Word Skills: Adding -ing

When you write verbs in the present continuous and past continuous tenses, you use the ending -ing. Here are some rules to help you add that ending.

Rule 1: For words that end in a silent (not pronounced) -e, drop the -e and add -ing.

Example: smile → smiling

Rule 2: For one-syllable words that end in consonant-vowel-consonant (except x and w), double the last letter and add -ing.

Examples: sit → sitting run → running

Rule 3: For most other words (including words that end in -y), add -ing with no changes.

Examples: rain → raining send → sending

Use these rules to add -ing to the following words:

1. shave 16. hope 31. save
2. comb 17. jump 32. tap
3. make 18. joke 33. carry
4. feed 19. marry 34. buy
5. do 20. put 35. sew
6. empty 21. say 36. eat
7. jog 22. talk 37. write
8. take 23. stop 38. dream
9. vacuum 24. type 39. cut
10. go 25. use 40. roar
11. sleep 26. worry 41. snap
12. wax 27. look 42. dig
13. change 28. bat 43. bury
14. fry 29. dance 44. see
15. get 30. hurry 45. skate

Now write a sentence in your notebook for each of the -ing words you made. If you wish, you may use more than one -ing word in a single sentence. For example:

While Dad was __________ing, Lee was __________ing on the telephone, and I was upstairs __________ing.

SKILL OBJECTIVES: Constructing gerunds; applying rules for spelling changes. Review the rules for spelling changes with the class. Do several examples together, then assign the page for independent written work. After Part B has been completed, ask each student to read his/her favorite sentence aloud to the class.