

84 Verb + infinitive



1 Verb + infinitive without to

We use the infinitive without *to* after modal verbs (e.g. *should, can, must*):

I can't believe it!

We should send her an email.

You must get a job soon.

We use *let's* + infinitive without *to* to make suggestions:

Let's go to the cinema this evening.

Let's celebrate ...

I don't like burgers – let's have a pizza.

2 Verb + infinitive with to

We use the infinitive with *to* after some verbs:

can/can't afford agree arrange ask choose decide
deserve expect learn offer plan promise refuse seem want

What a surprise! I didn't expect to see you here.

She wants to find a better job.

Where did you arrange to meet Danny and Laura?

After *help* we can use an infinitive with *to* or without *to*; the meaning is the same:

He helped to carry our bags. or *He helped carry our bags.*



With all the other verbs above we ALWAYS use *to*:

~~*X I want buy some new jeans.*~~

✓ I want to buy some new jeans.

3 would + like/love/hate/prefer

We use the infinitive with *to* after *would ('d) like/love/hate/prefer*:

My parents would love to meet you.

I'd hate to miss Clara's party.

Would you like to come with us on Tuesday evening?

Look at the difference between *would like* and *like*:

I'd like to sail around the world. (= I want to do this in the future.)

I like sailing. (= I enjoy sailing.)

Practice

1 Match the two parts of the sentences.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 0 I'm really bored. Let's | A to eat some spicy food? |
| 1 Do you feel like coming out this evening? I want | B see a doctor. |
| 2 Are you hungry? Would you like | C go to the cinema. |
| 3 I'm going to make an Indian meal. I hope you can | D to see a doctor. |
| 4 Mike's been feeling ill for days. He's decided | E to go to the cinema. |
| 5 If you've got a temperature, I think you should | F eat spicy food. |

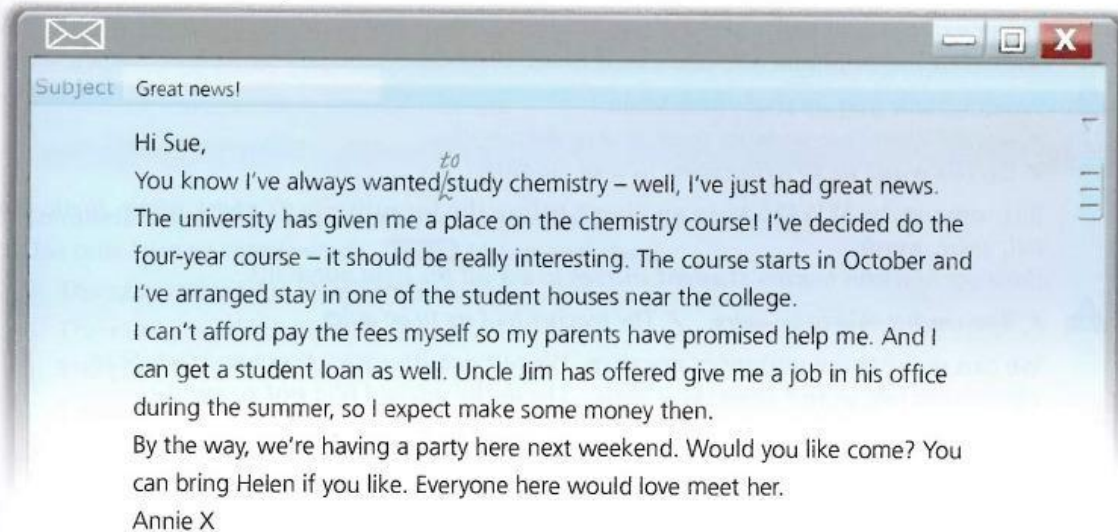
2 GRAMMAR IN USE Complete this conversation in the supermarket.

Choose the correct words in *italics*.

- CARRIE Hi, Zack. I didn't expect (0) *see* / *to see* you here.
- ZACK Well, I promised (1) *get* / *to get* some things for tomorrow evening.
- CARRIE Are you doing something special?
- ZACK We're going to have a barbeque in the garden. Would you like (2) *come* / *to come*?
- CARRIE Yes. I'd love (3) *come* / *to come*. But I'm not sure about my plans for tomorrow. I agreed (4) *help* / *to help* Dave with his homework, but that probably won't take long. I expect (5) *finish* / *to finish* it by eight o'clock. Is Isabel going to be there?
- ZACK I'm not really sure. She should (6) *be* / *to be* there, but she hasn't phoned yet ...
- CARRIE So, what are you buying?
- ZACK Well, I want (7) *get* / *to get* some burgers.
- CARRIE Oh, you know I'm a vegetarian. I can't (8) *eat* / *to eat* meat.
- ZACK Don't worry. I've already bought lots of salad.
- CARRIE Well, I must (9) *finish* / *to finish* my shopping. Let's (10) *talk* / *to talk* on the phone tomorrow. I hope I'll be able to come.

3 GRAMMAR IN USE Find eight more places in the email where *to* is missing.

Write *to* in the correct positions.



4 Write sentences about something that ...

- 0 you've arranged to do next week *I've arranged to meet my sister on Friday.*
- 1 you'd like to do in the future
- 2 you can't afford to do
- 3 you don't want to do