

## Expressions + -ing

**A** When these expressions are followed by a verb, the verb ends in -ing:

**There's no point in . . . :**

- There's no point in having a car if you never use it.
- There was no point in waiting any longer, so we left.

**There's no use / It's no use . . . :**

- There's nothing you can do about the situation, so there's no use worrying about it. *or . . . it's no use worrying about it.*

**It's no good . . . :**

- It's no good trying to persuade me. You won't succeed.

**It's (not) worth . . . :**

- I live only a short walk from here, so it's not worth taking a taxi.
- It was so late when we got home, it wasn't worth going to bed.

You can say "a movie is worth seeing," "a book is worth reading," etc.

- What was the movie like? Was it worth seeing?
- I don't think newspapers are worth reading.

**B** Have trouble/difficulty -ing

We say "have trouble/difficulty doing something" (*not* to do):

- Did you have any trouble getting a visa?
- People often have great trouble reading my writing.
- I had difficulty finding a place to live. (*not* I had difficulty to find)

**C** We use -ing after:

a waste of money / a waste of time (to . . . is also possible):

- That book was trash. It was a waste of time reading it. (*or . . . to read it*)
- It's a waste of money buying things you don't need. (*or . . . to buy things you don't need*)

spend/waste (time)

- He spent hours trying to repair the clock.
- I waste a lot of time daydreaming.

(be) busy

- She said she couldn't see me. She was too busy doing other things.

**D** Go swimming / go fishing, etc.

We use go -ing for a number of activities (especially sports). For example, you can say: go swimming / go sailing / go fishing / go hiking / go skiing / go jogging, etc.

We also say: go shopping / go sightseeing.

- I'd like to go skiing.
- When was the last time you went shopping?
- I've never gone sailing.

# Exercises

## 60.1 Complete the sentences on the right.

- Should we take a taxi home?
- If you need help, why don't you ask Tom?
- I don't really want to go out tonight.
- Should I call Ann now?
- Are you going to complain about what happened?
- Do you ever read newspapers?

No, it isn't far. It's not worth taking a taxi .  
There's \_\_\_\_\_ .  
He won't be able to help us.  
Well, stay at home! There's no point \_\_\_\_\_ if you don't want to.  
No, don't waste your time \_\_\_\_\_ .  
She won't be at home.  
No, it's not worth \_\_\_\_\_ .  
Nobody will do anything about it.  
No. I think it's a waste \_\_\_\_\_ .

## 60.2 Make sentences with *worth -ing* or *not worth -ing*. Choose one of these verbs:

consider keep read fix see visit

- The movie isn't very good. It's not worth seeing.
- It would cost too much to fix this watch. It's not worth \_\_\_\_\_ .
- If you have time, you should go to the museum. It's worth \_\_\_\_\_ .
- That's quite an interesting suggestion. \_\_\_\_\_ .
- There's an interesting article in the paper today. \_\_\_\_\_ .
- We can throw these old clothes away. They \_\_\_\_\_ .

## 60.3 Write sentences using *trouble* or *difficulty*.

- I managed to get a visa, but it was difficult. I had difficulty getting a visa.
- I can't remember people's names. I have \_\_\_\_\_ .
- Sarah managed to get a job without trouble.  
She had no \_\_\_\_\_ .
- Do you think it's difficult to understand him?  
Do you have \_\_\_\_\_ ?
- It won't be difficult to get a ticket for the concert.  
You won't have any \_\_\_\_\_ .

## 60.4 Complete the sentences. Use only one word each time.

- It's a waste of money buying \_\_\_\_\_ things you don't need.
- Every morning I spend about an hour \_\_\_\_\_ the newspaper.
- There's no point in \_\_\_\_\_ for the job. I know I wouldn't get it.
- "What's Karen doing?" "She's busy \_\_\_\_\_ letters."
- I think you waste too much time \_\_\_\_\_ television.
- Just stay calm. There's no point in \_\_\_\_\_ angry.
- There's a beautiful view from that hill. It is worth \_\_\_\_\_ to the top.

## 60.5 Complete these sentences with one of the following (with the verb in the correct form):

go skiing go shopping go swimming ~~go sailing~~ go riding

- Robert lives by the ocean and he's got a boat, so he often goes sailing \_\_\_\_\_ .
- There's plenty of snow in the mountains, so we'll be able to \_\_\_\_\_ .
- It was a very hot day, so we \_\_\_\_\_ in the river.
- Michelle has two horses. She often \_\_\_\_\_ .
- The stores are closed now. It's too late to \_\_\_\_\_ .