

Grammar Focus: Perfect Infinitive and Perfect Gerund

♦ 1. PERFECT INFINITIVE: to have + past participle

Form: *to have done, to have eaten, to have seen...*

 **Use:**

- To show that **something happened earlier** than the time expressed by the main verb.
- Often used after certain verbs, modals, or adjectives expressing **possibility, regret, or expectation**.

 **Examples:**

- *She seems **to have forgotten** about the meeting.*
(= It looks like she forgot in the past.)
- *You should **have told** me earlier!*
(= Past action that didn't happen – expressing regret.)
- *He is believed **to have escaped** through the back door.*
(= The escape happened in the past.)

♦ 2. PERFECT GERUND: having + past participle

Form: *having done, having eaten, having seen...*

 **Use:**

- To emphasize that **the action of the gerund happened before** the action in the main clause.
- Common after prepositions and verbs that take gerunds.

 **Examples:**

- *She regrets **having said** that.*
(= She said it in the past – and now regrets it.)
- ***Having worked** there for years, he knew everyone.*
(= He worked there before the time of the main action.)

Tip to remember:

Perfect infinitive → often used after **modal verbs, passive reporting verbs, adjectives**

Perfect gerund → often used after **prepositions, verbs that take gerunds**



PRACTICE TASKS

Task 1: Choose the correct form

Complete the sentences with the correct option:

1. I'm sorry. I should (tell / have told) you the truth earlier.
2. He denies (take / having taken) the money.
3. They seem (have left / to have left) in a hurry.
4. She's proud of (win / having won) the competition.
5. He pretended (see / to have seen) the film.

Task 2: Rewrite the sentence using the correct form

Example:

I regret that I didn't accept the job.

→ I regret **having not accepted** / **not having accepted** the job.

1. I'm happy I visited that city last year.
→ I'm happy _____.
2. It was a mistake not to study harder.
→ I should _____.
3. People believe that he cheated on the test.
→ He is believed _____.
4. After she finished the report, she sent it to the manager.
→ _____, she sent it to the manager.

Task 3: Error correction

Find and correct the mistakes in these sentences:

1. He pretended having met her before.
2. She admitted to have stolen the money.
3. They were believed have escaped by boat.
4. Having see the photos, I changed my mind.