

3

Which nouns and adjectives are followed by a gerund or an infinitive?

1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

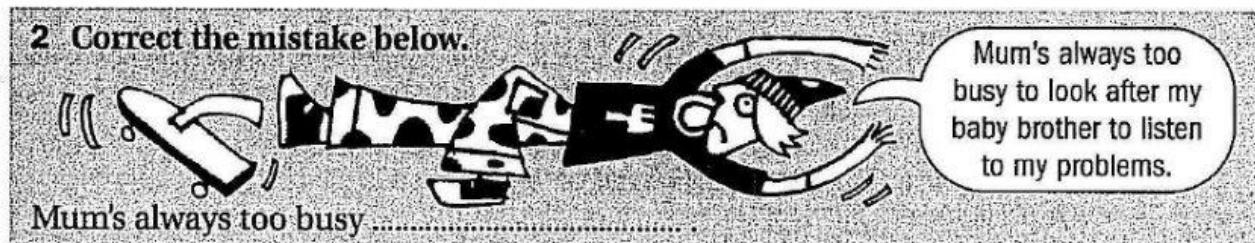
- 1 a As a disabled person, he has difficulty getting on and off buses.
b As a disabled person, he has difficulty to get on and off buses.
- 2 a I'm used to eating my main meal at midday.
b I'm used to eat my main meal at midday.

Many words are followed by a verb in either the gerund (-ing) or infinitive (*to do*) form. You can check which patterns a word is used with by looking at the examples in a good learner's dictionary. The following are some common combinations:

- noun + *to do* (*something*)
have the ability / confidence / courage to do (something):
He didn't have the confidence to speak up about what he'd witnessed.
- noun (+ preposition) + gerund
fear of doing (something), have difficulty in doing (something):
He lived in constant fear of being found out.
- adjective + *to do* (*something*)
be right / wrong to do (something), be lucky / fortunate to do (something)
be happy to do (something) (= willing to do something):
I'm happy to pick Jamie up if you're busy.
- adjective + gerund
be used to doing (something), be busy doing (something), be worth doing (something):
The vineyards are well worth visiting.

★ See Unit 29 for verb + verb combinations.

2 Correct the mistake below.



3 Use the words below (in the same order) to create sentences. Add any necessary prepositions or articles, and put the verbs in an appropriate form.

- 1 He / have / terrible / fear / travel / by / plane
- 2 She / be / right / tell / boss / about / problem
- 3 He / have / ability / play / highest / level / the / sport
- 4 We / have / difficulty / find / parking / space
- 5 It / be not / worth / cook / full / meal / for / one / person
- 6 I / feel / lucky / have / such / good / friends
- 7 He / not / have / courage / tell / her / face to face
- 8 He / be / not / used to / get up / so / early