

For the gerund and infinitive exercises below, you have to decide if you need the gerund:

- verb + ing e.g. swimming

or the infinitive:

- to + verb e.g. to swim

*For some, either the gerund or infinitive is possible.

Ali's Story - Booking The School

Ali decided that he wanted (study) _____ abroad. (achieve) _____ his goal, he had many things that he had (do) _____. Firstly, he needed (improve) _____ his English so he could take the IELTS test. Unfortunately, Ali disliked (learn) _____ English so this would not be much fun. His friend recommended (attend) _____ a school close to his house. Ali went to look and from what he could see it seemed (be) _____ a good school. He didn't delay (register) _____ for a course. He managed (get) _____ a good price for the course because they had a special offer on. This was good because he could not afford (pay) _____ too much.

Studying

He had never read much in his life and knew he was weak in this area, so he practiced (read) _____ as much as he could. He hated (write) _____ in English too as his grammar was quite weak so he also planned (practice) _____ writing as many essays as possible. His teachers agreed (check) _____ these for him. As it turned out, Ali actually really enjoyed (study) _____ English. The other students on the course didn't hesitate (help) _____ Ali and the teachers always offered (assist) _____ him if he was stuck. He kept up his studying for a number of months because he wouldn't risk (sit) _____ the exam until he was ready.

Taking the Test

Then came the time for Ali (take) _____ the test. He couldn't stop (worry) before the test. His teacher had recommended (do) _____ the Task 2 first in the writing so he followed those instructions. He finished (write) _____ his Task 2 after exactly 40 minutes and then went on to the Task 1. The speaking test seemed (go) _____ quite well even though he was nervous. He can recall (ask) _____ the examiner at the end how well he had done but she refused (tell) _____ him. Then came the time for his result. He had expected (get) _____ a band 5.5 but he was surprised (find) _____ out that he had been given a band 6.

The Result

So, Ali could now go and study abroad. Although he was happy, unfortunately it did mean (leave) _____ his wife and children for a year. He considered (take) _____ them with him but it would be too expensive. He knew he would miss (see) _____ them every day but his parents offered (take) _____ care of them and promised (make) _____ sure they were safe. Ali did love (travel) _____ though so he knew he would enjoy the trip. He began (prepare) _____ his trip immediately.