

## Infinitive/The -ing form/Too-Enough/Participles

## Use

## The to - infinitive is used:

- ◆ **to express purpose**  
e.g. Sam went to the bank **to get** some money.
- ◆ **after certain verbs (agree, appear, decide, expect, hope, plan, promise, refuse, etc.).**  
e.g. He **promised to help** us with the decorations.
- ◆ **after adjectives which a) describe feelings/emotions (happy, glad, etc.), b) express willingness/unwillingness (willing, eager, reluctant, anxious, unwilling, etc.), c) refer to a person's character (mean, clever, etc.) and also with the adjectives lucky and fortunate.**  
e.g. I was **annoyed to hear** that he had left.  
He is **reluctant to help**.  
You were **clever not to believe** them.
- Note:** With adjectives which refer to character we can also use an impersonal construction.  
**It + be + adjective + of + noun/ pronoun.**  
e.g. **It was clever of you not to believe** them.
- ◆ **after certain nouns and pronouns such as something, somewhere, anyone, nothing, etc. usually to show that something is necessary or possible.**  
e.g. We've got a lot of **homework to do**.  
Take **something to drink** on the bus.
- ◆ **after too/enough.**  
e.g. She is **too young to stay** out so late.
- ◆ **with it + be + adjective/noun**  
e.g. **It is important to get** there on time.  
**It is her ambition to open** her own shop.
- ◆ **to talk about an unexpected event which can be unpleasant, usually with only.**  
e.g. She came home **to find** her sister waiting for her.  
They rushed to the airport **(only) to be informed** that the flight had been cancelled.
- ◆ **after: be + the first/second, etc./next/last/best, etc.**  
e.g. He **was the first to arrive**.
- ◆ **after verbs and expressions such as ask, learn, find out, wonder, want to know, decide, explain, etc. when they are followed by question words (who, what, where, how, etc.). 'Why' is followed by a subject + verb, not by an infinitive.**  
e.g. He **explained how to operate** the machine.  
I don't know **why he left**.
- Note:** If two to -infinitives are joined with 'and' or 'or', the 'to' of the second infinitive can be omitted.  
e.g. He agreed **to come and help** us.

## The -ing form is used:

- ◆ **as a noun.**  
e.g. **Cycling** is a popular form of exercise.
- ◆ **after certain verbs (admit, anticipate, appreciate, avoid, consider, continue, delay, deny, discuss, enjoy, escape, excuse, fancy, finish, forgive, go (for activities), imagine, involve, keep (= continue), mention, mind, miss, postpone, practise, prevent, quit, recall, recollect, report, resent, resist, risk, save, stand, suggest, tolerate, understand, etc.).**  
e.g. They **considered moving** abroad.  
He **avoided answering** my question.
- ◆ **after: dislike, enjoy, hate, like, love, prefer to express general preference.**  
e.g. She **likes painting**.
- BUT:** **would like/would love/would prefer + to -inf** to express specific preference.  
e.g. I **would like to paint** your portrait.
- ◆ **after expressions such as be busy, it's no use, it's (no) good, it's (not) worth, what's the use of, can't help, there's no point (in), can't stand, have difficulty (in), have trouble, have a hard/difficult time, etc.**  
e.g. **What's the use of waiting** for an answer?  
She **is busy writing** the wedding invitations.
- ◆ **after: spend, waste, lose (time, money, etc.).**  
e.g. We **wasted** a lot of time **trying** to find a parking space.  
He **lost** £100,000 **investing** in unsuccessful companies.
- ◆ **after prepositions.**  
e.g. He was found guilty **of lying** in court.
- ◆ **after the preposition 'to' with verbs and expressions such as look forward to, be used to, get round to, object to, in addition to, prefer (doing sth to doing sth else), etc.**  
e.g. She **objects to working** on Saturdays.
- ◆ **after the verbs: hear, listen to, notice, see, watch, and feel to describe an incomplete action, that is to say that somebody saw, heard, etc. only a part of the action.**  
e.g. I **listened to** James **singing** a song. (I listened to part of the song. I didn't listen to the whole song.)
- BUT:** **hear, listen to, notice, see, watch, feel + bare infinitive** to describe a complete action, something that somebody saw, heard, etc. from beginning to end.  
e.g. I **listened to** James **sing** a song. (I listened to the song from beginning to end.)



## UNIT 2

### Infinitive/The -ing form/Too-Enough/Participles

The bare infinitive is used:

- ◆ after modal verbs (can, should, must, etc.).  
e.g. He **should apologise** to his parents.  
**BUT: Ought is followed by to -infinitive.**  
e.g. She **ought to find** a job.
- ◆ after the verbs let, make, see, hear and feel.  
e.g. They **saw her talk** to the manager.  
**BUT: be made, be heard, be seen + to -infinitive (passive).**  
e.g. She **was seen to talk** to the manager.  
**When see, hear and watch are followed by an -ing form, there is no change in the passive.**  
e.g. I **saw her getting** into a taxi.  
She **was seen getting** into a taxi.  
**can/could + see/hear + -ing form.**  
e.g. We **could see** smoke **coming** out of the building.  
(NOT: We could see smoke ~~come~~...)
- ◆ after had better and would rather.  
e.g. You **had better see** a doctor.
- ◆ Help is followed by either the to -infinitive or the bare infinitive.  
e.g. She **helped me (to) fill** in my application form.

2

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct infinitive form or the -ing form.

- 1 A: Have you decided where **to spend**... (spend) your holiday?  
B: Yes. I would like ..... (go) to a Greek island.
- 2 A: I hate ..... (clean) the house.  
B: Me too. I wish I could afford ..... (employ) a cleaner.
- 3 A: Jane seems ..... (sleep) for hours.  
B: Yes. She must ..... (be) very tired.
- 4 A: What are you doing this weekend?  
B: Well, Tom suggested ..... (drive) to the seaside.
- 5 A: Steve claims ..... (travel) around the world.  
B: Yes. He seems ..... (go) to a lot of places.
- 6 A: It was nice of John ..... (visit) us yesterday.  
B: Yes. I was happy ..... (see) him.
- 7 A: I'm sure I've failed my exam.  
B: Well, there's no point in ..... (worry) until you get your results.
- 8 A: We should ..... (tell) Sue about the party.  
B: Yes. We had better ..... (invite) Tony, too.
- 9 A: Did the police arrest that man?  
B: Yes. He admitted to ..... (steal) a car.
- 10 A: Did you have a nice evening?  
B: Not really. I arrived home only ..... (find) that I'd left my keys at work.

3

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct infinitive form or the -ing form.

- 1 Simon was the last person **to arrive**... (arrive) at the office.
- 2 She can't get used to ..... (work) for such a large company.
- 3 It's no use ..... (ask) Paul. He won't be able to help you.
- 4 Peter denied ..... (break) the classroom window.
- 5 I will ..... (feed) the dog this afternoon.
- 6 We had better ..... (run) or we will miss the train.
- 7 It was kind of him ..... (help) me tidy the house.
- 8 She refused ..... (answer) his questions.
- 9 He is far too young ..... (stay) out late at night.
- 10 Her teacher let her ..... (bring) her lunch into the classroom.
- 11 I don't mind ..... (help) you with your homework.
- 12 We don't allow students ..... (talk) to each other during exams.
- 13 She dislikes ..... (wear) suits to work.
- 14 It was a mistake ..... (leave) the door unlocked.
- 15 The thieves were seen ..... (drive) a stolen car.
- 16 I advise you ..... (look for) a new job.
- 17 There's no point in ..... (get) angry with him. It's not his fault.
- 18 I'll take a book ..... (read) on the plane.

4

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct infinitive form or the -ing form.

- A Sue has decided **1) to apply**... (apply) for a new job. Her mother advised her **2) to write**... (write) to several different companies. Sue would like **3) to work**... (work) for a large company where she can **4) meet**... (meet) new people.
- B Carol is too ill **1) to go**... (go) to work today. She has managed **2) to drink**... (drink) some tea and now she wants **3) to sleep**... (sleep). Her husband offered **4) to call**... (call) the doctor, but Carol would prefer **5) to wait**... (wait) and see if she feels better tomorrow.
- C Daniel would like **1) to get**... (get) his teacher a present, but he doesn't know what **2) to choose**... (choose). He is thinking of **3) to buy**... (buy) her a book because he knows that she enjoys **4) to read**... (read). His sister will help him **5) to pick**... (pick) a good one.