

## Verbs followed by gerund or infinitive

admit \*  
advise  
afford  
agree \*  
appear  
arrange  
ask  
avoid  
can't stand  
choose  
consider  
decide \*  
demand  
deny \*  
deserve  
dislike  
don't mind  
enjoy  
expect \*  
fail  
fancy  
feel like  
finish  
give up  
keep  
help  
hope \*  
invite  
imagine \*  
learn \*  
manage  
mean  
miss  
offer  
plan  
practice  
pretend \*  
promise \*  
recommend  
refuse  
reject  
risk  
seem \*  
stop  
suggest \*  
tend  
try  
wait  
want  
would like

-ing  
to

## General Rule

## Gerunds

-ing

Used when actions are:  
real, Concrete or Completed

## Infinitives

to

Used when actions are:  
unreal, abstract or future

Complete these sentences below with the right form of the verbs in brackets: gerund (-ing) or infinitive (to). Then complete the list on the left.

( \* means that this verb can also be followed by a **that clause** )

- 1) Learning a foreign language means \_\_\_\_\_ (be) interested in another culture.
- 2) My friend is giving up \_\_\_\_\_ (smoke) at last.
- 3) Bob is very skilful. He has managed \_\_\_\_\_ (fix) his laptop himself.
- 4) Doctors recommend \_\_\_\_\_ (sleep) eight hours a day.
- 5) Reliable friends are always there for you. They will never fail \_\_\_\_\_ (help) to you.
- 6) I don't mind \_\_\_\_\_ (do) the washing up.
- 7) Mum, can I go out? I've already finished \_\_\_\_\_ (study).
- 8) Tina hopes \_\_\_\_\_ (become) a prestigious engineer one day.
- 9) Jerry is very angry. I've phoned him five times but he refuses \_\_\_\_\_ (speak) to me.
- 10) The suspect arrested by the police denied \_\_\_\_\_ (rob) the bank. He said he had an alibi.
- 11) He admitted \_\_\_\_\_ (make) a serious mistake and apologised.
- 12) I can't stand \_\_\_\_\_ (wear) these awful glasses!
- 13) The teacher agreed \_\_\_\_\_ (postpone) the exam.
- 14) Peter pretended \_\_\_\_\_ (have) a stomach ache and left school early.
- 15) Will promised his mum \_\_\_\_\_ (be) back at 11.
- 16) Few people can afford \_\_\_\_\_ (buy) the trendiest smartphone.
- 17) Fred chose \_\_\_\_\_ (work) on Saturday instead of on Friday.
- 18) Angelina imagined \_\_\_\_\_ (get) an Oscar for her last movie.
- 19) We've planned \_\_\_\_\_ (fly) to Denmark this Christmas.
- 20) Tom suggested \_\_\_\_\_ (spend) a couple of weeks on Majorca.
- 21) Amanda rejected \_\_\_\_\_ (eat) the soup because it was salty.
- 22) People shouldn't risk \_\_\_\_\_ (ride) a motorbike without wearing a helmet.
- 23) I really miss \_\_\_\_\_ (chat) with you every day.
- 24) Mum asked me \_\_\_\_\_ (lay) the table.
- 25) Mr. Johnson tends \_\_\_\_\_ (lie) about his age. He's so flirty!
- 26) You should avoid \_\_\_\_\_ (shout). It's too late!
- 27) He kept \_\_\_\_\_ (talk) for hours.
- 28) Do you fancy \_\_\_\_\_ (dance)?
- 29) If you try \_\_\_\_\_ (work) a bit harder, I'm sure you'll pass.
- 30) He will arrange \_\_\_\_\_ (book) a room at the best hotel.
- 31) He seems \_\_\_\_\_ (be) worried.



- 32) I wouldn't advise \_\_\_\_\_ (buy) a used car.
- 33) I want \_\_\_\_\_ (find) a better job because I need some extra money.
- 34) The policeman offered \_\_\_\_\_ (help) me when someone mugged my bag.
- 35) I feel like \_\_\_\_\_ (go) out for dinner tonight. Do you fancy coming with me?
- 36) Matt has learned \_\_\_\_\_ (parachute). He will jump tomorrow for the first time!
- 37) Christian considers \_\_\_\_\_ (move) to London in order to improve his English.
- 38) I'm very excited. I can't wait \_\_\_\_\_ (play) this new game.
- 39) He practiced \_\_\_\_\_ (run) every afternoon in the park for the marathon.
- 40) She expected \_\_\_\_\_ (see) her favourite singer after the show but she couldn't.
- 41) He would like \_\_\_\_\_ (learn) to fly a helicopter.
- 42) My aunt invited me \_\_\_\_\_ (spend) a week in Italy.
- 43) Don't worry. Kelly appears \_\_\_\_\_ (know) what she's doing.
- 44) They decided \_\_\_\_\_ (change) the colour of their room.
- 45) Many people dislike \_\_\_\_\_ (wait) at the traffic lights.
- 46) He deserved \_\_\_\_\_ (be) punished for driving too fast.
- 47) The boss demanded \_\_\_\_\_ (arrive) on time to his employees.
- 48) Beth helped the children \_\_\_\_\_ (do) their homework.
- 49) The two friends enjoyed \_\_\_\_\_ (go) shopping.
- 50) Please stop \_\_\_\_\_ (make) so much noise! I'm trying to sleep.

## Gerund or Infinitive Without Changes of meaning

Some verbs can be followed either infinitive or gerund with little or no change of meaning.  
The most used are:

- **Verbs of starting or continuing:**  
*begin, start, continue, intend, propose*  
(When they are the continuous form, they are usually in the infinitive)
- **Verbs of liking or not liking:**  
*hate, love, prefer, like, not bear*  
(Infinitive is preferred when talking in general)

## Gerund or Infinitive BUT With Changes of meaning

Some verbs can be followed either infinitive or gerund **BUT with changes of meaning**.

The most used are:

- **Forget** + infinitive: to fail to do sth.  
Forget + gerund: to do sth. and not recall it.
- **Need** + infinitive: to have to do sth.  
Need + gerund: somebody has to do it (impersonal)
- **Regret** + infinitive: be sorry to (sth. unpleasant)  
Regret + gerund: to talk about a mistake in the past
- **Remember** + infinitive: not to forget to do sth.  
Remember + gerund: to recall a memory
- **Stop** + infinitive: interrupt an action to do another.  
Stop + gerund: no to do sth. any more.
- **Try** + infinitive: make an effort to  
Try + gerund: experiment with doing sth.

Complete the following sentences with the verbs in brackets. Use the infinitive or the gerund depending on the meaning of each sentence.

- 1) He is angry because I forgot \_\_\_\_\_ (meet) him.  
(I didn't meet him because I forgot to do it.)
- 2) He is angry because I forgot \_\_\_\_\_ (meet) him.  
(I don't have the memory of meeting him before)
- 3) I regret \_\_\_\_\_ (promise) to help you.  
(I'm sorry that I made the promise)
- 4) I regret \_\_\_\_\_ (tell) you that we can't hire you.  
(I'm telling you now, and I'm sorry)
- 5) She remembered \_\_\_\_\_ (visit) her grandmother.  
(She didn't forget to visit her)
- 6) She remembered \_\_\_\_\_ (visit) her grandmother.  
(She had memories of this time)
- 7) I stopped \_\_\_\_\_ (call) you.  
(I stopped this activity. Maybe we had a fight)
- 8) I stopped \_\_\_\_\_ (call) you.  
(I interrupted another action in order to call you)
- 9) I tried \_\_\_\_\_ (open) the window.  
(I attempted this action but didn't succeed)
- 10) I tried \_\_\_\_\_ (open) the window.  
(This was one option I chose. Maybe the room was hot)