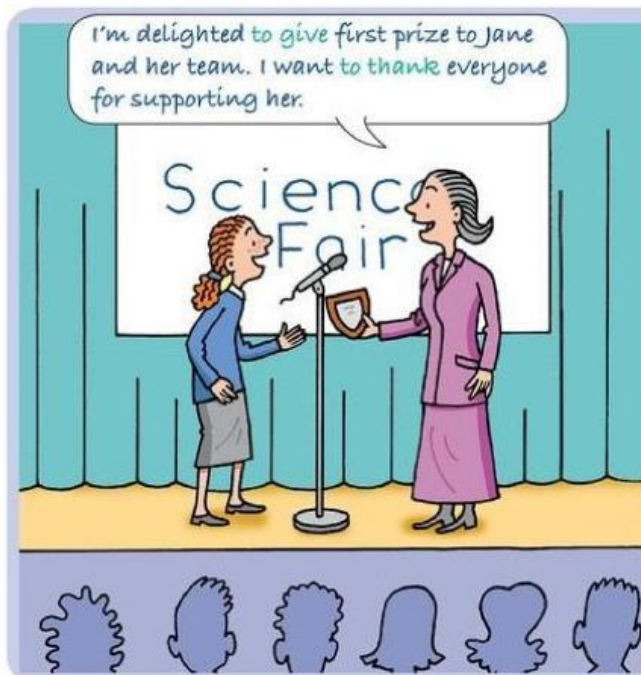


13 To + the infinitive and the -ing form

I can decide when to use *to* + the infinitive form or the *-ing* form.

To + the infinitive



We use **to** + the infinitive (or **base form**) when we talk about purpose.

*I went to the shop **to buy** some bread.*

*She phoned Mary **to invite** her to the cinema.*

We use **to** + the infinitive after some verbs (e.g. **agree, decide, hope, learn, want, would like**)

*I **agreed to meet** her at seven o'clock.*

*We **hope to win** the match on Saturday.*

But we don't use **to** + the infinitive with modal verbs (e.g. **must, should, will**).

*You **mustn't to be** late.*

*He **should to practise** every day.*

We can use **to** + the infinitive after **It + be + adjective**.

*It's **important to revise** before an exam.*

*It was **easy to find** your house.*

To talk about people's feelings we can use **be + adjective + to** + the infinitive.

*I'm **very happy to be** here.*

*He was **surprised to see** the head teacher in his lesson.*

Practice 1. Rewrite the sentences using **to** + the infinitive.

- ▶ I looked at the website. I found the information.
- ➔ I looked at the website _____ information.
- 1. Beth gets up early. She catches the bus.
- ➔ Beth gets up early _____ the bus.
- 2. We went to the library. We borrowed some books.
- ➔ We went to the library _____ some books.
- 3. He's going to wash cars. He's going to earn some money.
- ➔ He's going to wash cars _____ some money.

4. Julia did the washing-up. She helped her parents.

→ Julia did the washing-up _____ her parents.

5. She's saving money. She's going to pay for a ticket to Miami.

→ She's saving money _____ for a ticket to Miami.

6. Toby went to the shops. He bought some jeans.

→ Toby went to the shops _____ some jeans.

7. I'm standing on a ladder. I'm going to paint the house.

→ I'm standing on a ladder _____ the house.

8. Mandy sent a message to Cathy. She told her about the party.

→ Mandy sent a message to Cathy _____ her about the party.

Practice 2. Make sentences with the phrases provided

1. I/ decided/ get up early/ tomorrow.

.....

2. We/ hope/ win/ the football match/ this Sunday.

.....

3. Pete / learnt/ read and write/ he/ was/ six.

.....

4. She / should/ agree/ stay at home/ tonight.

.....

5. It is important / revise / vocabulary / at least 10 minutes/everyday

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