of a *group*. Thus, “*Losing* his fortune” is the logical