1B Gerund and infinitive constructions

The verbs *forget*, *mean*, and *regret* can be followed by either an infinitive or a gerund. However, the meaning is significantly different in each case.

Forget followed by an infinitive refers to something you didn't actually do. *Forget* followed by a gerund refers to an action that you in fact did earlier.
Marcello **forgot to meet** his best friend at the train station.
Marcello never **forgot meeting** his favorite actor.

Mean followed by an infinitive means "intend." In this case, *mean* is usually used in the negative or in the past tense. *Mean* followed by a gerund means "involve or necessitate."
I **meant to visit** Sheila while I was in Hawaii, but I didn't have the chance.
Inviting Emile to the party **means inviting** Eva, too. She'd be so insulted if we didn't.

Regret followed by infinitives such as *inform*, *announce*, and *say* is a polite way of introducing bad news in official communication. *Regret* followed by a gerund means "be sorry for/about."
The corporation **regrets to inform** you that all job vacancies have been filled.
Donna really **regretted missing** her best friend's wedding.

Be + adjective expressions are often followed by an infinitive.

be amazed	be determined	be happy	be lucky
be ashamed	be eager	be hesitant	be ready

Be + adjective + preposition and verb + preposition expressions are often followed by a gerund.

be bored with	be convinced of	be good at	be used to	be worried about	
apologize for	complain about	object to	participate in	take part in	think of

1 Choose the correct form of the verb.

1. Manny forgot *to do* / (*doing*) his homework for English class because he had completed it over a month ago.
2. Mina didn't mean *to frighten* / *frightening* the baby with the doll.
3. Though she didn't have much, Wendy never regretted *to spend* / *spending* money on her friends.
4. I always forget *to call* / *calling* my parents, and they get really mad at me.
5. Attending my high school reunion means *to see* / *seeing* old friends as well as people I didn't like very much.
6. We regret *to announce* / *announcing* that Flight 54 has been delayed.

2 Complete the sentences with the infinitive or gerund form of the verb in parentheses.

1. Gil is really eager ***to rekindle*** (rekindle) his relationship with Lana.
2. I've been worried about _____ (meet) my new college roommate.
3. I think you're really lucky _____ (have) so many close friends.
4. Have you thought of _____ (send) an e-card instead of mailing a card?
5. I'm ashamed _____ (say) that my college roommate and I never reconnected.
6. I would like to apologize for _____ (rehash) all these old issues.