

## Gerunds and Infinitives

**Gerund = verb + ing**

It creates a **noun**

Eg: swimming, eating

**Infinitive = to + verb**

Eg: to dance, to sing

**When do we use a gerund?**

A) We can **start a sentence** with a gerund. Example: **Learning** grammar is fun!

B) **After prepositions**. Common prepositions followed by gerunds include:

- I am tired **of** listening....
- He disapproves **of** meeting...
- I am in favour **of** going....
- I look forward **to** meeting...
- Thank you **for** seeing...
- I saved a lot of time **by** driving...
- I am interested **in** seeing...
- She is worried **about** catching...
- I can get used **to** being...
- He objected **to** starting...
- I have always been fond **of** reading...

C) **After certain verbs and expressions**.

(i) Verbs and expressions that are followed by **gerunds**:

appreciate	dislike	postpone	there's / it's no use
admit	enjoy	practise	feel like
avoid	finish	regret	can't help
consider	imagine	risk	give up
delay	keep	put off	be worth (it is worth...)
deny	mind	stop	can't stand
discuss	miss	suggest	

- (ii) The following verbs can be followed **either** by a gerund or an infinitive and it means the same:

begin	like	continue
love	hate	prefer
intend	start	

- (iii) The following verbs can be followed **either** by a gerund or an infinitive (to + verb) but the meaning changes! When we use the gerund, the meaning becomes past looking. When we use the infinitive, the meaning becomes present / future looking. See the examples below:

Verb	Example	Meaning
Stop	1) After an hour they stopped <b>walking</b> around the shop. (gerund)	1) They walked around for an hour and then stopped.
	2) We stopped <b>to walk</b> around the shop. (infinitive)	2) They stopped doing something in order to walk around the shop.
Remember	1) I remember <b>visiting</b> my aunt when I was little. (gerund)	1) Remember doing something in the past.
	2) I must remember <b>to visit</b> my aunt tomorrow. (infinitive)	2) To remember to do something in the future.
Forget	1) I forgot <b>calling</b> my friend last night. (gerund)	1) I forgot that I had already done something in the past.
	2) I keep forgetting <b>to call</b> the doctor. (infinitive)	2) I forget to do something that I need to do...
Regret	1) I regret not <b>visiting</b> her last year. (gerund)	1) I regret that I didn't visit in the past.
	2) I regret <b>to inform</b> you that you are in quarantine for now. (infinitive)	2) I regret something that I have to do now / in the future.

Now, do the following exercises:

**A) Order the sentence correctly to begin with a gerund:**

(i) activity very important running a is

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(ii) to use books allows reading me my imagination

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(iii) a exploring is exciting city new

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**B) Choose either a gerund or the infinitive of the verb in brackets to complete the sentence:**

1. There's simply no use \_\_\_\_\_ (explain), I will never know how to change a tire.
2. Stop \_\_\_\_\_ (tell) me what to do! I hate it when you order me around!
3. I strongly disapprove of your \_\_\_\_\_ (arrive) home late at night.
4. I intend \_\_\_\_\_ (stay) in Israel when I am finished school.
5. Would you consider \_\_\_\_\_ (have) your party next week so that I can come too?
6. I am interested in \_\_\_\_\_ (study) ancient cultures and societies.
7. Rather regret \_\_\_\_\_ (do) something than not \_\_\_\_\_ (do) it.
8. I really don't mind \_\_\_\_\_ (help) you as much as I can. It is really a pleasure.
9. Do you prefer \_\_\_\_\_ (buy) roses or daffodils for your table decoration?
10. I can't help \_\_\_\_\_ (wonder) where Anne learnt such wonderful manners.
11. I can't believe that I forgot \_\_\_\_\_ (call) my best friend on her birthday!
12. I suggest \_\_\_\_\_ (arrive) on time for any professional interview.
13. I look forward to \_\_\_\_\_ (meet) you.
14. After \_\_\_\_\_ (walk) around the museum for an hour, the boy \_\_\_\_\_ (stop) to stare at the Mona Lisa.