

Verb form

1 - Bare infinitives

A - After modal verbs.

Will / shall / would / should / can / could / may / might / must + bare inf.:

I must go now.

I can swim.

B - After some lexical verbs.

1. *Need & dare*: when they are considered as auxiliaries:

Need I do this?

How dare you call me a liar?

2. *Feel / hear / see / watch / notice*:

He notices me move the table.

Do you feel the earth move?

3. *Let / Help*:

Let + O + Bare infinitive (let ~ allow) *I let him enter my house.*

Help / make + O + Bare infinitive *She helps / makes me do my homework.*

and in passive: *She was helped / made to overcome the fear of ghost.*

4. *Make / have / get*:

I made / had my boy clean my car.

I got my boy to clean my car.

* *Make+O+ Bare infinitive* (“X” forces “Y” to do something - My boy had no choice)

* *Have + O + Bare infinitive* (“X” requests “Y” to do something)

* *Get + O + To-infinitive* (“X” persuades “Y” to do something)

C - After would rather / sooner / had better.

1) + *Would ('d) rather/sooner + Bare infinitive*:

I'd rather/sooner (not) stay at home in this weather.

+ *Would ('d) rather / sooner + Bare infinitive + than*:

I'd rather / sooner stay at home than go out in this weather.

2) + *Would ('d) rather + O + **past tense** with present or future meaning*:

*I'd rather you **went** home now.*

(present)

*Don't come tomorrow, I'd rather you **came** next weekend.*

(future)

*My wife **would rather** we **didn't see** each other any more.*

(negative)

*“Shall I open a window now?” – “I'd rather you **didn't**.”*

(negative)

+ *Would ('d) rather + O + **past perfect** with past actions*:

*I'd rather you **hadn't done** that.*

(past)

3) *Had ('d) better / (best) (less common than 'd better)*

We'd better / best (not) leave early.

2 - To-infinitives

A - To-infinitive as the subject.

To drive fast is dangerous.

To save money now seems impossible.

=> It is dangerous *to drive fast*. => It seems impossible *to save money now*.

+ *It + be + adj + to Inf.*

It is dangerous *to drive fast*. It would be better *to go now*.

+ *It + be / cost / take + Noun + to Inf.*

It would be a pity *to cut down any more trees*.

B - To-infinitive as the object

1/ As Od: (**V + to-inf.**):

I decided to become a teacher.

He refuses to come.

These verbs take a to-infinitive: *afford, agree, aim, appear, arrange, ask, attempt, bear, be, be dying, beg, bother, can't wait, care, choose, claim, come, condescend, consent, dare, decide, demand, determine, be determined, endeavour, expect, fail, forget, get, grow, guarantee, happen, hate, hasten, have, help, hesitate, hope, learn, like, long, love, manage, mean, neglect, offer, omit, ought, plan, prepare, pretend, proceed, promise, propose, prove, refuse, remember, resolve, seek, seem, start, swear, tend, threaten, train, trouble, try, turn out, undertake, use, volunteer, vow, want, wish*

2/ As Oi: (**V + O + to-inf.**):

advise, allow, ask, assist, bear, beg, bribe, cause, caution, challenge, charge, command, compel, condemn, dare, defy, direct, drive, enable, encourage, entitle, forbid, force,

get, hate, help, impel, implore, incite, induce, instruct, invite, leave, like, mean, need, oblige, order, permit, persuade, press, recommend, remind, request, teach, tell, tempt, trouble, urge, want, warn, wish.

He caused me *to come*.

She taught me *to drive*.

- **V + question-word + to-inf. or clause:** choose, decide, discover, discuss, explain, find out, forget, hear, (not) know, learn, remember, think, see, understand, wonder...

I don't know *what / which / who(m) to ask*.

I wonder *how / when / where who(m) to tell this*.

- **V + O + question-word + to-inf. or clause:** advise, ask, instruct, remind, teach, tell, show...

He told me *where to put* it.

She showed me *how to use* that machine.

C - To-infinitive used to express purpose.

+ With *to / in order to / so as to*:

She went to England *to / in order to / so as to learn* English.

+ *Bring, buy, need, take, use, want...* + O + to infinitive tell us about the purpose of the object.

I want something *to eat* now. I need a spoon *to eat* this ice-cream with.

3 - V-ing

- As gerund can function as a noun so it can be the Subject, Object, Complement of the sentences.

Swimming is my hobby. (S) I like *swimming*. (O) My hobby is *swimming*. (C)

- Gerund can be used after a possessive adjective, an article, a preposition:

The *draining* of swamps is very important.

I don't like her *coming* here. He gave up *smoking*.

Do you *mind* giving me a hand?

- **V + gerund:** admit, advise, allow, anticipate, appreciate, avoid, can't help, complete, confess, consider, delay, deny, detest, discuss, dislike, enjoy, escape, excuse, face, fancy, finish, give up, imagine, involve, justify, keep, leave off, mention, mind, miss, permit, postpone, practice, put off, quit, recommend, remind, recollect, regret, resent, resist, resume, risk, save, stand, stop, suggest, tolerate, understand...

- **Go + gerund:** boating, bowling, camping, dancing, fishing, hunting, jogging, running, sailing, shopping, skating, skiing, swimming...

- **Mind** is used chiefly in the interrogative and negative: (? / -)

Would you *mind* waiting a moment.

I don't *mind* walking.

- **It's no use / good / (not) worth + gerund**

It's no good / use *trying* to persuade me.

- **It's a waste of money / time + gerund**

It's a waste of time / money *building* that house.

- **There's no point + in + gerund** There's no point *in* waiting any longer.

- **Have difficulty + gerund** They had difficulty *finding* new jobs.

- **Be busy + gerund** We are busy *doing* our homework.

- **Spend / waste (time/money) + gerund**

He spent hours *trying* to repair the clock.

After Prepositions.

1/ V + prep + Gerund: admit to, (dis)agree with, aim at, apologize for, (dis)approve of, believe in, benefit from, care for, confess to, count on, depend on, face up to, feel like, get on with, insist on, look forward to, object to, pay for, prefer ... to, put up with, rely on, resort to, succeed in, take to, think of, vote for.

She insists on *reading* the letter. She is thinking of *selling* her house.

* **V + O + prep + Gerund:** accuse ... of, blame ... for, charge ... with, congratulate ... on, deter ... from, discourage ... from, excuse ... for/from, forgive ... for, prevent ... from, punish ... for, remind ... of, stop ... from, strike ... as, thank ... for, use ... for.

I'd like to congratulate you on *breaking* the world record.

Forgive me for *telling* you a lie.

2/ Adj. + prep + Gerund: accustomed to, afraid of, amazed at, angry about/at, annoyed about/at, anxious about, ashamed of, aware of, bad at, bored with, capable of, close to, content with, dependent on,

different from/to, excited about/at, famous for, fed up, fond of, good at, grateful for, guilty of, happy about/with, in addition to, interested in, keen on, nervous of, opposed to, pleased about/with, ready for, resigned to, responsible for, satisfied with, sorry about/for, successful in, surprised at, used to, worried about, wrong with.

I'm nervous of saying the wrong thing.

What's wrong with borrowing a little money?

3/ N.+ prep. + Gerund: *advantage of/in, aim in/of, amazement at, anger about/at, annoyance about/at, anxiety about, apology for, awareness of, belief in, boredom with, danger of/in, difficulty (in), effect of, excitement about/at, expense of/in, fear of, gratitude for, idea of, insistence on, interest in, job of, matter of, objection to, pleasure of/in, point of/in, possibility of, problem of/in, prospect of, purpose of/in, question about/of, reason for, satisfaction with, success in, surprise at, task of, work of, worry about.*

It's a good idea of going away.

4 - Infinitive and gerund constructions.

Verb + to-infinitive or gerund : different meanings.

Remember + to-inf. refers to the future action: *I remember to lock the door.*

+ Gerund: refers to the past: *I remember locking the door.*

(I locked it and I remember the action.)

Forget + to-inf.: refers to the future action: *I forgot to ask him.*

+ Gerund: refers to the past:

Have you forgotten meeting/having met her?

Regret + to-infinitive refers to the future or present:

We regret to tell / inform / warn... you about this bad news.

+ Gerund: refers to the present or past:

I regretted leaving her alone at home.

Try + to-infinitive means make an effort: *He tried to lift the case.*

+ Gerund means experiment: *She tried riding on that horse.*

Stop + to-infinitive refers to purpose: *We stop (learning) to have a rest.*

+ Gerund -ing is the object of stop: *Stop talking, please!*

Go on + to-infinitive refers to doing something different:

After the rest we went on to discuss the gerund.

+ Gerund means continue without interruption:

We went on walking until sunset.

(Dis)Like / hate + to-inf.: st contemporary *I like something to eat now.*

+ Gerund: st permanent *I like listening to music.*