

The to-infinitive is used:

1. to express purpose

She went out **to buy** some milk.

2. after certain verbs (advise, agree, appear, decide, expect, hope, promise, refuse etc)

He promised **to be** back at 10 o'clock.

3. after certain adjectives (angry, happy, glad etc)

She was glad **to see** him.

4. after question words (where, how, what, who, which, but not after "why")

Has she told you where **to meet** them?
but: I don't know why he left so early.

5. after would like/would love/would prefer (to express specific preference)

I'd love **to go** for a walk.

6. after nouns

It's a pleasure **to work** with you.

7. after too/enough constructions

He's **too** short **to reach** the top shelf.
He isn't tall **enough to reach** the top shelf.

8. with it + be + adjective (+ of + object)

It was nice of him **to remember** my birthday.

9. with "only" to express unsatisfactory result

He called me **only to say** that he would be late.

The infinitive without to is used:

1. after modal verbs (must, can, will etc)

You must **be** back at 12 o'clock.

2. after had better/would rather

I'd rather **have stayed** in last night.

3. after make/let/see/hear/feel + object

Mum **let** me **watch** TV. I **made** him **apologise**.

BUT: in the passive form: be made/be heard/be seen + to -infinitive

He **was made to apologise**.

The -ing form is used :

1. as a noun

Eating vegetables is good for your health.

2. after certain verbs (admit (to), avoid, consider, continue, delay, deny, enjoy, escape, excuse, fancy, finish, forgive, imagine, involve, keep (= continue), look forward to, mention, mind, miss, object to, postpone, practise, prevent, report, resist, risk, save, stand, suggest, understand etc)

He admitted (to) **stealing** the painting.

3. after love, like, dislike, hate, enjoy, prefer (to express general preference)

He likes **cooking** (in general).

* Note: like + to - inf = it's a good idea; it's useful
I like **to eat** a healthy breakfast. (specific preference)

4. after I'm busy, it's no use, it's (no) good, it's (not) worth, what's the use of, can't help, there's no point (in), can't stand, be/get used to, be/get accustomed to, have difficulty (in)

It's no use **complaining**.

5. after "go" for physical activities

They **go skiing** every winter.

6. after spend/waste time

He wasted his time **playing** video games.

7. after prepositions

He entered without **knocking** at the door.

8. after see, hear, listen, watch to express an incomplete action, an action in progress or a long action

I saw Kate **painting** the kitchen. (I saw Kate in the middle of painting. I saw part of the action in progress. I didn't wait until she had finished.)

BUT: see, hear, listen, watch + infinitive without to to express a complete action, something that one saw or heard from beginning to end
I watched Kate **paint** the kitchen. It took her two hours. (I saw the whole action from beginning to end.)

69 Write what each word is followed by: F.I. (full inf.), B.I. (bare inf.) or -ing (form).

1. mind	+ .. <i>ing</i> ..	5. decide	+	9. be seen	+	13. can	+
2. make	+	6. suggest	+	10. it's no use	+	14. be used to	+
3. what	+	7. refuse	+	11. would	+	15. object to	+
4. used	+	8. would love	+	12. risk	+	16. it's worth	+

70 Complete the conversation between a travel agent and a woman, using the infinitive or the -ing form.

A: Good morning, madam. Can I 1) *help* (help) you?

W: Yes. I'd like 2) (book) a holiday please.

A: Certainly. I must 3) (ask) you a few questions.

Now... where would you like 4) (go)? How long are you

going 5) (stay)? Would you prefer

6) (have) a relaxing beach holiday or 7) (go)

sightseeing? Which countries are you interested in 8)

(visit)? What means of transport do you prefer?

W: Well, young man. I don't know where 9) (go) or how

long 10) (stay). I hate 11) (go)

to the beach and I don't enjoy sightseeing. I don't want 12)

(visit) any foreign countries because foreign food

makes me 13) (feel) ill. As for means of transport, I'm too frightened 14)

in an aeroplane. I hate 15) (go) on boats, I don't like 16)

and 17) (travel) on a coach makes me 18)

(feel) sick.

A: Well madam, I don't know what 19) (suggest). I don't want 20)

rude, but I really think you should 21) (stay) at home!!



71 Put the verbs in brackets into the -ing form or the infinitive without "to".



Last night I heard car breaks ... *screeching* ... (screech)

and people 2) (shout) in the street. When I

looked out of the window I saw a crowd of about twenty

people 3) (stand) around a young boy

4) (lie) in the street. Next, I saw the driver of

the car 5) (approach) the crowd and 6)

..... (kneel down) by the boy, he was 7)

(look) very anxious. 8) (watch) the drama from

my window, I began 9) (consider) the boy's

family. Then a few minutes later, I saw a young woman 10)

..... (run) towards the scene and 11)

..... (push) her way through the crowd. Soon,

I heard an ambulance siren 12) (scream) in the distance 13)

(get) closer and closer. Then I saw the ambulance stop in front of my house. I watched the ambulance men 14)

(get out) and 15) (run) to the injured boy. Minutes later I saw them 16)

(run) back to their ambulance with the boy on a stretcher followed by his mother.

72 Fill in infinitive with or without "to", or the -ing form.

1. Charlie goes *swimming* (swim) every morning in summer.

2. Thompson admitted (murder) his wife.

3. He left England (live) in another country.

4. I think you'd better (go) home.

5. It was kind of you (lend) me your jacket.

6. He ran all the way home without (stop).

7. The teacher made him (write) the composition again.
 8. What's the use of (cry)?

Verbs taking to-infinitive or -ing form without a change in meaning

1. **begin, start, continue + to-inf. or -ing form.**
 However, we never have two -ing forms together.

She began **dancing/to dance**.
But: It's **beginning to get** cold.
Not: ~~It's beginning getting~~ cold.

2. **advise, allow, permit, recommend, encourage** when followed by an object or in passive form take a to-infinitive. They take the -ing form when not followed by an object.

He **doesn't allow us to smoke** here.
 They **aren't allowed to smoke** here.
 They **don't allow smoking** here.

3. **it needs/it requires/it wants + -ing form**
 "It needs" can also be followed by a passive infinitive.

The house **needs/requires/wants painting**.
 The car **needs repairing/to be repaired**.

Verbs taking to-infinitive or -ing form with a change in meaning

1. **forget + to-inf = not remember**
*I'm sorry, I **forgot to buy** milk.*
forget + ing form = forget a past event
*He'll never **forget flying** over the Alps.*

6. **try + to-inf = do one's best, attempt**
*The firemen are **trying to put out** the fire.*
try + -ing form = do sth as an experiment
*Why don't you **try adding** some sugar to the sauce? It might taste better.*

2. **remember + to-inf = remember to do sth**
***Remember to turn off** the cooker before leaving.*
remember + -ing form = recall a past event
*I don't **remember staying** in this hotel before.*

7. **want + to-inf = wish**
*I **want to spend** my holidays in Spain.*
want + -ing form = need sth done
*This room **wants painting** again.*

3. **go on + to-inf = finish doing sth and start doing sth else; then**
*After finishing the report, she **went on to type** some letters.*
go on + -ing form = continue
*She **went on talking** for hours.*

8. **stop + to-inf = pause temporarily**
*She **stopped to get** some petrol before continuing on her journey to Leeds.*
stop + -ing form = finish; end
***Stop talking**, please!*

4. **mean + to-inf = intend to**
*He **means to find** a job abroad.*
mean + -ing form = involve
*Finding a job **means attending** many interviews.*

9. **be sorry + to-inf = regret**
*I'm **sorry to hear** they fired him.*
be sorry for + -ing form = apologise
*I'm **sorry for being/having been** unfair to you.*

5. **regret + to-inf = be sorry to**
*I **regret to tell** you that there is no money left in your account.*
regret + -ing form = have second thoughts about sth one has already done
*I **regret buying/having bought** this dress; it doesn't look nice on me.*

10. **be afraid + to-inf** (the subject is too frightened to do sth)
*I'm **afraid to climb** up that tree. (I don't want to do it.)*
be afraid of + -ing form (the subject is afraid that what is described by the -ing form may happen)
*She won't climb up the tree; she **is afraid of falling**. (She is afraid because she might fall.)*

73 Fill in the infinitive or -ing form.

The rules in my new school are very strict. The teachers don't allow 1) *..talking* (talk) in class at all. We are only permitted 2) (speak) if they ask us a question. On the first day, the headmaster advised us all 3) (work) very hard. In fact, he recommended 4) (study) for at least four hours every evening! We are not allowed 5) (leave) the school at lunchtime but we are encouraged 6) (join) one of the school clubs. Next week I'm starting chess.

75 Fill in the gaps with the verbs in brackets in the infinitive or the -ing form.

1. Remember *to go* (go) to the bank. You've got to pay the bills.
2. I don't remember (see) this film before.
3. When he had written his first book he went on (write) seven more.
4. She went on (talk) even after her friend had fallen asleep.
5. I regret (leave) school at the age of 16.
6. I regret (tell) you that you have failed the test.
7. He means (build) a boat and travel round the world.
8. Doing well on this course means (study) very hard.
9. I've been trying (start) this car for hours.
10. Why don't you try (put) some petrol in the tank?
11. I don't want to drive a car; I'm afraid of (have) an accident.
12. He's afraid (walk) alone at night.
13. She forgot (invite) her best friend to the party.
14. I'll never forget (see) snow for the first time.
15. On the way home he stopped (buy) some chocolate.
16. The baby didn't stop (cry) all night.
17. These windows are dirty. They need (wash).
18. I want (speak) to Sally, please.
19. She's really sorry for (shout) at you last night.
20. I'm sorry (tell) you your car has been stolen.

153 Put the verbs in brackets in the infinitive or the -ing form.

1. I don't like *..singing/to sing* in public. (sing)
2. It's no use her. She won't listen. (tell)
3. I'm still too upset about it. (talk)
4. Don't disturb him. He's busy (work)
5. Stop your nails! (bite)
6. Don't expect him you any money. (lend)
7. I've decided him. (leave)
8. Mum made me my medicine. (take)
9. She agreed him £1,000. (lend)
10. He denied the stolen goods. (receive)

Answer key to exercises

- 69.** 2. B. I. 4. F. I. 6. -ing 8. F. I. 10. -ing 12. -ing 14. -ing 16. -ing
3. F. I. 5. F. I. 7. F. I. 9. F. I. 11. B.I. 13. B. I. 15. -ing
- 70.** 2. to book 6. to have 10. to stay 14. to fly 18. feel
3. ask 7. go 11. going 15. going 19. to suggest
4. to go 8. visiting 12. to visit 16. travelling 20. to appear
5. to stay 9. to go 13. feel 17. travelling 21. stay
- 71.** 2. shouting (action in progress) 9. considering (action in progress)
3. standing (action in progress) 10. run (complete action)
4. lying (action in progress) 11. push (complete action)
5. approach (complete action) 12. screaming (action in progress)
6. kneel (complete action) 13. getting (action in progress)
7. looking (action in progress) 14. get out (complete action)
8. watching (action in progress) 15. run (complete action)
- 72.** 2. (to) murdering/having murdered 4. go 6. stopping 8. crying
3. to live 5. to lend 7. write
- 73.** 2. to speak 3. to work 4. studying 5. to leave 6. to join
- 75.** 2. seeing/having seen 9. to start 16. crying
3. to write 10. putting 17. washing/to be washed
4. talking 11. having 18. to speak
5. leaving/having left 12. to walk 19. shouting/having shouted
6. to tell 13. to invite 20. to tell
7. to build 14. seeing
8. studying 15. to buy
- 153.** 2. telling 5. biting 8. take
3. to talk 6. to lend 9. to lend
4. working 7. to leave 10. receiving