

Optimise your pronunciation

- Many words in English end in *-ing*. It is important to recognise the pronunciation of this ending and to produce it when you speak.
- The sound 'ng' /ŋ/ is a nasal sound and is made with the back of the tongue moving to the top of the mouth.

1 2.01 Listen to these pairs of words. The first ending in /n/ and the second in /ŋ/.

- | | | | |
|-------|------|--------|-------|
| 1 kin | king | 3 thin | thing |
| 2 sin | sing | 4 win | wing |

2 2.02 Listen again and repeat. Pay attention to the *-ing* endings.

3 2.03 Look at these questions and answers. How many examples of the *-ing* ending can you find? Listen and check.

- Q: What are you doing this evening?
A: I'm going swimming with my friends.
- Q: How about your sister? Is she doing anything?
A: Yes. She's doing her homework.
- Q: Are your parents working this morning?
A: No, they aren't working. They're sleeping!

4 2.04 Answer these questions in the present continuous using the prompts to help you. Listen and check.

- What are you doing at the moment?
A: I / watch / a movie.

- What is your brother doing?
A: He / play / a computer game.

- What are your friends doing?
A: They / do / their homework.

5 Repeat the questions and answers in Exercise 4, pronouncing the *-ing* ending correctly. Record yourself if you can.

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