



ENGLISH GRAMMAR (ADVANCED)

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POSSESSIVE GERUNDS

"I can't stand **HIM** singing in the shower."

or

"I can't stand **HIS** singing in the shower."

Well, you have to decide what you find objectionable: is it him, the fact that he is singing in the shower, or is it the singing that is being done by him that you can't stand? Chances are, it's the latter, it's the singing that belongs to him (his singing) that bugs you. So we would say, "I can't stand his singing in the shower."

"Do you have any objection to me watching you?" or "Do you have any objection to my watching you?" Not much difference but the first one does put the focus on 'me' while the second puts the focus on 'watching.'

Consider this:

- I don't want **him** watching me while I paint.
- Do you have any objection to **me** watching you?
- No, you I don't mind, it's just him I can't stand.

More examples:

- I appreciate **your** coming here.
- He resents **Mary's** being promoted.
- I'm tired of **Miguel's** complaining.
- I need to talk to you about **your** writing.
- Her** dancing is beautiful.

Which of the sentences below is correct?

Cindy called me names at school. I didn't like it.

1. I didn't like Cindy calling me names at school.
2. I don't like Cindy calling me names at school.
3. I didn't like Cindy's calling me names at school.
4. I don't like Cindy's calling me names at school.

Jack always speaks his mind. I respect that about him.

1. I respect Jack's speaking his mind.
2. I respect Jack's speaking mind.
3. I respect Jack speaking his mind.
4. Jack speaking his mind is what I respect.

Rob didn't get the job because he didn't have enough experience.

1. Rob not having enough experience is why he didn't get the job.
2. Rob's not having enough experience is why he didn't get the job.
3. Rob's don't having enough experience is why he didn't get the job.
4. Rob don't having enough experience is why he didn't get the job.

Mark talks a lot. I hate it.

1. I hate Mark talking's a lot.
2. I hate Mark's talking a lot.
3. I hate Mark talking a lot.
4. Mark's talking a lot I hate.