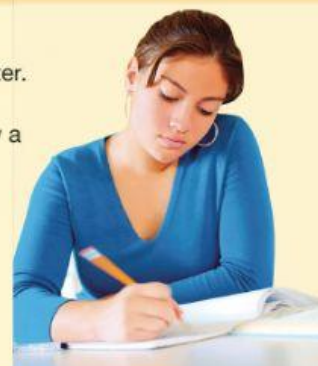


How do you learn new words?

Tick (✓) the techniques you use for learning new words in English.

- A** I translate the word in my notebook in case I want to read it again later.
- B** I practise repeating the word a few times.
- C** I like writing a sentence with a new word, or sometimes I like to draw a picture of it.
- D** I learn by listening to the new word.
- E** It's also fun to speak in English with friends, and I try to keep using new words in our conversation.
- F** Reading is useful for learning new words, so I choose interesting books in English.

How many did you tick? Why not try them all?



Presentation

The main verb in a sentence is sometimes followed by a second verb. This verb can be the *-ing* form or the infinitive form. The choice depends on the main verb.

verb + *-ing* form

Certain verbs are always followed by the *-ing* form:

*I keep **using** it in conversation for the rest of the day.*

Common verbs only followed by the *-ing* form: *consider, dislike, enjoy, finish, imagine, involve, keep, mind, postpone, practise, suggest*

verb + *to*-infinitive

Certain verbs are always followed by the *to*-infinitive form:

*I want **to read** it again later.*

Common verbs followed by *to*-infinitive: *agree, decide, expect, hope, learn, manage, need, offer, plan, promise, seem, want*

verb + *-ing* form and *to*-infinitive

You can follow verbs such as *begin, continue, hate, like, love, prefer, start* with either form with no difference in meaning:

*I like **writing** sentences. ✓ I like **to draw** pictures. ✓*

verb + preposition + *-ing* form

When a preposition follows the first verb, the next verb uses the *-ing* form:

*Which of these techniques do you use for **learning** new words in English?*

*I learn by **hearing** the new word.*

Common verbs followed by a preposition + the *-ing* form: *apologize for, learn by / from, plan on, stop from, thank somebody for, think of / about, use for, worry about*

-ing form as subject

You can use the *-ing* form of a verb as the subject of the sentence:

***Reading** is useful for learning new words.*

adjective + *to* infinitive

You often use *to* + infinitive after an adjective:

*It's **fun** **to speak** in English with friends.*

Exercises

1 Match 1–8 with a–h.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1 I plan to | a can be boring sometimes. |
| 2 We enjoy visiting | b new countries. |
| 3 They dislike | c to visit Patagonia for the first time. |
| 4 Travelling | d about going round the world, but they never do. |
| 5 My sister is really good at | e going to very hot places. |
| 6 It was amazing | f visit New Zealand one day. |
| 7 This hotel seems to have | g finding cheap flights. |
| 8 They often talk | h a nice swimming pool. |

2 Choose the correct option. In one sentence, both answers are possible.

- 1 I never learn by *to write / writing* words down.
- 2 I'm pleased *meeting / to meet* you!
- 3 Don't keep *to turn / turning* your music up so loud.
- 4 Did the owners of the company agree *to pay / paying* us more money?
- 5 I hope *to become / becoming* a professional football player after school.
- 6 *Swimming / To swim* is really good exercise.
- 7 My neighbour paid me for *to clean / cleaning* his car.
- 8 Let's postpone *to go / going* out tonight. I'm too busy.
- 9 This MP3 player doesn't seem *to work / working*.
- 10 Are you going to apologize for *to hit / hitting* your little sister?
- 11 Your grandparents were so happy *to see / seeing* you.
- 12 I began *studying / to study* English when I was eight.

3 Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs.

Good morning everyone and thank you for ¹_____ (come) today. Do you dislike ²_____ (look) for new words in a thick, heavy dictionary? Do you think it would be great ³_____ (have) instant access to the world's biggest dictionary in every language? Well, today I want ⁴_____ (present) the latest in electronic dictionaries, the XtraLingo. It's so simple ⁵_____ (use) it. First of all, you need ⁶_____ (press) the ON button. Then you begin by ⁷_____ (type) in a word in English and the machine will automatically give you the translation in any language. And don't worry about ⁸_____ (carry) it around because the XtraLingo is the size of a mobile phone.