GRADING SHEET

Student: Didier Herrera

Workshop 14 · Small Words, Big Difference

91%

98 / 108 points

Nota: 4.5 / 5.0

Breakdown

1b · in, on or at	**11 / 12**
1d · for, to, about, at	**7 / 8**
1e · Find the mistake	**6 / 6**
1f · Weather words	**2 / 4**
2c · The -ing form	**12 / 12**
2d · Complete the sentences	**8 / 8**
2e · Find the mistake	**4 / 6**
2f · Word partners	**6 / 6**
3d · Circle the correct words	**9 / 10**
3e · The correct form	**7 / 8**
3g · can	**6 / 6**
3h · Write the question	**5 / 6**
4b · Match to the meaning	**6 / 6**
4c · Read about Ana	**2 / 2**
4f · Five -ing phrases	**5 / 5**
4g · Three questions	**2 / 3**

For the teacher to grade (audio / video / free writing)

Not included in the score above. Write the result here.

Part 5 · Your video project	
Adjusted final mark	

Comments

Didier, 98 out of 108, the highest mark in this batch. Four exercises at full marks that matter: **12 out of 12** writing the -ing form, **8 out of 8** using it, **6 out of 6** on can, and **9 out of 10** on the be or do section that caught everyone else out. You can hear the difference between "are you doing" and "do you do", which is the whole point of Part 3.

What you lost is almost entirely single words rather than rules. Two weather adjectives (rainy has one n, foggy doubles the g), two prepositions, and the missing *does* in one question.

The one real pattern is in 2e. After **mind, enjoy, love, like** and **hate**, the next verb takes -ing and there is no *to*. You wrote "enjoys to cooking" and "don't minding to work". In the second one the -ing landed on the wrong verb: it is *don't mind working*, not *don't minding to work*. The first verb stays plain, the second one takes -ing.

One habit worth breaking: in 1e you corrected the preposition but changed the rest of the sentence and broke it ("We are on exam on Monday"). Fix only what is wrong and leave the rest alone.

Your Part 4 free answers show good range, but watch "I listening to music": that needs **am**. It is the same helping verb we have been working on.

WHAT TO CORRECT

Very strong. Almost everything below is a single word rather than a rule you have missed.

The -ing form after mind, enjoy, love, hate

Item	Question	You wrote	Correct answer
2e.3	She enjoys _____ for her family.	to cooking	She enjoys **cooking**
2e.6	We don’t mind _____ on Saturdays.	don’t minding to work	We don’t **mind working** on Saturdays. The -ing goes on the second verb, not the first.
2e.1	I don’t mind getting up early.	I don’t mind getting	Finish the sentence: **getting up early**.

Prepositions

Item	Question	You wrote	Correct answer
1b.8	A clock time takes at.	in	**at** half past two
1d.7	arrive _____ the airport	in	arrive **at** the airport

Small ones

Item	Question	You wrote	Correct answer
1f	The adjective from rain	rainny	**rainy** (one n)
1f	The adjective from fog	fogy	**foggy** (double the g)
3d.1	What _____ tonight?	do you doing	**are you doing**
3e.3	She _____ coffee.	don’t like	**doesn’t like** (she takes doesn’t)
3h.4	What time _____ she go to bed?	what time she go	What time **does** she go to bed?
1e.5	We have an exam on Monday.	We are on exam on Monday	The preposition was right. Keep the rest of the sentence: **We have an exam on Monday.**

Workshop 14: Small Words, Big Difference ✦

Name: Didier stiven Herrera
Level: Elementary

In this workshop you will go over the small words that change the meaning of a whole sentence. You will practise in, on and at, learn the verbs that always take the same preposition, write the -ing form correctly after like, love, don't mind, don't like, hate and enjoy, choose between be and do in questions, and use can with no to and no -s. You will train your ear on a real video, and at the end you will record a short video of your own for our Facebook group.

Your plan for today ▸

Part 1 — Small words for time: in, on, at (grammar and vocabulary)
Part 2 — verb + -ing (grammar)
Part 3 — be or do? and can (grammar)
Part 4 — Small words, big difference (reading and video)
Part 5 — My free time (your video project)

What you need ☞

- One video from YouTube. The link is in Part 4. Watch it with the subtitles switched OFF.
- Your phone, to record your own video for Part 5.
- About 90 minutes. You can do it in one sitting, or over two days.

How to work through this workshop ✎

- Work at your own pace. Nobody is watching you, and there is no clock.
- Watch the video as many times as you need. Three times is normal.
- Write your answers straight into this document, or print it and write by hand.
- If you are not sure, write your best guess. A guess tells me more than an empty line.

☀ Part 1 — Small Words for Time: in, on, at

a. The three little words

English uses three words where Spanish often uses one. Think of three boxes, from big to small.

in the big box: months, seasons, years, and the morning, the afternoon and the evening.
in July · in winter · in 2026 · in the morning

on one day inside the big box: days and dates.
on Monday · on 2nd March · on Friday evening

at one moment inside the day: clock times.
at 11 o'clock · at half past two

Two fixed phrases do not follow the pattern. Learn them exactly as they are: **at night** and **at the weekend.**

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⚠ **Be careful!** A date is a day, so it takes on: on 2nd March, *not* in 2nd March. The month on its own takes in: in March. This one catches almost everybody, so read it twice.

b. Practice: in, on or at?

Write the correct word in each gap.

1 My birthday is ___in___ July.
2 Their wedding is ___on___ 2nd March.
3 She goes to bed ___at___ about 11 o'clock.
4 We have our English class ___on___ Tuesday.
5 It often snows ___in___ winter.
6 The film starts ___at___ 8.30.
7 My mother was born ___in___ 1972.
8 I don't work ___in___ the weekend.
9 He always reads ___at___ night.
10 My sister arrives ___on___ Sunday 14th June.
11 I usually study ___in___ the evening.
12 We go on holiday ___in___ December.



c. Verbs that always take the same little word

Some verbs in English always go with the same preposition. Learn the verb and its little word together, as if they were one word.

look for = *buscar* I can't find my keys. Can you look for them?
wait for = *esperar* I'm coming! Wait for me!
listen to = *escuchar* I listen to music every morning.
talk to / speak to = *hablar con* I need to talk to the doctor.
think about = *pensar en* She often thinks about her family.
ask for = *pedir* He asked for a glass of water.
arrive is the exception, because it changes. You **arrive at** a building, but you **arrive in** a city or a country. We arrive at the airport. We arrive in Bogotá.

⚠ **Be careful!** Spanish and English do not always choose the same little word, and sometimes Spanish uses none at all. Escuchar música is listen to music, never listen music. Esperar a alguien is wait for somebody, never wait to somebody.

d. Practice: for, to, about or at?

1 I can't find my glasses. Can you look ___for___ them?
2 I need to talk ___to___ the doctor about my results.
3 I'm coming! Wait ___for___ me!
4 I love listening ___to___ salsa when I cook.
5 She often thinks ___about___ her holiday in Cartagena.
6 He was thirsty, so he asked ___for___ a glass of water.
7 We arrive ___in___ the airport at six in the morning.
8 Please listen ___to___ me. This is important.



e. Practice: find the mistake

Each sentence has one mistake. Write the sentence correctly.

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This sentence is wrong	Write it correctly
1 Their weddin' is in 2nd March.	Their weddin is on 2nd March.
2 My birthday's at July.	My birthday's in July.
3 I listen music every morning.	I listen to music every morning
4 Wait to me! I'm coming!	Wait for me! I'm coming!
5 We have an exam in Monday.	We are on exam on Mordag
6 The class starts on nine o'clock.	The class starts at nine o'clock

f. One weather word, two forms

Most weather words have two forms, a noun and an adjective, and the adjective usually ends in **-y**.
✓ There's a lot of **fog** today. *(noun)* ✓ It's **foggy** today. *(adjective)*

Complete the table.

noun	adjective
sun	sunny
cloud	cloudy
wind ✓	windy
rain	~~rainny~~ ✗ rainy
fog	~~fogy~~ ✗ foggy
snow ✓	snowy

g. Write about you

Tip: There is no wrong answer here. Use in, on and at where you can.

1 When is your birthday? Use in with the month, then on with the date.

My birthday is in February on 28th of

2 What is the weather like in your city in December, and what do you do at the weekend?

The weather in December is rainny, I do play with my family

✎ Part 2 — verb + -ing

a. The rule

After like, love, don't mind, don't like, hate and enjoy, the second verb always ends in -ing.

I love cool**ing** for my family.
I like **going** to the cinema.
I don't mind **getting** up early.
I don't like **doing** the housework.
I hate **waiting** for the bus.

We also use the -ing form after **enjoy**: I enjoy watching football on TV.

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⚠ **Be careful!** In Spanish you say *me gusta hacer*, with the infinitive. English does not work that way here.

✓ I like doing the housework. ✗ I like do the housework.
✓ I don't mind getting up early. ✗ I don't mind to get up early.
After don't mind and enjoy, the -ing form is the only correct one. With like, love and hate you will sometimes hear to + verb (I love to dance). That is not wrong, but in this course we always use the -ing form.
would like is different, and it always takes to + verb: I would like to start yoga.

b. Spelling of the -ing form

most verbs: add ng	work → working · hear → hearing · listen → listening
verb ending in -e: take the e away, then add -ing	live → living · dance → dancing · have → having
short verbs ending in one vowel + one consonant: double the consonant	get → getting · run → running · swim → swimming

c. Practice: write the -ing form

1 work → working ✓	2 get → getting ✓	3 live → living ✓
4 run → running ✓	5 study → studying ✓	6 dance → dancing ✓
7 have → having ✓	8 swim → swimming ✓	9 take → taking ✓
10 listen → listening ✓	11 shop → shopping ✓	12 write → writing ✓

d. Practice: complete the sentences

Write the -ing form of the verb in brackets.

1 I don't mind getting up early. *(get)* ✓
2 Do you like doing the housework? *(do)* ✓
3 My aunt loves dancing the tango. *(dance)* ✓
4 We hate waiting for the bus in the rain. *(wait)* ✓
5 He doesn't like running in the morning. *(run)* ✓
6 I really enjoy listening to live music. *(listen)* ✓
7 They don't mind working on Saturdays. *(work)* ✓
8 My brother loves swimming in the sea. *(swim)* ✓

e. Practice: find the mistake

Each sentence has one mistake. Correct it using the -ing form.

This sentence is wrong	Write it correctly
1 I don't mind get up early.	I don't mind getting ✓
2 Do you like do the housework?	Do you like doing the housework? ✓
3 She enjoys to cook for her family. ✗	She enjoys to cooking for her family. enjoys cooking ✓
4 I hate wait for the bus.	I hate waiting for the bus. ✓
5 He loves play the guitar.	He loves playing the guitar. ✓

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6 We don't mind to work on Saturdays.	We don't minding to work on Saturdays.

don't mind working

f. Word partners

Some verbs and nouns go together in English. Complete each sentence with one verb from the box. Use each verb once.

buy · call · have · hear · take · tell

1 It's my sister's birthday tomorrow. I need to buy her a present.
2 We're going to have a party on Saturday. Can you come?
3 Stand there and smile. I want to take a photo.
4 It's raining and it's late. Let's call a taxi.
5 Don't tell anyone. It's a secret!
6 Be quiet! I can hear a strange noise in the kitchen.

g. Write about you

Tip: Remember the -ing form. Example: I love cooking at the weekend.

1 I love playing in afternoon.
2 I like playing at the nigth
3 I don't mind that rain when I am amusing
4 I don't like cooking every morning
5 I hate when I feeling sad
6 My best friend loves playing sports and speak.

❖ Part 3 — be or do? and can

a. Read the conversation

Camila meets her neighbour Sara on the stairs. Read what they say, and look at the words in **bold**.

Sara: Hi Camila! What **are you doing**?
Camila: I'm carrying twenty kilos of shopping up the stairs.
Sara: Oh! **Do you** need help?
Camila: Yes please. **Can you** take this bag?
Sara: Of course. So, what **do you do**?
Camila: I'm a nurse. And **are you** tired? You **look** tired!
Sara: I am now!

b. Think about the grammar

Look at the conversation again. Why does Sara say "What are you doing?" in one line and "What do you do?" in another?

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be or do?

Use **be** (am, is, are) when the sentence is about something happening NOW, or when there is no other verb.

What are you doing? *(now)* **Are you hungry?** *(there is no other verb)*

Use **do or does** when the sentence is about a habit, a job or a fact, and there IS another verb.

What do you do? *(your job)* **Do you play the guitar?** *(a habit)*

Easy trick: try adding *at this moment* to the question. If it fits, use **are**. If it does not fit, use **do**.

✓ What ... you doing *at this moment*? → are

✗ What ... you do *at this moment*? → do

c. he, she, it: add -s

In the present simple, the verb takes **-s** after he, she and it.

I work → he works. I go → she goes. I study → he studies. I have → she has.

But after **does** and **doesn't** the verb has NO -s, because does is already carrying it.

✓ What time does she go to bed? ✗ What time does she goes to bed?

✓ He doesn't like jazz. ✗ He doesn't likes jazz.

d. Practice: circle the correct words

1 A: What are you / do you doing? B: I'm studying. — are you doing

2 A: What are you / do you do? B: I'm a nurse.

3 Are you / Do you hungry? Yes. What's for dinner?

4 What song are you / do you listening to?

5 Are you / Do you play the guitar?

6 A: What's that noise? B: They're having / They're have a party upstairs.

7 The weather is cold, but it isn't / it doesn't raining.

8 Look! The sun shines / is shining.

9 The museum close / closes at 2.00 on Mondays.

10 What time do / does she usually go to bed?

e. Practice: complete with the correct form

1 My sister works in a hospital. *(work)*

2 What time does the shop open? *(do)*

3 He don't like getting up early. *(not like)* — doesn't like

4 The bank closes at four o'clock. *(close)*

5 Does your brother play football? *(do)*

6 She has three children. *(have)*

7 My father goes to work by bus. *(go)*

8 Does it often rain here in May? *(do)*

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f. can + infinitive: no to, no -s

can never changes, and the verb after it never changes either.

✓ I can play the piano. She can play the piano. They can play the piano.

✗ She cans play. ✗ She can to play. ✗ She can plays.

Questions: put can first. **Can you come tonight?** not Do you can come tonight?

Negative: **can't** I can't swim.

⚠ **Be careful!** "He can't play the violin" means he does not play it at all. "He can't play the violin very well" means he does play it, but he is not good. Two small words change the whole meaning.

g. Practice: circle the correct words

1 She can play / can to play / cans play the piano.

2 Do you can / Can you / You can to come tonight?

3 My brother can't / doesn't can swim.

4 Can she / Does she can speak French?

5 They can to come / can come on Saturday.

6 He can drives / can drive a bus.

h. Practice: write the question

Tip: More than one question is possible in some items. Just make sure you start with the right word: do, does, are or can.

Your question	The answer
1 What do you do ?	I'm a teacher.
2 what are you doing ?	I'm cooking dinner.
3 Can you play the guitar ?	Yes, I can. I play the guitar.
4 what time she go to bed ?	She goes to bed at eleven.
5 Are you tired? ?	No, I'm not. I'm not tired at all.
6 Do you like the salsa music	Yes, I do. I love salsa.

does she go

☞ Part 4 — Small Words, Big Difference

a. One small word decides the answer

In a listening or reading test, the difference between the right answer and the wrong one is often one small word:

very · only · never · sometimes · doesn't

Read or listen to the whole sentence before you choose. The small word is often at the end, where it is easy to miss.

b. Practice: match the sentence with its meaning

Match each sentence (1–6) with its meaning (a–f). Write the letter in the box.

1	q	He can't play the violin.	a) He does not play the violin at all.

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2	d	He can't play the violin very well.	b) They are quiet most of the time, but not always.
3	f	My neighbours never make a noise.	c) In the morning she drinks coffee and nothing else.
4	b	My neighbours sometimes make a noise.	d) He plays the violin, but he is not good at it.
5	c	She drinks only coffee in the morning.	e) In the morning she drinks no coffee.
6	e	She doesn't drink coffee in the morning.	f) They are quiet all the time.

⚠ **Careful with NOT** When a question asks what a text does NOT say, or which thing is NOT true, underline the negative word first. The right answer is the one that is missing from the text, not one of the ones that are in it.

c. Practice: read about Ana

Ana, a music teacher in Bogotá

Ana is a music teacher in Bogotá. She teaches the guitar and the piano, and at the weekend she sings in a small band. She loves working with children, and she doesn't mind teaching in the evening, because she does not like getting up early. In her free time she goes swimming on Saturdays and she reads a lot.

1 Which of these does the text NOT say about Ana?

a) She teaches the guitar. b) She sings in a band. (c) She plays the violin. d) She goes swimming.

2 Ana doesn't mind _____.

a) getting up early (b) teaching in the evening c) working in the morning

d. ▶ Now watch the video

An Oxford Online English lesson: How to Talk About Your Free Time and Hobbies in English
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hoyhPZDp3dE

- Turn the subtitles **OFF** before you start. Click the CC button under the video.
- Watch it three times: once for the general idea, once to write your answers, and once to check them.
- It is normal not to understand every word. Listen for the words you do know.
- If the link does not open, search YouTube for: Oxford Online English free time and hobbies.

e. Watch once, without stopping. What is the video about? Write two or three sentences.

- A man speaks about the free time and hobbies.
- He is teaching us with examples
- He teaches us to use the times.

f. Watch again. Write five verb + -ing phrases that you hear.

Tip: For example: playing football, going swimming. Check your spelling against the rules in Part 2.

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1 Playing football ✓	2 relaxing with my family ✓
3 Going jogging ✓	4 taking photos ✓
5 doing boxing ✓	

g. Watch again. Write three questions you hear, and say whether each one uses be or do.

Tip: Example: "What do you like doing in your free time?" takes do, because it is about a habit and there is another verb.

The question you heard	be or do, and why
1 What about you?	✗ no auxiliary written
2 What do you like doing?	do ✓
3 What do you doing in your free time	do ✓

h. Now answer these questions about yourself, in full sentences.

1 What do you like doing in your free time?

I love playing football or watching movies.

2 What are you doing at this moment, apart from this workshop?

I listening to music.

3 Is there a hobby you would like to start? Why?

I like would to start to read more for learn words news.

▶ Part 5 — My Free Time (Your Video)

Now it is time to use everything from today in a real situation. Record a short video on your phone, between 60 and 90 seconds, and post it in our private Facebook group. Nobody outside the group can see it. Watch your classmates' videos and leave one friendly comment on at least two of them.

a. How to do it

1. Read the five questions below and think about your answers. Do not write a full script: notes sound natural, a script sounds like reading.
2. Practise once or twice out loud. Nobody is watching.
3. Record the video. If you make a mistake, keep going. I would rather hear a real voice than a perfect one.
4. Post it in the Facebook group before the next class.
5. Watch two classmates' videos and answer their questions in the comments, in English.

b. Answer these five questions in your video

1. What do you do? Say your job, or what you study. *(This question takes do.)*
2. What are you doing today? Look around you and tell us. *(This question takes be.)*
3. What do you like doing in your free time? Use three verbs with -ing.
4. What can you do well, and what can't you do very well? Use can and can't.
5. Finish with a question for the group, using in, on or at. For example: What do you do on Sundays?

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c. Use this language in your video

- I'm a ... / I study ... At the moment I'm ...
- I love / I like / I don't mind / I don't like / I hate + verb + -ing
- I can ... quite well, but I can't ... very well.
- on Mondays · at the weekend · in the morning · in December

d. A model video (about 70 seconds)

Camila ▶

Hi everyone, I'm Camila. I'm a nurse, and I work at a hospital in the centre of the city. At the moment I'm sitting in my kitchen with a cup of coffee, and my dog is sleeping under the table. In my free time I love cooking, I like walking in the park, and I don't mind doing the housework if there's music on. I hate getting up early, but I do it every day! I can swim quite well, but I can't cook rice very well. It's always terrible! And my question for you is: what do you do on Sunday mornings?

e. Your notes. Do not write a full script.

Hi, my name is Didier, but you can call me Liger, I study in the school every day except in the Saturday and sunday, in the moment I'm studying and listening to music.

f. Before you post it, check

- ☐ My video is between 60 and 90 seconds.
- ☐ I answered all five questions.
- ☐ I used do for the job question and be for the "now" question.
- ☐ I used at least three verbs with -ing.
- ☐ I used can and can't.
- ☐ I finished with a question using in, on or at.
- ☐ I posted it in the Facebook group and commented on two classmates' videos.

Can you...? ✦

Tick the box if you can do it. If you cannot, go back to that part.

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