1.5 Verb + *-ing* or verb + *to* + infinitive

English sentence clauses often contain two consecutive verbs. After some verbs we use the *-ing* form, after others *to* + infinitive.

We use the *-ing* form after:

- verbs expressing emotions, e.g. *enjoy, hate, like, love, (not) mind*
  *I **hate wearing** a suit and a tie.*
- particular verbs and verb phrases: *avoid, consider, can't stand, prefer, spend time*
  *Laura **prefers texting** to sending emails.*

We use the *to* + infinitive after:

- most verbs expressing plans, decisions, intentions and willingness, e.g. *hope, want, decide, choose*
  *Tim **wants to study** Law.*
- verbs such as: *agree, can't afford, manage, need, pretend, refuse*
  *Why do you **refuse to lend** me your shoes?*
- verbs expressing preferences: *would like, would love, would prefer*
  *I like going out with my friends, but today I **would like to stay** at home.*

1 Complete the sentences with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets.

1 I don't mind _____ (get up) early.
2 Karen spends a lot of time _____ (chat) online.
3 I refuse _____ (wear) this skirt – it is too short!
4 I always agree _____ (help) my brother at home.
5 They hope _____ (meet) Sting after the concert.
6 I can't stand _____ (shop). It's so boring!
7 Peter wants _____ (be) like Steve Jobs.
8 Sue has decided _____ (lend) me her new dress.
9 Does Angela enjoy _____ (work) as a volunteer?
10 Ben prefers _____ (swim) to running.

2 Choose the correct option.

1 Karen really enjoys *reading / to read* poetry.
2 Would you like *going / to go* to the cinema?
3 Pete can't stand *wearing / to wear* formal clothes.
4 We can't avoid *telling / to tell* him.
5 I've decided *going / to go* abroad.
6 He would like *spending / to spend* more time with me.
7 I really hate *getting / to get* up early in the winter.
8 Did she manage *completing / to complete* her work?
9 We don't mind *waiting / to wait* for you.
10 I can't afford *buying / to buy* a new computer.

3 Complete the sentences using the prompts in brackets. Add any necessary words. Do not change the order of the words given.

1 I can't _____ (stand/spend) the holidays at home. I'd like to go somewhere exotic!
2 Why does Peter _____ (pretend/worry) Sarah? He clearly doesn't like her.
3 It's a good idea to _____ (avoid/depend) people that you don't know very well.
4 I finally _____ (manage/focus) my homework.
5 We _____ (hope/see) you both at the party.
6 Roger _____ (not/mind/talk) his ex-girlfriend. They're still very good friends.
7 I _____ (miss/spend/time) my best friend from primary school.
8 Edgar _____ (hate/listen) heavy metal music. He prefers hip-hop.

4 Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first. Use no more than five words including the word in capitals.

1 I don't want to wear the same clothes every day. **REFUSE**
I _____ the same clothes every day.
2 It's not a problem for me to get up early in the morning. **MIND**
I _____ early in the morning.
3 He didn't want to see me, so he stayed at home. **AVOID**
He stayed at home to _____ me.
4 It's my choice to study Art at university next year. **CHOSEN**
I _____ Art at university next year.
5 Karen doesn't want to go to the theatre, she wants to go to the cinema. **PREFERS**
Karen doesn't want to go to the theatre, she _____ _____ cinema.
6 It is really fun for me to play football with my team. **ENJOY**
I really _____ with my team.

5 Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in the box.

change do go join play practise spend tell win

Last month I decided [1] _____ my lifestyle. Why? Well, I don't mind [2] _____ you that I was a bit worried about my size and my weight. I spent too much time [3] _____ computer games and I refused [4] _____ any kind of exercise as well.
Firstly, I considered [5] _____ to the gym. But this is expensive and I can't afford [6] _____ much money. Plus, it's a little boring and unsociable, I think. So, I chose [7] _____ a badminton club, instead. I wasn't very good at first, but I managed [8] _____ my first game yesterday so I'm really happy. Of course, I need [9] _____ more, but I'm really passionate about my new hobby.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2.2 Past Continuous and Past Simple

We use the Past Continuous:

- to describe a longer background scene in a story, during which other main events (described in the Past Simple) took place:
  *At 7 p.m. Doug **was working** on his computer. He **was sitting** at his desk and **downloading** some photos when the lights **went out**.*
- to talk about an action that was in progress when another action took place (for the shorter action, which happened while the longer one was in progress, we use the Past Simple):
  *While Meg **was texting** a message to her friend, she **dropped** her phone.*
- to talk about actions in progress at the same time:
  *While Ann **was doing** some experiments, Terry **was taking** some measurements.*

Affirmative			Negative		
I/He/She/It	was	watching TV.	I/He/She/It	wasn't (was not)	watching TV.
You/We/They	were		You/We/They	weren't (were not)	

Yes/No questions			Short answers
Was	I/he/she/it	watching TV?	Yes, I/he/she/it was. No, I/he/she/it wasn't.
Were	you/we/they		Yes, you/we/they were. No, you/we/they weren't.

Wh- questions				Subject questions		
What	was	I/he/she/it	watching?	Who	was	watching TV?
	were	you/we/they				

1 Choose the correct option.

1 I *lay / was lying* on the beach when suddenly it *started / was starting* raining.
2 I *read / was reading* a book when you *called me / were calling me* at 4 o'clock yesterday.
3 The first time I *was seeing / saw* my boyfriend, he *danced / was dancing* at a party.
4 We *were having / had* lunch when the door opened.
5 It was a sunny day. I *left / was leaving* home. Suddenly the postman *was knocking / knocked* on the door.
6 When my mum *drove / was driving* to work yesterday, she *saw / was seeing* her old friend from school.
7 Molly *was breaking / broke* her leg when she *climbed / was climbing* a tree.
8 *Was Ben studying / Did Ben study* yesterday at 8 p.m.?

2 Write questions for the following answers.

1 Sally was doing her homework when the phone rang.
(What) _____ ?
2 Clare was wearing a fantastic dress at the party.
(What) _____ ?
3 We played tennis from five to eight.
(How long) _____ ?
4 At 7:30 yesterday morning, Sophie was driving to the airport.
(Where) _____
_____ ?
5 They were having dinner at seven.
(When) _____ ?
6 We saw Mark at the café.
(Who) _____ ?
7 Alice was crying during the film because it was a drama.
(Why) _____ ?
8 Chris bought a sandwich for lunch.
(What) _____ ?

3 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Use the Past Simple or the Past Continuous.

1 Mum _____ (work) on her laptop while dad _____ (listen) to music on his new MP3 player.
2 Margaret _____ (talk) on her smartphone when she _____ (start) crying.
3 Adam _____ (not/watch) the film so I _____ (change) TV channels.
4 Tony _____ (not/take) any photos with his phone at the party because he _____ (send) text messages to Jessica all the time.
5 I _____ (drop) my memory stick when I _____ (run) for the tram.
6 Alan and I _____ (play) on the games console when my dad _____ (come) home.

4 Write sentences from the prompts.

1 I / run / in the park / when / Joanna / telephone / me.
_____
2 while / Gareth / update / social media profile / his wife / do / yoga. _____
_____
3 what / you / eat / when / I / get / back home?
_____
4 you / sleep / when / the teacher / explain / the task to us?
_____
5 Jo / use / computer / when / it / crash.
_____
6 I / cook / dinner / then / visit / favourite website.
_____
7 while / Jane / study / Dan / play / video games.
_____
8 Jim / get up / and then / get ready / for school.
_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2.6 Linkers and time expressions

Linkers and time expressions are followed by full sentences (i.e. linker + subject + main verb).

While and ***when*** are used to link two sentences describing events taking place at the same time:
While *the astronauts were collecting specimens on the Moon, they found some interesting rocks.*
David became interested in psychology ***when*** *he was in high school.*

After, as soon as, before and ***when*** are used to link two sentences describing events taking place one after another:
After *Mark spent hours observing the work of archaeologists, he realised how important their job is.*
I checked the price of the new smartphone ***before*** *I bought it.*
As soon as *Ann published the photos of her new experiments on social media, she got a lot of positive comments.*
When *Sarah received text messages asking for the password to her account, she deleted them straight away.*

Linkers and time expressions are followed by nouns or noun phrases: *during the holidays, for twenty-two days, until (till) late evening, by the end of the century.*

During refers to a period of time:
The linguist explored several languages ***during*** *his stay in India.*

Until and ***till*** refer to a point in time:
We didn't do many experiments in Chemistry classes ***until (till)*** *last year.*

By, when used with a noun, refers to an event which is happening or which happened before a particular point in time:
By *the time we got home, we were tired and hungry.*

1 Choose the correct option.

1 Bill Gates became interested in computers *when / during* he was a kid.
2 My sister always buys the latest gadget *until / as soon as* it is available.
3 Computers had smaller memories than smartphones *during / while* my childhood.
4 We completed all of the chemistry reports *by / till* twelve o'clock.
5 I learned how to analyse data *during / while* I was working in Silicon Valley.
6 Text me *after / until* you get home tonight, OK?
7 You need to enter a password *until / before* you can use the computer.
8 I didn't know how to use the printer *as soon as / till* you showed me.

2 Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first. Use no more than five words including the word in capitals. Do not change the word given.

1 The chemist developed a theory at the same time she analysed the data. **WHILE**
_____ the data, she developed a theory.
2 We finished the biology class and then immediately went home. **SOON**
We _____ we finished the biology class.
3 I collected the evidence and then started writing this report. **AFTER**
I started writing this report _____ the evidence.
4 I became an optician last year, in December. **UNTIL**
I didn't _____ December last year.
5 When David was doing the experiment, he discovered something interesting. **DURING**
David _____ the experiment.
6 He washed his hands and then he prepared lunch. **BEFORE**
_____, he washed his hands.
7 Everyone was in the classroom when I arrived. **BY**
_____everyone was in the classroom.
8 Lisa began to panic when she saw the Maths test. **AS**
_____ the Maths test, she began to panic.

3 UNIT REVIEW Choose the correct answer, A, B or C to complete the text.

Steven Jobs (1955–2011) was an American businessman and [1]___ who changed the world. He grew up with an adoptive family [2]___ his biological parents decided not to keep him. As a child, he helped his father fix things in their garage, and in this way, he developed an early love for engineering. At college he studied Physics, literature and poetry, but after some time he quit and decided to travel through India instead. [3]___ he was there, he became interested in Zen Buddhism. Perhaps he was inspired by this Eastern philosophy, because Jobs later became famous for producing simple and minimalist devices. What's more, he did not [4]___ research on these gadgets but designed them by using only his intuition. Many of these products [5]___ a big effect on modern life and Jobs' company became successful and iconic.

1 A invention
B inventor
C invented

2 A while
B by
C after

3 A While
B Till
C During

4 A have
B make
C do

5 A used to have
B were having
C had

LIVEWORKSHEETS