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<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>OBJECT, AIM AND METHOD OF THE RESEARCH</b>	<b>201</b>
<b>Sources</b>	gerund is a frequent and common means of the construction of a sentence which it regularly occurs in both spoken and written language. It is particularly in the written	<b>205</b>
<b>Résumé</b>	that its function as a sentence condenser becomes prominent, since written language enables to construct intricate hierarchically structured sentences combining complex contents in them. Such constructions require more attention to be understood, but at the same time they offer the possibility of re-reading (if necessary) and interpreting the meaning.	<b>206</b>
<b>Appendices</b>	The present work deals with the gerund occurring in contemporary narrative prose, both as an obligatory and optional clause element. It attempts to map out its status in the grammatical system of ModE as it is presented in academic grammars of contemporary English, and at the same time it focuses on the actual use of the gerund as a means of sentence	
	as compared with the frequency of its use as the only possible way of expression.	
	The analysis is focused not only on the <b>EXCERPTS</b> syntactic functions of the gerund, but also on the internal structure of the individual gerundial constructions (i.e. the occurrence of the subject of the gerund and its form, the forms of the gerund – active vs. passive, present	
<b>Malcolm BRADBURY</b>	of further complementation or modification of the gerund	<b>I</b>
<b>Anita BROOKNER</b>	the gerund depends on a number of grammatical as well as stylistic	<b>VI</b>
<b>Margaret DRABBLE</b>	expressions complemented or modified by the gerund are	<b>XII</b>
<b>David LODGE</b>	semantic point of view.	<b>XXV</b>
<b>V.S. NAIPAUL</b>	analyze the occurrence of the gerund as a means of complex	<b>XXXIV</b>
<b>Fay WELDON</b>	to the gerundial constructions which are theoretically supposed to allow potential replacement by an alternative finite clause. The acceptability of such alternative	<b>XLIV</b>
	finite clauses.	
	<b>AN OUTLINE OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GERUND</b>	
	view. Such consideration makes it possible to decide whether or not the gerund in its actual occurrence can be regarded as a sentence condenser.	
<b>Outline of the Development of the gerund</b>	its constructions from a solely synchronic	<b>LII</b>
	point of view; accordingly the material for the actual analysis is excerpted from works of narrative literature by the contemporary British authors Malcolm Bradbury, Anita Brookner, Margaret Drabble, David Lodge, V. S. Naipaul, and Fay Weldon. All the works excerpted were first published in the 1980s and 1990s.	