Grammar Practice
Verb Patterns

Read the theory and solve.

Verb + ing or to infinitive?

41a Complete the sentences. Use the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

0 The architect expects *to complete* the building in April. (complete)

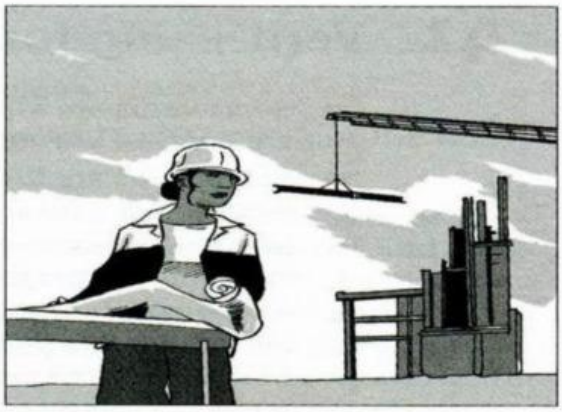
1 I really didn't mean ..... you. (offend)

2 Zac gave up ..... several years ago. (smoke)

3 We managed to avoid ..... an accident. (have)

4 Have you finished ..... your essay yet? (write)

5 I chose ..... German rather than French. (learn)



6 Young children enjoy ..... round the house. (help)

7 Geraldine is hoping ..... law at Cambridge. (study)

8 My new job will mean ..... all over the world. (travel)

9 Dmitri and Ursula have postponed ..... married for a few months. (get)

10 Magnus refused ..... any money for the work he'd done. (accept)

41b Circle the correct answer.

0 *I'd like to go* / (*I like going*) on holiday to a different place every summer.

00 (*I'd like to go*) / *I like going* somewhere different this summer. Any ideas?

1 I regret *to tell* / *telling* you that your contract will not be renewed.

2 I regret *to tell* / *telling* you about it because it upset you.

3 He stopped *to have* / *having* coffee because it kept him awake at night.

4 He stopped *to have* / *having* a coffee and then he went back to work.

5 I know you're tired but please try *to concentrate* / *concentrating* for a few more minutes.

6 I'm going to try *to drink* / *drinking* warm milk before I go to bed; it might help me sleep better.

7 Alice went on *to act* / *acting* until she was forced to retire because of her health.

8 Although Alice started out in television, she went on *to act* / *acting* on the stage.

9 He remembered *to close* / *closing* the windows so the rain didn't get in.

10 He remembered *to close* / *closing* the windows so he was surprised to find them open when he got home.

Verb + object + ing or to infinitive?

42a Circle the correct answer.

0 They wouldn't *allow* / *forbid* / (*let*) him go out with his friends.

1 Les *assisted* / *helped* / *taught* me set up the new computer.

2 Their parents make them *staying* / *to stay* / *stay* home on weekdays.

3 They wouldn't *allow* / *let* / *make* us to go into the building.

4 What *caused* / *forced* / *made* you change your mind?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

5 The factory *lets* / *makes* / *allows* eating in the canteen only.

6 Bad health *forced* / *let* / *made* him to leave his job.

7 She *likes* / *expects* / *imagines* to finish the project by January.

8 I was shocked to see her *going* / *to go* / *go* through my bag.

42b Join the sentences. Use the *-ing* form or *to*-infinitive.

0 Several cars collided on the motorway. Poor weather conditions caused this.
Poor weather conditions caused several cars to collide on the motorway.

1 Motorists should avoid that section of the motorway. Police are advising this.
.....

2 Injured people are getting to hospital. Rescue services are helping them.
.....

3 People might panic. Police are anxious to stop this.
.....

4 People can call a special number for more information. Police are encouraging this.
.....

5 Motorists should not approach the scene of the accident. Police are preventing this.
.....

42c Complete the extract from a story. Use the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Sometimes more than one form is possible.

She invited me (0) ***to sit*** (sit) down and then she excused herself from the room. I heard her (1) ..... (make) the tea in the kitchen and listened as she set out the cups and saucers. The room had begun (2) ..... (feel) a little odd and I regretted (3) ..... (take) off my jacket. I noticed the fire (4) ..... (begin) to die down in the grate, watched the second hand (5) ..... (move) slowly round the clock face and wondered how long it would be before she would allow me (6) ..... (leave).

A few minutes later I heard the tea trolley (7) ..... (roll) on its wheels through the kitchen and then into the sitting room, where I was waiting. I started (8) ..... (drink) the tea she had poured for me and she let me (9) ..... (continue) in silence. I felt her (10) ..... (watch) me and looked up quickly, hoping to catch her (11) ..... (stare) at me, but she was looking instead at the cup of tea in my hand. Nervously, I sipped some more. It tasted slightly of bitter almonds but I carried on (12) ..... (drink) it to be polite. At last I finished the unpleasant brew and set my cup down in the saucer.

'Would you like me (13) ..... (pour) you another cup?' she asked.

'No thank you,' I said, reaching unsteadily for my briefcase. 'I must be going if I expect (14) ..... (be) home in time for dinner.'



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