

# Gerunds and infinitives

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| MEANING                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | - TO + INF: After a verb often describes a future event, an event following the main verb                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | - The GERUND describes the an activity                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| uses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | THE GERUND                                                                                                                                                                            | THE INFINITIVE                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Subject of a verb: drinking is bad for you                                                                                                                                            | • After certain verbs: They agreed to come                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Object of a verb: do you like dancing?                                                                                                                                                | • After certain verbs and person: Peter asked her to come here                                                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | The complement of to be: his favourite sport is playing tennis                                                                                                                        | • After to be: My last reaction was to call you                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                       | • To express purpose: She went to Paris to tell you the new news.                                                                                                                                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | After prepositions: His father is really good at listening to the rest.                                                                                                               | • After BE + Adjective (+of + noun/pronoun): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- It was great to hear from you</li><li>- He is very kind to do manage the course</li><li>- It is nice of you to help me.</li></ul>         |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                       | • After the first/second/last/only/best (and other superlatives adjectives) + noun or pronoun "one": <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Peter was the only one to pass</li></ul>                                          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | After possessive adjectives, nouns and object pronouns: I hope she does not mind Peter coming to the wedding                                                                          | • After a noun/pronoun.(the verb in the infinitive relates to the preceding noun/pronoun) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- I have a few homework to correct</li><li>- I have a lot of things to do.</li><li>-</li></ul> |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                       | • After verbs of knowing and believing: V+OBJ+INF or Verbs in the passive + infinitive: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- She knows you to be an excellent man</li><li>- It is believed to be our problem</li></ul>      |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                       | • After verb + question word: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- I am not sure which room to book.</li></ul>                                                                                                              |
| • In certain expressions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Thanks for sharing</li><li>- No swimming/smoking/drinking</li><li>- Is this for peeling potatoes</li><li>- What about meeting this afternoon at five.</li><li>- I usually go skiing at the weekend.</li></ul> | • After too and adj. and after adj. and enough: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Mary is too nice to reject</li><li>- The plane isn't good enough to compete with it</li></ul> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | • After is/are to describe a future event: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- They are to become 18 next year.</li></ul>                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| • NOTE: Gerunds can take objects and can be qualified by adverbs: I enjoy watching films(obj) so funny(adv)                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                       | • NOTE: infinitives can take objects and can be qualified by adverbs:- Maria wanted the rice quickly                                                                                                                           |
| NEGATIVE FORMS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| • NOT + GERUND                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                       | • NOT + (TO-) INFINITIVE                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

| THE BARE INFINITIVE |                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| USES                | After modals and after auxiliaries do/did:<br>- You should come<br>- You can swim<br>- Did you finish your exam properly?      |
|                     | After let's... (Us): - Let's go dancing and drinking.                                                                          |
|                     | After make + noun/pronoun object: she makes me laugh very often.                                                               |
|                     | After would rather: I'd rather stay out during the weekend.                                                                    |
|                     | After has better: I'd better go work now.                                                                                      |
|                     | After why not...? Why not call me Peter.                                                                                       |
|                     | After the verb HELP we can use the to-infinitive or the bare infinitive:<br>- Could you help your sister (to) do her homework? |
|                     | After a verb of perception ( see, watch, notice, feel hear) + object:<br>- I didn't hear you come in                           |
|                     | When there is a series of infinitives after a verb:<br>- I'd like to come and see you.                                         |

| Verbs of perception + object + ing or the bare infinitive                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Verbs of perception :( See, notice, look at, watch, feel, hear, listen to) can be followed by the -ing or the bare infinitive.</p> <p>The verb smell can only be followed by the ing form</p> |

| Verbs + infinitive                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Verbs + gerund                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>agree, aim, appear, arrange, ask, attempt, beg, can't afford, can't wait, choose, claim, decide, demand, desire, expect, fail, guarantee, happen, help, hope, manage, offer, plan, prepare, pretend, promise, prove, refuse, seem, tend, threaten, turn out, undertake, want, wish</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>admit, avoid, can't face, can't help, can't resist, can't stand, carry on, consider, delay, deny, detest, dislike, enjoy, excuse, fancy, finish, give up, imagine, involve, justify, keep {on}, mention, mind, postpone, practise, put off, resent, risk, save, suggest, tolerate.</p> |
| Verbs + gerund or infinitive                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <p>Some verbs can be followed by either a gerund or an infinitive, and the meaning remains the same: begin, propose, forbid, intend, start...</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <p>Some verbs can be followed by either a gerund or an infinitive, but the meaning changes (stop, remember, forget...)</p> <p><b>FORGET and REMEMBER</b><br/> We use <i>forget/remember doing</i> for memories of the past.<br/> We use <i>forget/remember to do</i> for actions someone is/was supposed to do (the remembering happens before the action).<br/> Peter won't <b>forget calling</b> you.<br/> I <b>remember opening</b> the door.</p> <p><b>GO ON</b><br/> We use <i>go on doing</i> when we continue doing something.<br/> We use <i>go on to do</i> when we move on to do something else.<br/> Sarah <b>went on dancing</b> all day. (did the same thing)<br/> The kind <b>went on to say</b> they did their homework.</p> <p><b>MEAN</b><br/> We use <i>mean doing</i> when one thing results in or involves another.<br/> We use <i>mean to do</i> to express an intention.<br/> This <b>means leaving</b> at 6.00. (involves)<br/> This <b>means that</b> we will have to leave at 6.00. (has a result)</p> <p><b>REGRET</b><br/> We use <i>regret doing</i> when we are sorry about something that happened in the past.<br/> Kate <b>regretted not buying</b> the house.<br/> We use <i>regret to inform/to tell</i> when we are giving bad news. This use is formal.<br/> I <b>regret to tell</b> you that you have failed this examination.</p> <p><b>STOP</b><br/> We use <i>stop doing</i> when we end an action.<br/> We use <i>stop to do</i> when we give the reason for stopping.<br/> I <b>stopped going</b> to evening classes. (gave up going)<br/> I <b>stopped to buy</b> some coffee. (in order to buy)</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

## Verbs followed by the to-infinitive or gerund

| VERB                                                    | INFINITIVE                                                                                                                                                                                         | GERUND                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BE                                                      | Our plan is to open the restaurant next week<br>-describes a complete event.<br>- Normally after: plan, aim, intention, decision, and solution.                                                    | My favourite sport is skiing (the gerund behaves like a noun and describes an activity)                                           |
| REMEMBER                                                | Did you remember to post the letter I gave you yesterday.<br>- Means: not to forget to do something.                                                                                               | I clearly remember phoning her the other day.<br>- Means: remember something that happened in the past'.                          |
| FORGET                                                  | I mustn't forget to phone to phone her.<br>- Means 'something you forgot to do'                                                                                                                    | I've never forgotten meeting her for the first time ten years ago<br>- Means: an action in the past you still remember.           |
| TRY                                                     | She is trying to get brown in the sun<br>- Means 'make an effort to'                                                                                                                               | Why don't you try sleeping without an pillow?<br>- Means 'make an attempt' or 'do something to see if it has an effect            |
| REGRET                                                  | I regret to inform you that your application for the post has been rejected<br>-Means 'be sorry to communicate bad news.                                                                           | I regret giving up my last job.<br>- Means 'be sorry that one has done something                                                  |
| STOP                                                    | I stopped to get a newspapers I was driving to school.<br>- Means 'pause in the order to do something else'                                                                                        | Will you please stop making that noise?<br>- Means 'not continue'                                                                 |
| GO ON                                                   | After an unsuccessful first year at college, she went on to get a first –class degree.<br>- Move to something different                                                                            | We went on talking all night<br>- Continuo doing the same thing.                                                                  |
| LIKE/<br>DISLIKE/<br>LOVE/<br>HATE                      | I like going for a walk before dinner.<br>(I like the activity but I do not do it regularly)                                                                                                       | I love to go for a walk before dinner<br>- Describes a regular activity. I love it because I think is a good idea.                |
| PREFER                                                  | I don't go out at the weekend. I prefer to stay in.<br>I don't go out at the weekend. I prefer to staying in.<br>The meaning of these sentences is very similar.                                   |                                                                                                                                   |
| BEGIN/<br>START/<br>CONTINUE                            | He began/started/continued shouting    The meaning of theses sentences is very similar<br>He began/started/continued to shout                                                                      |                                                                                                                                   |
| ADVISE/<br>ALLOW/<br>ENCOURAGE/<br>FORBID/<br>RECOMMEND | They recommend/advised us to leave<br>They Advised leaving<br>These verbs are usually followed by an object+ to-infinitive. Occasionally they have no object.<br>In that case, they take a gerund. |                                                                                                                                   |
| NEED                                                    | I need to get up early at the weekends<br>It is necessary for me to do it.                                                                                                                         | The house needs cleaning.<br>Need + gerund have a passive meaning.<br>Someone needs to clean the car, doesn't matter who does it. |

## Preposition + Gerund

After preposition, we use the gerund.

| CASES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | EXAMPLE                                                                                                                                                                               |
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| Preposition + Gerund                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- After reading the book, he changed his point of view.</li> <li>- You should not have approved the letter without asking me first.</li> </ul> |
| Adjective/noun+ prep + gerund                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are interested in going to the cinema</li> <li>- He has shown a lot interest in applying for this job.</li> </ul>                            |
| Verb + preposition + gerund/phrasal verb + gerund                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- They succeeded in getting the new contract</li> <li>- She apologised for disturbing her.</li> <li>- They carried on working.</li> </ul>      |
| Verb + obj.(Person/personal pronoun) + preposition + gerund                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We dissuaded him from writting the letter.</li> <li>- she accused him of cheating.</li> </ul>                                                |
| Verb + preposition + object pronoun or possessive adjective + gerund                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- They Agreed on us /ours sharing the expenses.</li> <li>- My boss complained about me/my arriving late last night.</li> </ul>                 |
| NOTE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We use an object pronoun (me, us) more often than a possessive adjective (my, our) after a preposition. The use of a possessive adjective is rather formal.</li> <li>- "TO" may be part of a the to-infinitive, or it may be a preposition preceding a gerund.</li> </ul> |                                                                                                                                                                                       |



## Adjective + to infinitive

We can use a to-infinitive after an adjective

| CASES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | EXAMPLE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An adjective + to-infinitive often comes in this structure with <b>it + be</b>.</li> <li>- The subject can also be a person.</li> </ul>                                                                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>It's important to look</b> in the mirror. <b>It's lovely to see</b> you.</li> <li>- <b>It's</b> quite <b>safe to use</b> the ladder. <b>It was silly to make</b> such a fuss.</li> <li>- <b>I'm delighted to see</b> you. <b>We're ready to start</b> now.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Certain, sure and likely</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We can use a to-infinitive after <b>certain, sure, likely</b> and <b>unlikely</b>.</li> </ul>                                                                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- United are <b>certain/sure to win</b>. (= They will certainly win.)</li> <li>- Sarah is <b>likely to be</b> at work. (= She is probably at work.)</li> </ul>                                                                                                             |
| <b>For and of</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- After some adjectives we can use <b>for</b> + object + to-infinitive.</li> <li>- After an adjective describing how someone behaves (e.g. <b>polite, silly</b>), we can use <b>of</b>.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It's <b>important for drivers to take</b> care. It isn't <b>safe for children to play</b> on ladders.</li> <li>- It was <b>polite of Emma to write</b> and thank us. (Emma was polite.) It was <b>silly of me to forget</b> the tickets. (I was silly.)</li> </ul>       |

# Gerund or Infinitive BUT With Changes of meaning

Some verbs can be followed either infinitive or gerund BUT with changes of meaning.

The most used are:

- **Forget + Infinitive:** to fail to do sth.  
*I forgot to tell him where the key was.*  
**Forget + gerund:** to do sth. and not recall it.  
*I forgot telling him where the key was but perhaps I did.*
- **Need + Infinitive:** to have to do sth.  
*I need to cut the grass.*  
**Need + gerund:** somebody has to do it (impersonal)  
*The grass needs cutting.*
- **Regret + Infinitive:** be sorry to (sth. unpleasant)  
*I regretted to tell you he had lied you.*  
**Regret + gerund:** to talk about a mistake in the past  
*I regretted telling you that it was your fault. Sorry.*
- **Remember + Infinitive:** not to forget to do sth.  
*He remembered to buy the cake. Here you are.*  
**Remember + gerund:** to recall a memory  
*He remembered having the ticket in his pocket but now he can't find it.*
- **Stop + Infinitive:** interrupt an action to do another.  
*She stopped to have lunch to open the door.*  
**Stop + gerund:** no to do sth. any more.  
*She stopped travelling when her baby was born.*
- **Try + Infinitive:** make an effort to  
*I tried to finish the book but I fell asleep.*  
**Try + gerund:** experiment with doing sth.  
*I tried learning to cook but I'm not good at it.*

Put the verbs in the correct form to complete the dialogues.

- 2) "Have you ever heard Madonna live in concert?"  
"Yes, I remember hearing (hear) her in London. She was amazing!"
- 2) "Oh no, I haven't bought any bread."  
"Why didn't you remember \_\_\_\_\_ (buy) any?"
- 3) "This violin doesn't sound very good."  
"Do you think it needs \_\_\_\_\_ (repair)?"
- 4) "Is your sister studying at the conservatory?"  
"No, she isn't. She tried \_\_\_\_\_ (get) in, but she didn't do well enough in the entrance exam."
- 5) "Do you remember The Windows' concert last year?"  
"Yes, I'll never forget \_\_\_\_\_ (see) them. They were great!"
- 6) "Did you tell your brother that he plays terribly?"  
"Yes. I really regret \_\_\_\_\_ (say) that to him now."
- 7) "How shall I cook the fish?"  
"Anyway you want. Just try not \_\_\_\_\_ (burn) it".
- 8) "What's the best way to cook the fish?"  
"Try to \_\_\_\_\_ (grill) it".

Choose the best option to complete the sentence.

- 1) My brother Robert doesn't want to get fat so he stopped to eat / eating chocolate during work.
- 2) Patricia was happy because her boyfriend remembered to buy / buying her a birthday present.
- 3) We had a wonderful trip to Italy, and I'll never forget to visit / visiting Rome.
- 4) My parents usually try to avoid / avoiding our unpleasant neighbours.
- 5) I regret not to study / studying more last year.

- 6) Why's the door open? I can distinctly remember to close / closing it.
- 7) I forgot to post / posting the letter yesterday.
- 8) After we'd been walking for an hour we stopped to drink / drinking some water.
- 9) You should stop to drink / drinking so much alcohol at the weekend: it's not good for you.
- 10) I regret to inform / informing you that we cannot accept your offer.
- 11) I'll never forget to hear / hearing the London Philharmonic Orchestra for the first time.

# Verbs followed by gerund or infinitive

|                    |      |
|--------------------|------|
| admit *            | -ing |
| advise             | to   |
| afford             |      |
| agree *            |      |
| appear             |      |
| arrange            |      |
| ask                |      |
| avoid              |      |
| can't stand        |      |
| choose             |      |
| consider           |      |
| decide *           |      |
| demand             |      |
| deny *             |      |
| deserve            |      |
| dislike            |      |
| don't mind         |      |
| enjoy              |      |
| expect *           |      |
| fall               |      |
| fancy              |      |
| (fancy=) feel like |      |
| finish             |      |
| give up            |      |
| keep               |      |
| help               |      |
| hope *             |      |
| invite             |      |
| imagine *          |      |
| learn *            |      |
| manage             |      |
| mean               |      |
| miss               |      |
| offer              |      |
| plan               |      |
| practice           |      |
| pretend *          |      |
| promise *          |      |
| recommend          |      |
| refuse             |      |
| reject             |      |
| risk               |      |
| seem *             |      |
| stop               |      |
| suggest *          |      |
| tend               |      |
| try                |      |
| wait               |      |
| want               |      |
| would like         |      |

## General Rule

### Gerunds



Used when actions are:  
real, concrete or completed

### Infinitives



Used when actions are:  
unreal, abstract or future

Complete these sentences below with the right form of the verbs in brackets:  
gerund (-ing) or infinitive (to). Then complete the list on the left.

( \* means that this verb can also be followed by a **that clause** )

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| <p>1) Learning a foreign language means _____ (be) interested in another culture.</p> <p>2) My friend is giving up _____ (smoke) at last.</p> <p>3) Bob is very skilful. He has managed _____ (fix) his laptop himself.</p> <p>4) Doctors recommend _____ (sleep) eight hours a day.</p> <p>5) Reliable friends are always there for you. They will never fail _____ (help) to you.</p> <p>6) I don't mind _____ (do) the washing up.</p> <p>7) Mum, can I go out? I've already finished _____ (study).</p> <p>8) Tina hopes _____ (become) a prestigious engineer one day.</p> <p>9) Jerry is very angry. I've phoned him five times but he refuses _____ (speak) to me.</p> <p>10) The suspect arrested by the police denied _____ (rob) the bank. He said he had an alibi.</p> <p>11) He admitted _____ (make) a serious mistake and apologised.</p> <p>12) I can't stand _____ (wear) these awful glasses!</p> <p>13) The teacher agreed _____ (postpone) the exam.</p> <p>14) Peter pretended _____ (have) a stomach ache and left school early.</p> | <p>15) Will promised his mum _____ (be) back at 11.</p> <p>16) Few people can afford _____ (buy) the trendiest smartphone.</p> <p>17) Fred chose _____ (work) on Saturday instead of on Friday.</p> <p>18) Angelina imagined _____ (get) an Oscar for her last movie.</p> <p>19) We've planned _____ (fly) to Denmark this Christmas.</p> <p>20) Tom suggested _____ (spend) a couple of weeks on Majorca.</p> <p>21) Amanda rejected _____ (eat) the soup because it was salty.</p> <p>22) People shouldn't risk _____ (ride) a motorbike without wearing a helmet.</p> <p>23) I really miss _____ (chat) with you every day.</p> <p>24) Mum asked me _____ (lay) the table.</p> <p>25) Mr. Johnson tends _____ (lie) about his age. He's so flirty!</p> <p>26) You should avoid _____ (shout). It's too late!</p> <p>27) He kept _____ (talk) for hours.</p> <p>28) Do you fancy _____ (dance)?</p> <p>29) If you try _____ (work) a bit harder, I'm sure you'll pass.</p> <p>30) He will arrange _____ (book) a room at the best hotel.</p> <p>31) He seems _____ (be) worried.</p> |
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- 32) I wouldn't advise \_\_\_\_\_ (buy) a used car.
- 33) I want \_\_\_\_\_ (find) a better job because I need some extra money.
- 34) The policeman offered \_\_\_\_\_ (help) me when someone mugged my bag.
- 35) I feel like \_\_\_\_\_ (go) out for dinner tonight. Do you fancy coming with me?
- 36) Matt has learned \_\_\_\_\_ (parachute). He will jump tomorrow for the first time!
- 37) Christian considers \_\_\_\_\_ (move) to London in order to improve his English.
- 38) I'm very excited. I can't wait \_\_\_\_\_ (play) this new game.
- 39) He practiced \_\_\_\_\_ (run) every afternoon in the park for the marathon.
- 40) She expected \_\_\_\_\_ (see) her favourite singer after the show but she couldn't.
- 41) He would like \_\_\_\_\_ (learn) to fly a helicopter.
- 42) My aunt invited me \_\_\_\_\_ (spend) a week in Italy.
- 43) Don't worry. Kelly appears \_\_\_\_\_ (know) what she's doing.
- 44) They decided \_\_\_\_\_ (change) the colour of their room.
- 45) Many people dislike \_\_\_\_\_ (wait) at the traffic lights.
- 46) He deserved \_\_\_\_\_ (be) punished for driving too fast.
- 47) The boss demanded \_\_\_\_\_ (arrive) on time to his employees.
- 48) Beth helped the children \_\_\_\_\_ (do) their homework.
- 49) The two friends enjoyed \_\_\_\_\_ (go) shopping.
- 50) Please stop \_\_\_\_\_ (make) so much noise! I'm trying to sleep.

## Gerund or Infinitive Without Changes of meaning

Some verbs can be followed either infinitive or gerund with little or no change of meaning.

The most used are:

- **Verbs of starting or continuing:**  
*begin, start, continue, intend, propose*  
(When they are the continuous form, they are usually in the infinitive)
- **Verbs of liking or not liking:**  
*hate, love, prefer, like, not bear*  
(infinitive is preferred when talking in general)

## Gerund or Infinitive BUT With Changes of meaning

Some verbs can be followed either infinitive or gerund **BUT with changes of meaning**.

The most used are:

- **Forget** + infinitive: to fail to do sth.  
Forget + gerund: to do sth. and not recall it.
- **Need** + infinitive: to have to do sth.  
Need + gerund: somebody has to do it (impersonal)
- **Regret** + infinitive: be sorry to (sth. unpleasant)  
Regret + gerund: to talk about a mistake in the past
- **Remember** + infinitive: not to forget to do sth.  
Remember + gerund: to recall a memory
- **Stop** + infinitive: interrupt an action to do another.  
Stop + gerund: no to do sth. any more.
- **Try** + infinitive: make an effort to  
Try + gerund: experiment with doing sth.

Complete the following sentences with the verbs in brackets. Use the infinitive or the gerund depending on the meaning of each sentence.

- 1) He is angry because I forgot \_\_\_\_\_ (meet) him.  
(I didn't meet him because I forgot to do it.)
- 2) He is angry because I forgot \_\_\_\_\_ (meet) him.  
(I don't have the memory of meeting him before)
- 3) I regret \_\_\_\_\_ (promise) to help you.  
(I'm sorry that I made the promise)
- 4) I regret \_\_\_\_\_ (tell) you that we can't hire you.  
(I'm telling you now, and I'm sorry)
- 5) She remembered \_\_\_\_\_ (visit) her grandmother.  
(She didn't forget to visit her)
- 6) She remembered \_\_\_\_\_ (visit) her grandmother.  
(She had memories of this time)
- 7) I stopped \_\_\_\_\_ (call) you.  
(I stopped this activity. Maybe we had a fight)
- 8) I stopped \_\_\_\_\_ (call) you.  
(I interrupted another action in order to call you)
- 9) I tried \_\_\_\_\_ (open) the window.  
(I attempted this action but didn't succeed)
- 10) I tried \_\_\_\_\_ (open) the window.  
(This was one option I chose. Maybe the room was hot)