

".....ing" - some essential uses

A HOW something is done:

I got into the house. I broke a window. -> I got into the house by breaking a window.

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| 1 I passed my exams. I worked very hard. | 6 I was able to get out. I climbed through a manhole. |
| 2 I lost 10kg. I stopped eating chips. | 7 I made him laugh. I imitated a monkey. |
| 3 I earned 500€. I washed cars every Saturday. | 8 I learned to speak English. I watched loads of videos. |
| 4 I impressed the teacher. I made no mistakes. | 9 They survived the first year. They got help from the Indians. |
| 5 I pleased my mother. I hoovered the whole house. | 10 They angered the Indians. They took all their land. |

B "instead of" & "without":

**I didn't work. I wasted my time instead. -> I wasted my time instead of working.
Without wasting a second, I jumped through the window.**

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| 1 I didn't go in. I watched from the restaurant. | 9 I didn't help my mother. Instead, I messed about. |
| 2 I saved my money. I didn't spend it. | 10 I didn't keep quiet. I made a lot of noise instead. |
| 3 You'll never succeed if you don't do a lot more work. | 11 There was no steak, so I had fish instead. |
| 4 I didn't go by bus. I took a taxi instead. | 12 I didn't realize what had happened. I left the house. |
| 5 He's a driver who doesn't use his indicators. | 13 It was too late to watch a film, so I went to bed. |
| 6 I didn't have a bath. I had a shower instead. | 14 Jane was beautiful but poor, so I married rich Julie instead. |
| 7 I didn't go by bus. I walked instead. | 15 The driver turned out of a side road. He didn't look. |
| 8 He went home. He hadn't finished the work. | 16 I didn't wait for Jack. I left at once. |

C "before", "while" and "after": I had a bath, then I watched TV. -> After having a bath, I watched TV.

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| 1 I got up, then I had a shower. | 6 I was waiting for the bus when I started to feel ill. |
| 2 I got a 5, so I decided to work harder. | 7 You should have a job before you get married. |
| 3 We worked all day, then we enjoyed a cold beer. | 8 He killed his wife then he was tried for murder. |
| 4 I had breakfast. I had showered before. | 9 He saw the doctor and then felt much better. |
| 5 I did my homework and listened to music at the same time. | 10 He lost his front teeth; then he looked a bit silly. |

D Miscellaneous Verbs: "waste", "spend":

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| 1 You talk too much. You waste your time. | 3 I tried to learn Chinese, but it was a waste of time. |
| 2 I spent a lot of time. I learned my verbs. | 4 He gambles a lot. He spends all his money on it. |
| | 5 He plays video games. He spends too much time on them. |
| | 6 You waste your money. You buy too many cosmetics. |

E Other expressions:

1 I don't approve _____ . (steal)	12 The floods prevented us _____ the river.(cross)
2 I'm quite good _____ the piano. (play)	13 I'm going to try _____ the hospital. (call)
3 I couldn't avoid _____ under the ladder. (walk)	14 I'm very excited _____ scuba-diving. (go)
4 I must apologize _____ his window. (break)	15 I intend _____ my own house. (build)
5 I've got no intention _____ the job. (accept)	16 I wouldn't risk _____ drugs. (take)
6 I insisted _____ for the drink. (pay)	17 I miss _____ history. (study)
7 I didn't mind _____ the washing-up.	18 I have to avoid _____ eggs. (eat)
8 I succeeded _____ the problem. (solve)	19 I'm tired _____ for a bus. (wait)
9 I'm fed up _____ tests. (do)	20 I'm used _____ on the left. (drive)
10 I can't imagine _____ a cigar. (smoke)	21 I insisted _____ the figures myself. (check)
11 I'm looking forward _____ abroad next week.(go)	22 I'm not very good _____ keeping quiet.