

Gerund versus Infinitive

To understand the gerund and infinitive, you need to remember 3 rules.

Gerund

1. Subject of the sentence e.g. **swimming is** good for your health.
2. After preposition e.g. I am keen on **running to** get fit.
3. After certain /some verbs e.g. I fancy **having a** beer with my meal.

Infinitive

1. Purpose of another action e.g. I do the shopping once a week **to buy** food.
2. After an adjective e.g. It is easy **to pass the** exam with this course.
3. After certain /some verbs e.g. He managed **to get a** 10 on the exam.

Here is a list of the most common verbs that are followed by either the gerund or infinitive:

GERUN D	BOT H	INFINITI VE
Deny	Like	Refuse
Enjoy	Love	Seem
Mind	Hate	Decide
Fancy	Begin	Want
Feel like	Continue	Need
Suggest	Prefer	Plan
Discuss	Start	Learn
Avoid		Advise
Finish		Afford
Practice		Pretend
Give up		Manage
Take up		Hope
Take to		expect

*When in doubt. Use the gerund

Fill in the gap with the correct form of the verb in brackets:

1. I don't feel like _____ a romantic movie tonight. (watch)
2. Would you mind _____ your car, please? (move)
3. She has decided _____ her job because it is rubbish and badly paid. (quit)
4. I am going to look at _____ around the world next year. (travel)
5. We are both keen on _____ languages. (study)
6. Do you want _____ later to have a drink? (meet)
7. Are you eager _____ more English vocabulary? (learn)
8. I am looking forwards to _____ work today. (finish)
9. He hopes _____ his next tennis match. (win)
10. I need _____ more money to pay all of my bills. (earn)