14 Stop, try, forget and remember

1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

1 a People should stop spending their money on the latest fashions.
  b People should stop to spend their money on the latest fashions.
2 a The government tried stopping this plan but was not successful.
  b The government tried to stop this plan but was not successful.

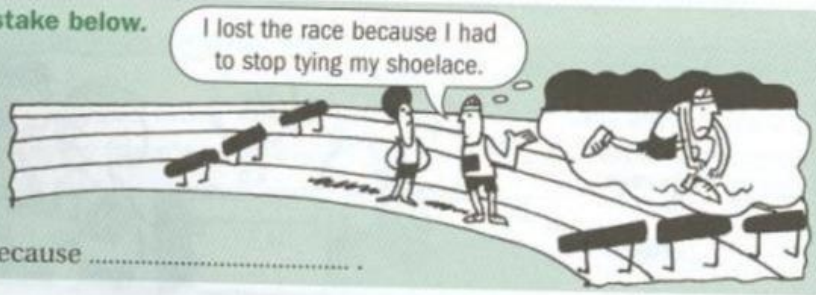
Some verbs have a different meaning when they are followed by *-ing* or *to* + infinitive.

Stop + *-ing* = to stop an activity. *Stop* + *to* + infinitive = to stop a previously mentioned activity in order to do something else. Compare:
The boys ***stopped playing****.*
The boys were playing and they ***stopped to watch*** *a large truck go past.* (= they stopped playing in order to watch the truck)

Try + *-ing* = to attempt to solve a problem by doing something. *Try* + *to* + infinitive = to attempt and fail to do something. Compare:
I ***tried turning*** *the tap but the water still poured out.* (I managed to turn the tap)
I ***tried to turn*** *the tap but it was too old and rusty.* (I couldn't turn the tap)

Forget / remember + *-ing* = thinking back to a special/significant time in the past.
Forget / remember + *to* + infinitive = thinking about something that must be done in the future. Compare:
I ***remember seeing*** *a bull running down the High Street.* (this happened in the past)
I must ***remember to watch*** *the news tonight.* (first I must remember, then I will do it)

2 Correct the mistake below.



I lost the race because ..... .

3 Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1 Nowadays many people want to stop ..... too hard and enjoy life. (*work*)
2 Did you remember ..... candles for the birthday cake? (*buy*)
3 The burglar tried ..... the window with a knife but couldn't get in. (*open*)
4 Don't forget ..... a postcard to your grandmother when you're away. (*send*)
5 At 12 o'clock every day the builders stopped ..... a lunch break. (*have*)
6 I will never forget ..... the pyramids on our trip to Egypt. (*visit*)
7 The cook tried ..... more salt but the soup was still too bland. (*add*)
8 I remember ..... across the road but I have no idea how I ended up in hospital. (*walk*)

LIVEWORKSHEETS