

VERB PATTERNS

GERUND AND INFINITIVE

Reading and Listening

Read the review below.

- Where is the restaurant?
- What's unusual about its location?
- What kind of food does it serve?
- Would you like to eat in this restaurant?



★★★★★

'It's worth travelling 100 miles to get there!'

I enjoy going to the country's best restaurants and I've wanted to try this 'restaurant on a boat' for a long time. The location keeps changing depending on the season and making a reservation isn't easy. But we managed to get a table and had an absolutely wonderful evening. You choose your fish from the menu, then a member of staff goes fishing to catch it for you! It's easy to see why this place gets so many five-star reviews.

Dean 56, Bristol, UK

Was the review helpful? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Listen to the record Why can't Harry and Erica go to this restaurant?

Listen to the whole conversation and mark the statements true or false.

- | | | |
|---|------|-------|
| 1. The restaurant had excellent reviews | True | False |
| 2. The person who invented Oscar's owned a hotel. | True | False |
| 3. His friend's hotel was successful because it got lots of good reviews. | True | False |
| 4. Erica thinks there isn't enough control over online reviews. | True | False |
| 5. Fake reviewers often only write one review. | True | False |

Grammar: Verb Patterns

Match the verb patterns in sentences 1-4 with rules a-d.

1. **Making** a reservation isn't easy.
2. It's worth **travelling** 100 miles to get there!
3. I enjoy **going** to the country's best restaurants.
4. After many attempts, we finally succeeded in **getting** a table.

We use **verb + -ing**:

- a. after prepositions
- b. after certain verbs (e.g. keep, mind, love, etc.)
- c. after some expressions (e.g. it's worth, it's no good, etc.)
- d. as the subject of a sentence

Match the verb patterns in sentences 1-4 with rules a-d.

1. It's easy **to see** why this place gets so many five-star reviews.
2. We managed **to get** a table.
3. A member of staff goes fishing **to catch** it for you!
4. I didn't know what **to choose** from the menu.

We use **to + infinitive**:

- a. after question words
- b. after certain verbs (e.g. want, plan, seem, decide, etc.)
- c. after certain adjectives (e.g. difficult, good, important, etc.)
- d. to show purpose

8B Verb patterns

verb + -ing or to + infinitive

- Some verbs (e.g. *enjoy, mind, keep, admit, recommend, suggest*) are followed by a verb + -ing:
*She **didn't mind working** late.*
The negative form is *not + verb + -ing*:
*I **enjoyed not cooking** for a change.*
- Other verbs (e.g. *want, hope, agree, offer, promise, need, refuse, threaten, plan*) are followed by *to + infinitive*:
*They **threatened to tell** the police.*
The negative form is *not + to + infinitive*:
*I **promise not to break** anything.*
- Some verbs (e.g. *start, begin, continue*) can be followed by both patterns, with no change of meaning:
*People **started arriving** an hour ago.*
*He **started to feel** angry.*
- Some verbs (e.g. *try, forget, remember*) can be followed by both patterns, but the meaning changes:
*I **tried reading** some reviews online, but they didn't help much.* (= I read them as an experiment)
*I **tried to read** some reviews online, but my internet connection wasn't working.* (= I attempted to read them)
*I **remember going** there for the first time.* (= I'm looking back at an earlier experience.)
*Please **remember to book** a table.* (= keep the plan in your memory)

- Some verbs (e.g. *advise, ask, invite, remind, tell, warn*) need an object before *to + infinitive*:
*They **warned me not to tell** anyone.*
*I've **invited your parents to visit** us.*
make (= 'force') and *let* (= 'allow') are followed by an object and a bare infinitive:
*My boss **made me work** late.*
*He **let me drive** his car.*

Other uses of verb + -ing

- When a verb comes after a preposition (e.g. *about, of, by*), the verb is always in the -ing form:
*I'm worried **about not being** good enough.*
*They escaped **by breaking** a window.*
- When a verb is the subject of a sentence, it is usually in the -ing form:
***Eating** in a restaurant is more expensive than at home.*

Other uses of to + infinitive

- Infinitive of purpose:
*I went online **to read** the news.*
- adjective + *to + infinitive*:
*I was relieved **to see** I wasn't late.*
- verb + question word + *to + infinitive*:
*I don't know where **to go** or who **to ask**.*

Underline the correct option.

- 1 agreed going / to go to the hospital.
- 2 He admitted to take / taking the money.
- 3 Remember to collect / collecting the dry cleaning on your way home
- 4 We tried making / to make some cakes, but the oven wasn't working.
- 5 I made the dog sit / sitting down.
- 6 Maria refused watching / to watch the scary film.
- 7 it's important making/ to make a reservation in advance.
- 8 They don't mind walking / to walk home tonight.
- 9 We advised to have/ them to have a short holiday.
10. My mum always let me stay/ to stay up late.

Complete the conversation.

A: I want _____ (get) my laptop fixed. I don't know where _____ (go).

B: Have you tried _____ (look) online? It's easy _____ (find) repair shops, and you can read reviews _____ (see) if they're good.

A: Er...no. _____ (check) the internet is going to be pretty difficult because my computer's broken.

B: Oh yes, sorry, I keep _____ (forget). Listen, I think I know who _____ (ask). My neighbor's a computer engineer. I'll phone him now _____ (ask) him what _____ (do).

Five minutes later .

B: OK, so he says he doesn't mind _____ (help) but he's a bit busy. He suggests _____ (switch) it off and back on again _____ (see) what happens. He says that usually works.

A: Yes, I | remember _____ (do) that last time I had a problem, and it did work. But now my computer just refuses _____ (start) up.

B: Hmmm. I think I know how _____ (fix) it, but I need _____ (take) the back off. I promise not _____ (break) it...