

動詞 insist on に続く動名詞について(英文)

名本, 幹雄
九州大学医療技術短期大学部

<https://doi.org/10.15017/103>

出版情報：九州大学医療技術短期大学部紀要．6，pp.21-23，1979-03-25．九州大学医療技術短期大学部
バージョン：
権利関係：

動詞 *insist on* に続く動名詞について

名 本 幹 雄

On the Gerunds Following the Predicate *insist on*

Mikio Namoto

1.0 Introduction

There are two types of gerunds in English.¹⁾ Is the gerund in the sentence *She insists on going with him* a nominal gerund or a verbal one? The specific structural differences between a nominal gerund and a verbal one are enumerated in (1) - (6)²⁾.

- (1) Articles : The nominal gerunds are introduced articles, unlike the verbal ones.
- (2) Modifiers : The nominal gerunds take preceding with adjectival modifiers, while the verbal gerunds take following adverbial modifiers.
- (3) Number : The nominal gerund can be pluralized, unlike the verbal gerund.
- (4) Objects : The nominal gerunds express the grammatical relation of direct-object-of in a prepositional phrase, whereas the verbal gerunds take the direct object immediately following the verb.
- (5) Negatives : The nominal gerund takes *no*, while the verbal gerund takes *not*.
- (6) Aspect : The nominal gerund does not permit a tense marker, while the verbal gerund does.

The gerund *going* in the sentence *She insists on going with him* has the following characteristics.

- (1) It can not be introduced with articles.
- (2) It can not be pluralized.
- (3) It takes *not* instead of *no*.
- (4) It does not permit a tense marker.

Judging from the characteristics of the gerund *going* in the sentence, as has been seen, this gerund must be a verbal gerund. The verbal gerunds in English can be divided into two types; namely, *fact gerund* and *activity gerund*.³⁾ The former is that with expressed subject and auxiliary. The latter, which is always subjectless and does not occur with *having*, can be subdivided into two types. One requires a controlled interpretation, the other a non-controlled interpretation. In the controlled interpretation we can find an explicit control and an implicit control. The predicates, which require a controlled interpretation, are what we call *private verbs* and involve an individual and his private thoughts, feeling, and personal

welfare : no one but the individual himself need know that the proposition expressed by one of these verbs is true. The predicates, which permit a non-controlled interpretation, are called *public verbs*; that is, an activity which is generally shared. Verbs of communication and causative verbs are public verbs. In what follows we shall examine and discuss the characteristics of the gerund *going* following the predicate *insist on*.

2.0 On the characteristics of a verbal gerund *going* following the predicate *insist on*.

- (a) She insists on *going* with him.
- (b) She insists on *Miss Keiko going* with him.
- (c) She insists on *Miss Keiko's going* with him.

We can observe three distinct types of gerunds following the predicate *insist on* in (a), (b), and (c). The predicate *insist on* means either an insistence or a proposition, and can not only involve activities in which the subject of the predicate *insist on* himself participates: namely, a public verb. The gerund, as is always subjectless and without *having*, embedded in a public verb in (a) must be an activity gerund which permits a non-controlled interpretation. As the gerund in (b) is also always subjectless and without *having*, as can be seen in (a), we can not help thinking that the gerund is an activity gerund. However, it is worth noting that the controller can be found in the objective *Miss Keiko* of the sentence and that it is an explicit control. In other words, this noteworthy fact goes counter to Thompson's claim, for she proposes that a public verb requires a non-controlled interpretation. In the surface structure, this type of activity gerund has verbal nature which is descriptive, realistic, emotional and picturesque and is derived from underlying structures $s[\text{NP } \textit{nom} (\textit{Aspect}) \text{ subject VP }]_s$.⁴⁾ Even though the gerund in (c) has an expressed subject, that is, a possessive *Miss Keiko's*, this gerund is still thought to be an activity gerund on account of the fact that the gerund does not occur with *having*. In the surface structure, this type of activity gerund has a nominal nature which is conceptual, fixed, rational, and introspective and has the internal structure of Schachter's analysis, the non-transformationalist's position.⁵⁾

3.0 Conclusion

Thompson proposes that the subject of an activity gerund is interpreted as coreferential with a noun in the matrix sentence if it is embedded under a 'private' predicate.⁶⁾

In the preceding section of this paper, the author observes that some gerunds embedded in a public verb *insist on* still allows a controlled interpretation and that the internal structures of some activity gerunds are different, depending on the case of noun or pronoun following the predicate *insist on*. This fact seems to go counter to Thompson's claim and is a noteworthy fact.

References

- 1) Wasow, T. and Roeper, T. : "On the subject of gerunds", *Foundations of Language* 8: pp. 44-61, 1972.
- 2) Wasow, T. and Roeper, T. *op. cit.*
- 3) Thompson, S. A. : "On subjectless gerunds in English", *Foundations of Language* 9: pp. 374-383, 1973.
- 4) Namoto, M. "On the Gerund in Sentences like *I don't like him (his) coming*", *MEMOIRS OF KYUSHU UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES* No. 4, p.34, 1977.
- 5) Namoto, M. *op. cit.*
- 6) Thompson, S. A. *op. cit.*