

infinitives and -ing forms

to-infinitive

A after certain verbs, e.g. *seem, want, agree, intend, decide, mean, expect, plan, hope, manage, promise, would like/love/prefer,*

Someone has **managed** to make a piece of the material.

B after certain verbs + object, e.g. *want, expect, encourage,*

Scientists **expect** it to be more accurate soon.

C after *where, what, when, how, which,*

No one can work out **how** to produce a battery.

infinitive without to

D after certain verbs + object, e.g. *make, help,*
This **makes** it disappear from view.

-ing form

E after certain verbs, e.g. *enjoy, imagine, involve, avoid,*

Imagine **knowing** what your friends really think.

F after prepositions, including verb/adjective + preposition
Have you ever **dreamt** of being a superhero?

Obviously, people are a bit **nervous** about trying that.

1 Read the grammar box and these sentences. Complete the gaps in the grammar box (A–E) with the correct form of the words in bold in the sentences (1–5).

- 1 Everything **appears** to be three times closer.
- 2 It **allows** you to lift 200 kg as if it were just 4 kg.
- 3 Scientists **have suggested** powering it with a nuclear reactor.
- 4 I'm not sure **who** to ask for permission.
- 5 New types of earbuds **let** you control the sounds you hear.

3 6.2 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Then listen again and check your answers.

- 1 When they lose a leg or eye, their body lets them (grow) a new one.
- 2 A lot of scientists are interested in (study) these extraordinary animals.
- 3 Their amazing abilities haven't helped them (survive) in the wild.
- 4 The scientists created a safer environment for the axolotls by (clean) the water.
- 5 This didn't seem (help).
- 6 They intend (keep) looking until April.
- 7 If people can avoid (pollute) the water in the future, perhaps the axolotls have a chance.

4 Choose the correct words to complete the text.

Olympian insects

A Some animals make even the strongest human 'seem / to seem' hopelessly weak. There's a type of beetle that's capable of ²to pull / pulling 1141 times its own body weight. That's the same as a human pulling six big buses full of people!

B If you plan ³kill / to kill a fly, don't expect ⁴to do / doing it easily. Its eyes allow it ⁵see / to see things happening in slow motion, so it almost always manages ⁶to move / moving away in time.

C We expect animals ⁷using / to use their noses to smell, like we do, but the silkworm moth smells with the antennae on its head instead. They help it ⁸detect / detecting a mate ten kilometres away.

5 Complete the text with the correct form of these verbs.

apply be find out make pay sail
see spend swim watch

WHALE OF A TIME!

I've always enjoyed ¹ about whales, and my parents have encouraged me ² lots of TV documentaries about them. They're famous for ³ very big, but it's their communication that interests me most. For some species, this involves ⁴ noises that can be heard thousands of kilometres away. They use sound to work out which way ⁵ to find food or a mate.

After ⁶ an advert in a wildlife magazine, I really wanted ⁷ for a place on a whale conservation project on a boat in Scotland. Luckily, my parents agreed ⁸ for the trip, and it's all arranged for next summer. I'm really looking forward to ⁹ time on the boat. Imagine ¹⁰ through the ocean with whales all around you!