

UNIT 26

Gerunds and Infinitives

EXERCISE 1 GERUND OR INFINITIVE

Read the notice about a support-group meeting for people who are afraid of flying. Complete the sentences with the correct form—gerund or infinitive—of the verbs in parentheses.

Stuck on the ground? Don't wait! Get help now!



Are you afraid of flying ^{1. (fly)}? Stop living ^{2. (live)} in fear!

Flying ^{3. (fly)} is the safest form of transportation, but many people are too anxious to get ^{4. (get)} on a plane.

Do you avoid flying ^{5. (fly)} because you're afraid to leave the ground? Would you like to get over ^{6. (get over)} your fear?

Don't let your fear prevent you from doing ^{7. (do)} all the things that you want to do ^{8. (do)}. You deserve to live ^{9. (live)} a life free of fear. So, don't put it off.

Decide to do ^{10. (do)} something about your problem NOW. Come to our monthly support-group meetings.

The next meeting is at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 3 at the Community Center. We look forward to seeing ^{11. (see)} you there.

And don't forget to visit ^{12. (visit)} our website at www.flyaway.com for some helpful tips on getting ^{13. (get)} yourself off the ground!

EXERCISE 2 GERUND OR INFINITIVE

These conversations take place at a support-group meeting for people who are afraid of flying. Complete the summary statements about the people. Use the correct verbs or expressions from the box and the gerund or infinitive form of the verbs in parentheses.

afford	be tired of	enjoy	intend	quit	remember
agree	believe in	forget	offer	refuse	stop

1. OYLAN: Would you like a cup of coffee?

SYLVIE: No, thanks. I gave up coffee. It makes me too anxious.

SUMMARY: Sylvie quit drinking coffee.
(drink)

2. ANDREA: Why did you start coming to these meetings?

HANK: My fear of flying prevents me from doing too many things. It's very discouraging, and I finally want to do something about it.

SUMMARY: Hank is afraid of flying.
(be)

3. JASON: Have you ever been to one of these support-group meetings before?

AMBER: Yes. I like meeting people with the same problem. You get a lot of useful tips.

SUMMARY: Amber met people with the same problem.
(meet)

4. CARYN: I think these meetings are really helpful. You can learn a lot when you talk to other people about your problems.

PAULO: I agree.

SUMMARY: Caryn talked to other people about her problems.
(talk)

5. MARY: Did you bring the travel guide?

SARA: Oh, no. I left it at work.

SUMMARY: Sara didn't bring the travel guide.
(bring)

6. AMANDA: Did you tell Amy about tonight's meeting?

JOSHUA: No, *you* told Amy about the meeting. I heard you do it.

AMANDA: Really? Are you sure?

SUMMARY: Amanda doesn't tell Amy about the meeting.
(tell)

7. TYLER: You're late. I was getting worried.

EMILY: I'm sorry. On the way over here, I noticed that I was almost out of gas. So I went to fill up the tank.

SUMMARY: Emily got gas.
(get)

8. KATIE: I know your parents live in California. How do you get there?

MIKE: I take the train. It's a long trip, and I lose much too much time.

SUMMARY: Mike can't _____ the time.
(lose)

9. CAMILLE: I was afraid to come to the meeting tonight.

VILMA: Well, I just won't live in fear.

SUMMARY: Vilma _____ in fear.
(live)

10. ERIN: Have you made your flight reservations yet?

LUIS: Not yet. But I'm definitely going to do it.

SUMMARY: Luis _____ a reservation.
(make)

11. RACHEL: Do you think you could help us organize the next meeting?

JUSTIN: Sure. Just give me a task to do and I'll be glad to help.

RACHEL: We don't have a date yet, but I'll let you know.

SUMMARY: Justin _____ with the next meeting.
(help)

12. AXEL: Would you like a ride home?

JOANNA: Thanks. That would be great.

SUMMARY: Axel _____ Joanna home.
(drive)

EXERCISE 4 EDITING

Read Hank's post to a fear of flying forum. There are ten mistakes in the use of gerunds and infinitives. The first mistake is already corrected. Find and correct nine more.

Taking Off!

04-16-2016 04:59 a.m.

Things are looking up!

I want ^{to report} ~~reporting~~ on my progress. I'm very happy that I finally stopped to procrastinate and decided doing something about my fear of flying. It was really getting in the way of my professional and social life. To join this support group was one of the smartest decisions I've ever made.

Last week, I had a business meeting in Texas. Instead of drive all day to get there, I was able to getting on a plane and be there in just a few hours. What a difference!

I remember to work on an important project once, and I actually had to drop out because it required a lot of flying and I just couldn't do it. I was anxious all the time.

My fear was beginning to hurt my friendships, too. I was dating a woman I liked a lot and we were supposed to go on a trip. I canceled at the last minute because it required to take a plane.

Now I'm looking forward to do a lot of traveling. I know fear of flying is a universal problem, but it doesn't have to be mine! It's a big world out there, and I plan on enjoy it.