

Grammar

Verbs with *-ing* or to infinitive

► **Page 121 Grammar reference**
-ing or to infinitive

1 Look at the picture. Who is it? What is she doing?



2 Listen and complete the interview with a clown.



being doing making talking **to-become**
 to do to laugh to learn to work

David: Why did you decide (1) ...**to become**... a clown?
Tanya: Well, I love (2) – everybody does, don't they? When I was 11, my parents got a clown to come to my birthday party. He was very funny, and I thought, 'I want (3) that,' so I did!
David: Is it difficult (4) to be a clown?
Tanya: Juggling is the hardest thing. That took months of practice!
David: What's the best thing about (5) a clown?
Tanya: That's easy – I love (6) people laugh.
David: Do you make much money?
Tanya: No, not much! I do children's parties for free. It's just something I enjoy (7)
David: What about the future?
Tanya: I'd like (8) in the film industry when I finish school.
David: Well, good luck, and thanks for (9) to me.
Tanya: Thanks. It was fun.

3 Find examples of these rules in the interview.

Rules

- 1 Some verbs are followed by the *to* infinitive.
Decide to become
- 2 Some verbs are followed by the *-ing* form.
- 3 When a verb follows a preposition (except *to*), it is always an *-ing* form.
- 4 *Would like* is followed by the *to* infinitive.
- 5 When a verb follows an adjective, it is usually a *to* infinitive.
- 6 Some verbs can be followed by either the *to* infinitive or the *-ing* form.

4 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 Do you want **to go** (go) to the rock concert?
- 2 We enjoy (work) with young people.
- 3 I'd like (help) you, but I'm very busy.
- 4 Don't worry about (clean) your room. I'll do it for you.
- 5 He doesn't mind (sleep) on the sofa.
- 6 What job do you hope (do) when you leave school?
- 7 Thank you for (come) to my party.
- 8 I finished (read) at 12 o'clock.
- 9 Dad promised (buy) me a camera.
- 10 I'm tired of (wait) for my friend.

5 /P/ -ing forms

Underline all the verbs in Exercise 4 ending in *-ing*.

How are they pronounced? Listen and check.

6 Write four true and one false sentence about yourself.

Write about something you:

- hate doing
- are good at doing
- hope to do in the future
- worry about doing
- are learning to do

7 Work in pairs. Read your sentences to your partner. Can your partner guess which sentence is false?

8 Exam candidates often make mistakes with infinitives and *-ing* forms. Correct the mistake in each sentence.

- 1 I don't like cook. **cooking**
- 2 Thank you for to send letter to me.
- 3 I'd like know what you had for dinner last night.
- 4 I want invited you to my house.
- 5 It soon stopped to rain.

-ING OR TO INFINITIVE AFTER VERBS, ADJECTIVES AND PREPOSITIONS

We use to-infinitive after:

some verbs	choose, help, hope, learn, offer, want	<p><i>I hope to go to university next year.</i></p> <p><i>He wants to help me.</i></p> <p><i>I'm learning to speak Italian.</i></p>
adjectives	happy, difficult, etc.	<p><i>They were happy to see me.</i></p> <p><i>This exercise isn't difficult to do.</i></p> <p><i>She was surprised to hear I was ill.</i></p>
would like, etc.	would like/love/hate, ...	<p><i>We'd like to come and see you later.</i></p>

We use the -ing form after:

some verbs	enjoy, finish, keep, mind, miss	<p><i>I enjoy watching all sports.</i></p> <p><i>We finished doing our homework.</i></p> <p><i>I miss seeing my friends.</i></p>
prepositions	for, of, about, ...	<p><i>Thanks for helping me.</i></p>

PRACTICE

1 Choose the correct words in italics.

- 1 I'm pleased *to tell* / *telling* you the first prize is yours.
- 2 My dad offered *to help* / *helping* me with my homework.
- 3 I enjoy *to play* / *playing* the piano.
- 4 Let's finish *to watch* / *watching* the film before we go to bed.
- 5 My brother and I enjoy *to play* / *playing* video games.
- 6 Thank you *for to help* / *helping* me.

2 Underline and correct the mistake in each sentence.

- 1 My friends and I always enjoy to meet in town on Saturdays.
- 2 I hope visiting Brazil one day.
- 3 I'm sorry hearing you're ill
- 4 All my friends enjoy watch football.
- 5 Do you mind to wait a little longer?

