

SECTION 9 infinitives and -ing forms

● grammar summary

INFINITIVES: (to) go, (to) break, (to) see etc
-ING FORMS (ALSO CALLED 'GERUNDS'): going, breaking, seeing etc

We can use both **-ing forms** and **infinitives** as **subjects** (but **-ing forms** are more common).

Smoking is bad for you. (More natural than *To smoke is bad for you.*)

We can use **infinitives** to say **why** we do things.

I got up early to catch the 7.15 train.

After some verbs we use **infinitives**; after others we use **-ing forms**.

I expect to pass my exams. (NOT ~~I expect passing...~~) *I'll finish studying in June.* (NOT ~~I'll finish to study...~~)

We can use **infinitives** after some **adjectives** and **nouns**.

She's ready to leave. *I'm glad to see you.* *I've got work to do.*

After **prepositions** we use **-ing forms**, not infinitives.

You can't live without eating. (NOT ~~...without to eat.~~)

I usually watch TV before going to bed. (NOT ~~...before to go to bed.~~)

Infinitives often have **to** before them; but not always.

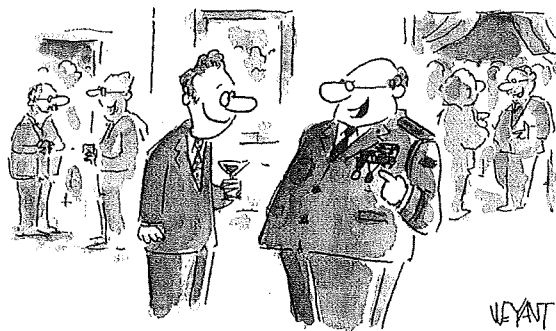
I want to go home, but I can't go now.

● pre-test: which units do you need?

Try this small test. It will help you to decide which units you need. The answers are on page 283.

① Correct (✓) or not (✗)?

- | | |
|---|---|
| ▶ I want see you. ✗ | 7 I stopped to smoke last year. ... |
| ▶ Can I help you? ✓ | 8 She keeps telephoning me. ... |
| 1 It's necessary to get a visa. ... | 9 We decided going by bus. ... |
| 2 I hope to not have problems at university. ... | 10 I'm glad seeing you. ... |
| 3 I went to Mexico for learning Spanish. ... | 11 The lesson was easy to understand. ... |
| 4 His parents wanted him to be a doctor. ... | 12 We had nowhere to sleep. ... |
| 5 You can get there faster by take the train. ... | 13 Learning languages is difficult. ... |
| 6 I'm too tired for working now. ... | |



'This one's for not asking, and this one's for not telling.'

infinitives: using *to* *I want to go.* *Must you go?*

We usually put *to* with infinitives.

I want to go home. (NOT ~~*I want go home.*~~) *It's important to get enough sleep.*
I telephoned my sister to say sorry.

But we use infinitives without *to* after *do/does/did* in questions and negatives (see pages 106 and 113).

Does John speak Russian? (NOT ~~*Does John to speak ...*~~) *I didn't understand.*

We also use infinitives without *to* after the modal verbs *can, could, may, might, will, would, shall, should, must* and *had better* (see Section 6).

I can't swim. (NOT ~~*I can't to swim.*~~) *Must you go now?* *We had better find a hotel.*

1 Put in *to* or nothing (-).

- | | |
|---|---|
| ▶ I don't want <i>to</i> stay at school. | 3 It may snow this weekend. |
| ▶ What time does the train leave? | 4 I must remember phone Andy. |
| 1 Do you play golf? | 5 Do we need buy petrol? |
| 2 It's nice be at home again. | 6 Jane seems be tired today. |

2 Put in words from the box, with or without *to*.

ask ✓ buy go hear help learn lend ✓ see
--

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| ▶ I'm writing <i>to ask</i> for your help. | 3 I'd like you for a minute. |
| ▶ Can you <i>lend</i> me some money? | 4 Where did you those boots? |
| 1 Maria went to America English. | 5 I expect from my family soon. |
| 2 Can you me with the cooking? | 6 I don't want by bus. |

We make **negative infinitives** with *not (to) + verb*.

Try not to forget your keys. (NOT ... ~~*to not forget*~~ ...) *Be careful not to wake Peter up.*
I told you not to telephone me here. *I'm sorry not to stay longer.*
The company did not make any money last year. *You must not park in front of the school.*

3 Put in *not to* with infinitives from the box.

break go to sleep have have laugh ✓ make talk

- ▶ Please try ~~*not to laugh*~~ when Bill sings.
- 1 It's nice a headache any more.
 - 2 Be careful those glasses.
 - 3 Please try in the lessons.
 - 4 Tell the children so much noise.
 - 5 I'd like so much work.
 - 6 Bill must learn about himself all the time.

- For infinitives without *to* after *let, make, see* and *hear*, see pages 280-281.
→ For sentences like *No, I don't want to*, see page 271.

infinitives of purpose *She went to Paris to study music.*

We use an infinitive with **to** to say **why** we do something.

I turned on the TV to watch the news. Joanna went to Paris to study music.

1 Complete the sentences with the infinitives of the verbs in the box.

ask for buy catch drive finish meet learn turn on ✓ wait for

- ▷ Use this button *to turn on* the computer.
- Oliver got up early Mark to the station.
 - I was late, so I ran my bus.
 - Ann wrote to me Joe's address.
 - I sat in the waiting room the doctor.
 - Bob's gone to the airport his uncle.
 - I went to town on Saturday a present for my cousin's birthday.
 - I stayed up late last night my English homework.
 - Alice went to Beijing Chinese.

2 Write sentences with infinitives.

- ▷ We wanted to go to the cinema, so Mum gave us some money.

Mum gave us some money to go to the cinema.

- I wanted to clean the top of the fridge, so I stood on a chair.
.....
- Roger wants to buy a book, so he's gone to town.
.....
- We wanted to get warm, so we moved closer to the fire.
.....
- If you want to open the front door, use this key.
.....
- I wanted to tell George about the meeting, so I left a note.
.....
- Jane wanted to earn some pocket money, so she got a part-time job.
.....

3 GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY: cooking

Make sure you know the words in the box. Use a dictionary if necessary. Then complete the sentences.

VERBS: bake boil cut fry measure ✓ mix weigh
NOUNS: bowl frying pan jug knife oven saucepan scales

- ▷ You use a measuring jug *to measure* water, milk etc.
- You use scales things.
 - You use an oven things.
 - You use a frying pan things.
 - You use a saucepan things.
 - You use a bowl things.
 - You use a knife things.

verb + infinitive *I hope to be an airline pilot.*

After some verbs we use an infinitive with **to**.

I hope to go to Ireland later this year. *Did Jeremy agree to help you with your work?*

① Read the texts, and write down the verbs that are followed by an infinitive with **to**.

I'm eighteen, and I hope to be an airline pilot. My parents have agreed to pay for lessons if I do well in my exams. My brother says girls shouldn't be pilots, but I refuse to listen to him.

- ▷ ...hope to.....
- ▷ ...agreed to.....
- 1

When I started to work here, my boss promised to give me interesting work, travelling to Europe and Asia. I expected to enjoy my job. But all my work is boring, and I don't do any travelling. I've tried to talk to my boss, but she doesn't listen. Now I've decided to look for another job.

- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6

I've always been afraid of water. Then one day last year I thought, 'I don't want to live like this'. So I found some special lessons for people like me. I'm learning to swim, and next summer I plan to take water-skiing lessons.

- 7
- 8
- 9



I needed to be at work early this morning. But I forgot to set my alarm clock, and I woke up at 7.30 instead of 6.30. Then everything seemed to go wrong. I had no clean shirts, the bus was late, ...

- 10
- 11
- 12

I began to learn karate four years ago, and I've continued to go to lessons twice a week since then. I love it. I've visited some other karate clubs, but I prefer to learn at my own club, because the teaching is so good.

- 13
- 14
- 15

After **begin**, **start**, **continue** and **prefer** we can also use **-ing** forms with the same meaning.

When did you begin to learn / begin learning karate?

I started to have / started having these headaches about a month ago.

The President continued to speak / continued speaking for an hour and a half.

I prefer to live / prefer living in the country – the city is too noisy.

➔ For **-ing** forms after **try** and **forget**, see pages 281–282.

Love... Everyone feels it,
has felt it, or expects to feel it.
(Anthony Trollope, 1883)

We must learn to live together as brothers ...
(Martin Luther King, 1964)

He preferred to be good
rather than to seem good.
(Sallust, of Cato, 54 B.C.)

War will stop when men refuse to fight.
(Pacifist slogan, 1936)

Gentlemen always seem
to remember blondes.
(Anita Loos, 1925)

Stop the world, I want to get off!
(Anthony Newley, 1961)

2 Complete the sentences with verbs from the boxes and to.

1-4: agree decide expect ✓ need plan ✓ try

- ALICE: 'The exam seemed easy. I was surprised when I got a low mark.'
Alice *expected to* pass the exam; she was surprised when she got a low mark.
- David and Cathy have got plane tickets and hotel reservations for Corsica.
David and Cathy are *planning to* go to Corsica.
- 1 Annie is going to Singapore. A visa is necessary, and she hasn't got one.
Annie get a visa.
- 2 JANE: 'Could you possibly lend me £5?' ANDY: 'Sure.'
Andy has lend £5 to Jane.
- 3 JOE: 'Shall I go to the cinema or stay at home? Cinema, perhaps? No, I'll stay at home.'
Joe has stay at home.
- 4 Lizzie was expecting a call from Sarah. Sarah rang the number, but it was engaged.
Sarah phone Lizzie, but the number was engaged.

5-10: forget learn promise refuse start want

- 5 Oliver lives in the US, but he took all his driving lessons in France.
Oliver drive in France.
- 6 PATRICK: 'I will write to you every day, Barbara.'
Patrick has write to Barbara every day.
- 7 BOB: 'I was going to post a birthday card to my mother, but I didn't remember.'
Bob post his mother's birthday card.
- 8 PHILIP: 'Please, please lend me your car.' AGNES: 'No, no, no and no.'
Agnes has lend her car to Philip.
- 9 Helen's parents are sending her to England for two weeks. Helen is not happy.
Helen doesn't go to England.
- 10 Susan said her first word when she was seven months old.
Susan talk when she was seven months old.

11-15: begin continue hope prefer seem

- 11 Mark plays the piano and the trumpet. The trumpet is his favourite.
Mark can play the piano, but he play the trumpet.
- 12 Annie usually stops work at 5.00, but yesterday she didn't stop until 7.00.
Annie work until 7.00 yesterday.
- 13 John swims every day; he's going to try for the national team next year.
John be in the national swimming team next year.
- 14 'I'm not sure, but I think Rebecca was worried yesterday evening.'
Rebecca be worried yesterday evening.
- 15 Lee sat down to write a letter to her brother yesterday, but she didn't finish it.
Lee write a letter to her brother yesterday.

- For infinitives in indirect speech (after *tell, ask* etc), see pages 123 and 251.
→ For sentences like *I don't want to*, see page 271.

verb + object + infinitive *He wants me to cook.*

We often say that we **want** somebody to do something.

My boyfriend **wants me to do all the cooking**. (NOT ... ~~wants that I do all the cooking.~~)

We can use **would like** in the same way.

I'd like you to listen to this song. (NOT ~~I'd like that you listen ...~~)

1 Make sentences with **want** or **would like**.

► MRS LEWIS: Ann, can you post my letters, please? (*want*)

Mrs Lewis wants Ann to post her letters.

1 SARAH: John, could you cook tonight? (*would like*)

2 POLICEMAN: Please move your car, sir. (*want*)

..... the man

3 MOTHER: Helen, please wash your face. (*want*)

Helen's mother her

4 BILL: Andy, can you help me? (*would like*)

..... him.

5 ROGER: Karen, could you lend me some money? (*would like*)

..... lend him

6 JAKE: Be quiet for a minute, Peter. (*want*)

7 DAVID: Alice, can you have dinner with me? (*would like*)

8 MIKE: The government should put more money into schools. (*would like*)

2 Different people want Alice to do different things. Complete the sentences.

buy a better guitar	buy him	do something ✓	go to America with him
go to Russia with her	lend her	spend every weekend	take him for work

► Everybody *wants her to do something*

1 Her boss harder.

2 Her little brother a bicycle.

3 Her dog a walk.

4 Her boyfriend

5 Her friend Martha a blue dress.

6 Her guitar teacher

7 Her mother at home.

8 Her sister

We can use some other verbs like this. For example: *ask, expect, help, need, tell.*
I asked Peter to work with me. The doctor told me to take a holiday.

3 Change the sentences.

- ▷ They thought that we would be late. (*expect*) *They expected us to be late.*
- 1 I didn't say to Alan 'Go home.' (*tell*)
- 2 I said to Fred 'Please be quiet.' (*ask*)
- 3 Do you think she'll phone? (*expect*)
- 4 I carried the books with Joe. (*help*) I helped
- 5 The policewoman said to me 'Show me your driving licence.' (*tell*)
 me her
- 6 Ann finished the work with me. (*help*) Ann
- 7 I said to the shop assistant 'Can you help me?' (*ask*)
- 8 You must stay with me. (*need*) I need

4 What do/did your parents want you to do/be in life?

- ▷ *My parents want me to be a doctor.*
- ▷ *My parents wanted me to study engineering.*
-

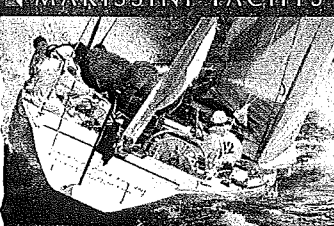
5 GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY: vehicles

Make sure you know the words in the box. Use a dictionary if necessary. Then look at the advertisements and say what the advertisers want you to buy.

bike motorbike motorboat plane tractor ✓ yacht

- ▷ *They want me to buy a tractor.*
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

MARISSINI YACHTS




OUT IN FRONT
 1 MARISSINI YACHTS OFFERS A SELEC

Sorensen... Setting a new standa
 in design and performance.



3 S O R E N S E N

HEATHFIELD H300 HYBRID




2 • 4130 Molloy frame • 24-speed Hitalo gears

CELGA 113A



4 1000 hours AF/E. CofA to November. New leather seats

products, contact Trakta for the address of your nearest dealer.



TRAKTA TRACTORS
 Quality & Performance
 Trakta Tractors (UK) Ltd.,
 Belmarsh Court, Belmarsh Park, Cheltham YO

BARRIES
 NEW SPEC MACHINES ARRIVING
NOW
 CALL US FOR THE BEST DEALS



5 MACHINES TO CLEAR
 DVR300£5590
 ALPHA.....£5450

➔ For *let, make, hear, and see* + object + infinitive, see page 281.

verb + object + infinitive *He wants me to cook.*

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buy a better guitar	buy him	do something ✓	go to America with him
go to Russia with her	lend her	spend every weekend	take him for work

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4 What do/did your parents want you to do/be in life?

- ▷ *My parents want me to be a doctor.*
- ▷ *My parents wanted me to study engineering.*
-


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MARISSINI YACHTS




OUT IN FRONT
1 MARISSINI YACHTS OFFERS A SELEC

Sorensen... Setting a new stand-
in design and performance.



3 S O R E N S E N

HEATHFIELD H300 HYBRID




2 • 4130 Molloy frame • 24-speed Hitalo gears

CELGA 113A



4 1000 hours AF/E. CofA to November. New leather seats

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NOW
CALL US FOR THE BEST DEALS



5
MACHINES TO CLEAR
DVR300.....£5590
ALPHA.....£5450

→ For *let, make, hear, and see* + object + infinitive, see page 281.

adjective + infinitive *glad to find you at home*

We can use **adjective + infinitive** (with *to*) to say **what we think** of things that people do. We do this with adjectives like *clever, crazy, right, silly, stupid* and *wrong*.

You're crazy to think you can get there in an hour. You were clever to bring an umbrella.

1 Write sentences with infinitives.

▶ Angela carries all her money in one bag. She's wrong.

Angela's wrong to carry all her money in one bag.

▶ Annie got to the airport early. She was clever.

Annie was clever to get to the airport early.

1 Eleanor listens to Mark. She's silly.

2 Elizabeth took the train without a ticket. She was wrong.

3 I sat on my glasses. I was stupid.

4 I washed a white shirt with a red one. I was wrong.

5 You believe Luke. You're silly.

6 You eat a good breakfast. You're right.

7 You lent money to Chris. You were crazy.

We can also use **infinitives** (with *to*) **after adjectives** for **feelings**, like *afraid, glad, happy, pleased, sad, surprised, unhappy*.

Mum will be glad to find you at home. I'm pleased to meet you.

2 Complete the text with expressions from the boxes.

1-4: glad to leave ✓ happy not to have pleased to find
sorry to say unhappy to think

Five years ago, I went to Australia to start a new job. I was ▶ *glad to leave* London, but I was very 1 goodbye to my friends and family, and my mother was 2 that I would be so far away.

I was a bit afraid of my new life, so I was 3 any problems when I arrived. Sydney was beautiful, and I was 4 friendly people in the office, an interesting job and a lovely apartment.

5-7: happy to be pleased to see surprised to find

Everything went well in Australia, but I never felt really at home there, and in the end I decided to come back. Today I arrived in London, for the first time in five years. I was

5 so many changes, but I am really 6 here again. On the way from the airport I started to cry – I was so 7 a big red London bus.

Some adjectives describe the following infinitive, not the subject. This happens with *difficult, easy, hard, impossible, good, nice* and *interesting*.

He is often difficult to understand. (= 'It is often difficult to understand him.')
They are very interesting to watch. (= 'It is very interesting to watch them.')
Languages are hard to learn perfectly. Tickets for the match are impossible to buy.
Do you think the meat is still good to eat?

3 Join the beginnings and ends, and put in verbs from the box.

dislike ✓ eat find open read

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1 Everybody likes my uncle; he's | A impossible to dislike..... 1 |
| 2 'Are these apples | B difficult, isn't it? ... |
| 3 Good restaurants aren't | C good?' 'No, don't eat them.' ... |
| 4 Thank you for that book – it was | D very interesting |
| 5 This door is | E easy in this town. ... |

4 Make sentences with the infinitives of verbs from the box.

clean climb pronounce remember ✓ see you understand wear

- My phone number / easy *My phone number is easy to remember.*
- 1 It / good
- 2 Grammar / sometimes difficult
- 3 That mountain / impossible
- 4 This shirt / nice
- 5 The word 'sixth' / hard
- 6 This furniture / easy

5 GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY: school subjects

Make sure you know the words in the box. Use a dictionary if necessary. Then write five or more sentences to say what you think about some of the subjects.

biology chemistry English geography history literature
mathematics / maths (*singular*) philosophy

- 1 is easy to learn.
- 2 is hard to learn.
- 3 is easy to understand.
- 4 is difficult to understand.
- 5 is interesting to study.
- 6
- 7
- 8

adjectives with *enough/too* + infinitive *too tired to sing*

After adjective + *enough*, we can use an infinitive (with *to*). Note the word order – see page 171.

Julie's old enough to drive now. (NOT *Julie's-enough-old ...*) *John isn't strong enough to carry that.*

1 Make sentences with *is/isn't old enough to ...*

IN BRITAIN – AT WHAT AGE CAN YOU ...?	
When you are	you can
13	work part-time
16	leave home
16	leave school
17	drive a car
18	vote
18	change your name
21	drive a bus

Alice is 13. Mark is 16. Cathy is 17.
John is 18. Liz is 21.

- ▷ John *is old enough to drive* a car.
 ▷ Alice *isn't old enough to drive* a car.
 1 Alice part-time.
 2 Alice home.
 3 Mark school.
 4 Cathy home.
 5 Cathy vote.
 6 John his name.
 7 Liz a bus.

After *too* + adjective, we can use an infinitive (with *to*).

I'm too tired to sing. *Alice was very afraid – too afraid to speak.*

2 Change two sentences into one. Use *too ... to ...*

- ▷ I'm very sleepy. I can't drive. *I'm too sleepy to drive.*
 1 Helen is very ill. She can't work.
 2 My grandfather is very old. He can't travel.
 3 I'm very bored. I can't listen any longer.
 4 Cara's very hot. She can't play tennis.
 5 I'm very hungry. I can't work.

We can use *too* + adjective + infinitive in a different way.

They're too big to carry. (= 'Nobody can carry them, because they're too big.')

It's too cold to drink. (= 'Nobody can drink it, because it's too cold.')

3 Make sentences with *too ... to ...*

- ▷ This homework / difficult / do *This homework is too difficult to do.*
 1 This box / heavy / lift
 2 This soup / salty / eat
 3 This book / boring / finish
 4 That plate / hot / touch
 5 Some animals / small / see
 6 That sign / dirty / read

Middle age: the age when you're too old to
play tennis and too young to play golf.
(Ansel Adams)

some letters to write; nothing to eat

We can often use **infinitives with to** after **nouns**.

I've got some letters to write. Sorry – I haven't got any money to lend you.

1 Complete the sentences with the expressions from the box.

dress to wear friend to see homework to do letters to post
shopping to do stories to tell ✓ video to watch

- My uncle always has very interesting *stories to tell* about his year in Nepal.
- 1 Please can I go out tonight, Dad? I've got no
 - 2 I'm going to the post office – have you got any
 - 3 I think I'll stay at home tonight. I'm a bit tired, and I've got a good
 - 4 Have you got a to the party, or will you have to buy one?
 - 5 If you've got any we can go to the supermarket later.
 - 6 I'll be home a bit late tonight – I've got a after work.

We can use **infinitives with to** after words like *somebody*, *anything* and *nowhere* (see page 165).

Would you like something to drink? I haven't got anything to read; can I borrow this book?
There's nothing to eat in the fridge. Those poor people have nowhere to live.

2 Complete the sentences with *somebody* etc and the verbs in *italics*.

- POLICEMAN: Move on, please. There's (see) *nothing to see*
- 1 I can't go to the party: I don't have (wear)
 - 2 Could I possibly use this table? I need (work)
 - 3 When I arrived, there was (do) – all the work was finished.
 - 4 Everyone in our class was ill today, so our teacher had (teach)
 - 5 I'll be with you in a few minutes – I have (finish)
 - 6 All my friends are out of town tonight, and I've got (go)
 - 7 Everybody needs (love)
 - 8 My brother couldn't find (stay) in Bristol.
 - 9 Have you found (help) you with the disco on Saturday?
 - 10 Your arms are full – give me (carry)

NOTHING TO EAT

She had nothing to eat.
They made a film about her
because she had nothing to eat.
Her husband
was killed in the war.
They wrote a book about
how he was killed in the war.
Her mother and brother
were executed by the revolutionaries.
There was an opera about it.

Both her children died
(there was no hospital).
You can see the photographs
at an exhibition in London.
Then somebody wrote a poem.
Still
she had nothing to eat.

Lewis Mancha

it with infinitive subjects *It's nice to be here with you.*

We don't often begin sentences with infinitive subjects (like *To be here with you is nice*).

More often, we begin with *it* and put the infinitive later.

The structure *It is/was/etc + adjective + infinitive* (with *to*) is very common.

It's nice to be here with you. It was good to see you again. It's important to remember people's names.

1 Complete these sentences about a summer holiday. Use *It was* and words from the box.

a bit hard to understand	dangerous to swim	expensive to eat	impossible to be
interesting to see	nice to have	really good to get away ✓	very easy to make

- *It was really good to get away* from home and work.
- 1 sunshine every day.
- 2 how other people live.
- 3 Sometimes the language if people talked fast.
- 4 friends.
- 5 in restaurants, but the food was wonderful.
- 6 The sea was beautiful, but
- 7 There were so many things to do that bored.

2 GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY: learning and using a language: what is important? Make sure you know the words in the box. Use a dictionary if necessary. Then make sentences with *It's important to ...*, *It's not necessary to ...* or *It's important not to ...*. Different answers are possible: for ours, see the answer key.

bilingual	comprehension	correctness	immediate	mistake	practise
pronunciation	regularly	results	rules	translate	vocabulary

LEARNING

- study regularly *It's important to study regularly.*
- study six hours a day *It's not necessary to study six hours a day.*
- expect immediate results. *It's important not to expect immediate results.*
- 1 practise grammar
- 2 translate everything
- 3 read a lot
- 4 read things that interest you

PRONUNCIATION

- 5 have perfect pronunciation
- 6 have good enough pronunciation

GRAMMATICAL CORRECTNESS

- 7 make too many mistakes
- 8 speak without mistakes

COMPREHENSION

- 9 practise listening to English

VOCABULARY

- 10 know 3,000–5,000 words
- 11 know 50,000 words
- 12 have a good English-English dictionary
- 13 have a good bilingual dictionary

-ing forms as subjects *Smoking is bad for you.*

We often use **-ing** forms (also called 'gerunds') as **subjects** – more often than infinitives.

Smoking is bad for you. (More natural than *To smoke is bad for you.*)

Swimming is good exercise. Driving makes me tired. Travelling takes a lot of my time.

1 Complete the sentences.

- *Swimming* is slower than *running* (running; swimming)
- 1 is more dangerous than (reading; skiing)
- 2 is faster than (flying; going by train)
- 3 costs more than (washing; eating)
- 4 is easier than (speaking; writing)
- 5 is harder than (listening; understanding)
- 6 is more interesting than (shaving; shopping)

2 Make three more sentences like the ones in Exercise 1. Use some of the words in the box.

cycling learning running shopping sleeping teaching thinking writing

- 1
- 2
- 3

We can put **objects** after **-ing** forms.

Learning languages is difficult and takes time. (NOT ... ~~are difficult~~ ... – learning is singular.)

Eating chocolate does not make you slim.

3 Complete this list of activities with verbs from the box (use **-ing** forms). Then number them in order of interest: 1 = most interesting (for you); 8 = least interesting.

buy cook learn listen to look after meet play read

- cards poetry music ...
- meals languages friends ...
- children clothes ...

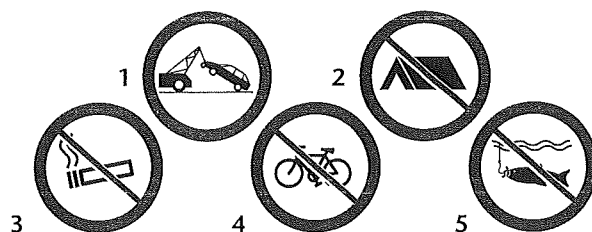
In notices, you often see **NO** before **-ing** forms.

NO SMOKING NO WAITING

4 GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY: public notices

Which words go with which notice?
Use a dictionary if necessary.

- NO PARKING ~~1.~~ NO SMOKING ...
- NO FISHING ... NO CYCLING ...
- NO CAMPING ...



→ For comparatives (*more dangerous, faster* etc), see page 208.

verb + ...ing I can't help feeling unhappy.

After some verbs we use **-ing** forms.

Some of these verbs are: **keep (on)** (= 'continue', 'not stop'), **finish**, **stop**, **give up** (= 'stop', for habits), **go**, **can't help** (= 'can't stop myself'), **suggest**, **practise**, **enjoy**, **love**, **like**, **(not) mind** (= '(not) dislike'), **dislike**, **hate**.

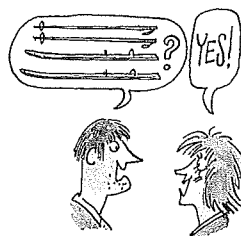
I can't help feeling unhappy. Do you mind sharing a room? Alex has gone swimming.

1 Do you remember how to spell **-ing** forms of verbs? Look at the rules on page 21 if you are not sure. Then complete the sentences with **-ing** forms.

- ▷ We enjoy playing tennis in the morning. (play)
- 1 Has Ann finished her photos? (take)
- 2 John's given up sweets. (eat)
- 3 'Where's Helen?' 'She's gone ' (shop)
- 4 I have to practise so I can pass my test. (drive)
- 5 Alec suggested at the supermarket. (stop)

2 Write sentences using the expressions in the box with **-ing** forms.

He can't help She enjoys ✓ They've just finished He's given up They're going
All that week, it kept She's practising She's suggesting ✓ It's just stopped



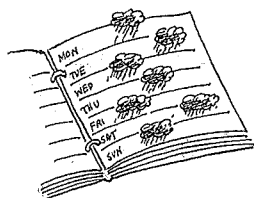
▷ She enjoys skiing.



▷ She's suggesting going to Rome.



1



2



3



4



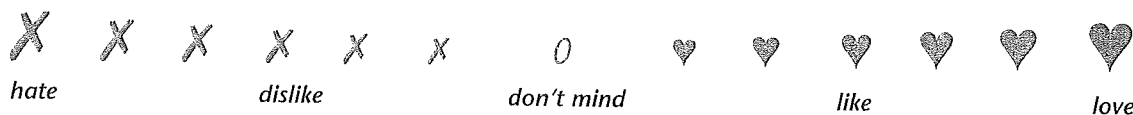
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6



7



3 Put in *-ing* forms of the verbs in the box.

get up ✓ play study wash watch wear work

- ▷ I hate getting up in the winter before the sun is up.
 1 George dislikes dishes, so he often eats out.
 2 I don't like playing baseball, but I like it.
 3 I don't mind late if my boss asks me.
 4 Joe's two-year-old sister loves with her toys in the bath.
 5 Jan and her sister like each other's clothes.
 6 When I was at school, I hated history.

4 Write about six things you love/hate etc doing. Use expressions from the box or write about other things.

cooking dinner for friends dancing until 1 a.m. eating out with friends getting up early
 listening to loud music lying on a sunny beach reading novels swimming in the ocean
 travelling to new places walking in the mountains walking in the rain watching old films

- ▷ I love walking in the mountains
 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6



'I love walking in the rain.'

After *love*, *like* and *hate* we can also use **infinitives with to** with the same meaning.

I love singing. = *I love to sing.* *Ann likes to go out / going out with friends.*

Mum hates to cook / cooking on an electric cooker.

(BUT NOT ~~*I dislike to listen to opera.*~~ AND NOT ~~*Do you mind to wait for a few minutes?*~~)

preposition + ...ing Thank you for coming.

When we have **preposition + verb**, we must use an **-ing form**.

The children are tired **of going** to the same place every summer. (NOT ... ~~are tired of to go to~~ ...)

She spoke for an hour **without using** notes. (NOT ... ~~without to use~~ ...)

Thank you **for coming**. I worry **about spending** too much money.

→ For spelling of -ing forms, see page 21.

① Put the beginnings and ends together.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1 Every morning, my dad worries about | A working all my life. ... |
| 2 Please don't leave without | B watering my garden while I'm on holiday. ... |
| 3 I don't like the idea of | C telling me that you're going. ... |
| 4 Are you interested in | D going to Vienna with us next weekend? ... |
| 5 I'll pay you for | E being late for his train. 1 |

② Add -ing forms of the verbs in the box.

be ✓ go hear smoke wash watch

▶ Alice dreams of being..... an opera singer, but she can't sing very well.

- I'm tired of the same old stories; doesn't John realise he's boring us?
- Which British Prime Minister was famous for big cigars?
- I'm thinking of to Greece next summer – have you ever been there?
- Eric's interested in football on television, but not in playing it.
- Don't worry about the dishes – I'll wash them in the morning.

③ Make sentences with *very* / *quite* / *not very good at ...ing* or *bad at ...ing*.

	RUN	SWIM	CYCLE	DRAW	SING
JANE	★	●	☆	○	☆
BOB	☆	●	○	★	☆
SUE	★	★	☆	○	☆
MARK	★	☆	★	☆	○

KEY
★ VERY GOOD
☆ QUITE GOOD
○ NOT VERY GOOD
● BAD

▶ (Jane / run, swim) ... Jane is very good at running, but bad at swimming.

▶ (Sue / run, cycle) ... Sue is very good at running, and quite good at cycling.

- (Bob / run, cycle)
- (Sue / draw, sing)
- (Mark / swim, run)
- (Bob / swim, sing)
- (Jane / run, cycle)
- (Mark / sing, draw)

④ What are you good or bad at? Write two or more sentences about yourself.

.....

.....

.....

We use *by ...ing* and *without ...ing* to say how people do something.

I earn my pocket money *by working* in a petrol station. She passed her exams *without studying*.

5 Make sentences with *by ...ing* or *without ...ing*.

► When I left the house this morning, I didn't close the windows.

I left the house this morning without closing the windows.

► Al got a wonderful job. He was in the right place at the right time.

Al got a wonderful job by being in the right place at the right time.

1 Ellie stayed awake. She drank lots of coffee.

2 Eric drank three glasses of water. He didn't stop.

3 Charles woke us up. He turned the TV on.

4 You can find out the meaning of a word. Use a dictionary.

5 Mike paid for his new house. He didn't borrow any money.

6 Sue lost her driving licence. She drove too fast, too often.

7 Carl did all his homework. He didn't ask for any help.

8 Teresa cooks all her food. She doesn't use any salt.

After *before*, *after* and *since*, we can use an *-ing* form or **subject + verb**.

I usually read the paper *before going* to work. OR ... *before I go* to work.

Ann always felt better *after talking* to Pete. OR ... *after she had talked* to Pete.

Bill has changed a lot *since getting* married. OR ... *since he got* married.

6 Rewrite the expressions *in italics*, using *-ing* forms.

► Jack usually has a cup of hot milk *before he goes to bed*. *before going to bed*

1 I always wash my hair *after I swim*.

2 *Since she passed her exam*, Cynthia has seemed much happier.

3 We always phone Aunt Jane *before we visit her*.

4 My grandmother was never really well *after she broke her leg*.

5 *Before he crashed his car*, Luke always drove too fast.

6 Jane's bought a lot of new clothes *since she got her new job*.

Sometimes *to* is a preposition (for example *I look forward to your answer*).

In this case we must use *-ing* forms of verbs after *to*.

I look forward to hearing from you. (NOT ~~*I look forward to hear from you.*~~)

test yourself infinitives and -ing forms

1 Circle the correct answer.

- 1 I would like *see* / *to see* you again.
- 2 Can you *help* / *to help* me?
- 3 Is it necessary *buy* / *to buy* a ticket now?
- 4 I hope *go* / *to go* to America in July.
- 5 Try *not to* / *to not* forget your keys.

2 Put in the correct form of the verb.

- ▶ I promise ~~to phone~~..... you every day. (*phone*)
- ▶ She suggested ~~seeing~~..... a doctor. (*see*)
- 1 We agreed together. (*work*)
- 2 I didn't expect John there. (*see*)
- 3 I'm really going to stop (*smoke*)
- 4 I can't keep - I'm too tired. (*drive*)
- 5 Ann has decided a car. (*buy*)
- 6 The boss refused to me. (*talk*)
- 7 I thought of you a birthday card, but I forgot. (*send*)
- 8 They still haven't finished (*talk*)
- 9 Bill doesn't want with us. (*come*)
- 10 Your English is good, but you must practise (*speak*)

3 Circle the correct answer.

- ▶ We need ... tickets.
A to get B getting
- 1 It is important ... 'No' sometimes.
A to say B say C saying
- 2 ... to work takes a lot of time.
A To drive B Drive C Driving
- 3 You can't live without ...
A to eat. B eat. C eating.
- 4 I came here ... my sister.
A to see B for see C for seeing
- 5 After ... work, I went home.
A finish B to finish C finished D finishing

4 Rewrite the sentences with infinitives.

- ▶ I saw Mary. I was happy. *I was happy to see Mary.*
- 1 I found a cat in my bed. I was surprised.
- 2 I didn't have time to phone you. I was sorry.
- 3 You can easily remember my phone number. My phone number is

5 Circle the correct answer.

- 1 Can you lend me something ...
A to read? B for read? C for reading?
- 2 I can't come out - I've got a lot of letters ...
A to write. B writing. C for writing.

6 Rewrite the sentences with *too* or *enough*.

- 1 It's very heavy. Nobody can lift it. (*too*) It's too
- 2 He's 18, so he can vote. (*enough*) He's
- 3 I'm very tired. I can't drive. (*too*)

7 Write sentences with *want* or *would like*.

- 1 BOSS: Mary, can you answer the phone? (*want*) The boss
- 2 ANN: Pat, could you look after the children? (*would like*)

More difficult questions