

- to express purpose. *She lied to avoid being punished.*
- after certain verbs (agree, appear, decide, expect, hope, plan, promise, refuse, etc). *He promised to be back at 11.00.*
- after certain adjectives (difficult, glad, happy, obliged, sorry, unable, etc). *He was happy to hear he had been promoted.*
- after 'I would like/would love/would prefer' to express specific preference
- after certain nouns.
- after 'too/enough' constructions.
- after: be + the first/second etc/next/last/best, etc.
- with: it + be + adjective (+of + noun/pronoun).
- with: so + adjective + as.
- with 'only' expressing an unsatisfactory result.
- in the expression: for + noun/pronoun + to-inf.
- in the expressions: to tell you the truth, to begin with, to be honest, to start with, to sum up etc.
- Note that if two infinitives are joined by **and** or **or**, the **to** of the second infinitive can be omitted. *I'd like to go truth.*
- **Dare** expressing lack of courage is used with an infinitive with or without **to**.
- **Dare** expressing anger, threat or warning is used with an infinitive without **to**.
- **Dare** expressing challenge is used with a to-infinitive.
- **Help** can be used with or without **to**.

The infinitive without 'to' is used

- after modal verbs (can, may, will, would, etc).
- after had better/would rather/would sooner.
- after feel/hear/let/make/see in the active.
- BUT be heard/be made/be seen, all take a to-inf.
- "Let" turns into "was/were allowed to" in the passive.

The -ing form is used

- as a noun.
- after prepositions.
- after certain verbs (anticipate, appreciate, avoid, consider, continue, delay, deny, discuss, detest, escape, excuse, explain, fancy, finish, forgive, go (physical activities), imagine, it involves, keep (= continue), it means, mention, mind (= object to), miss, pardon, postpone, practise, prevent, quit, recall, recollect, report, resent, resist, risk, save, stand, suggest, tolerate, understand, etc).
- after: detest, dislike, enjoy, hate, like, love, prefer to express general preference. *I enjoy snorkelling.* (in general) [like + to-inf = it's a good idea]
- after: I'm busy, it's no use, it's no good, it's (not) worth, what's the use of, can't help, can't stand, feel like, there's no point (in), have difficulty (in), in addition to, as well as, have trouble, have a hard/difficult time.
- after: look forward to, be/get used to, be/get accustomed to, admit (to), object to, what about ...?, how about ...? /
- after: spend/waste (money, time, etc).
- after: hear, listen, notice, see, watch to express an incomplete action, an action in progress or a long action. (I saw part of the action.) BUT hear, listen, see, watch + infinitive without 'to' express a complete action, something that one saw or heard from beginning to end (I saw all the action.)