

choosing between gerunds and infinitives gerund (verb + -ing)

- I'm not very good at working in a team. Katie's given up smoking.
- 3.8
- Looking for a job can be depressing. Shopping is my favourite thing to do at weekends.
- 3 I hate not being on time for things. I don't mind getting up early.
- We use the gerund (verb + -ing)
 - 1 after prepositions and phrasal verbs.
 - 2 as the subject of a sentence.
 - 3 after some verbs, e.g. hate, don't mind.
- · Common verbs which take the gerund include: admit, avoid, deny, dislike, enjoy, feel like, finish, hate, keep, like, love, mind, miss, practise, prefer, recommend, spend time, stop, suggest, and some phrasal verbs, e.g. give up, go on, etc.
- The negative gerund = not + verb + -ing.



D like, love, and hate

In American English, like, love, and hate are followed by the infinitive with to. This is becoming more common in British English too, e.g. I like to listen to music in the car.

the infinitive with to

1 My flat is very easy to find.

- **3**8.7
- 2 Liam is saving money to buy a new car.
- My sister has never learned to drive. Try not to make a noise.
- We use the infinitive + to:
 - 1 after adjectives.
 - 2 to express a reason or purpose.
 - 3 after some verbs, e.g. want, need, learn.

- Common verbs which take the infinitive include: (can't) afford, agree, decide, expect, forget, help, hope, learn, need, offer, plan, pretend, promise, refuse, remember, seem, try, want, would like. More verbs take the infinitive than the gerund.
- The negative infinitive = not to + verb.
- These common verbs can take either the infinitive or gerund with no difference in meaning: start, begin, continue. It started to rain. It started raining.

Verb + person + infinitive with to

We also use the infinitive with to after some verbs + person, e.g. ask, tell, want, would like.

Can you ask the manager to come? She told him not to worry. I want you to do this now.

We'd really like you to come.

the infinitive without to

1 | can't drive. We must hurry.



- 2 She always makes me laugh. My parents didn't let me go out last night.
- We use the infinitive without to:
- 1 after most modal and auxiliary verbs.
- 2 after make and let.

Verbs that can take a gerund or an infinitive, but the meaning is different

Try to be on time. (= make an effort to be on time)

Try doing yoga. (= do it to see if you like it)

Remember to phone him. (= don't forget to do it)

I remember meeting him years ago. (= I have a memory of it)

Circle the correct form.

I'm in charge of (recruiting)/ to recruit new staff.

- 1 It's important for me spending / to spend time with my family.
- 2 Applying / Apply to go to university abroad can be complicated.
- 3 I want to do / doing my shopping this morning.
- 4 My boss wants open / to open a new office.
- 5 Be careful not asking / not to ask her about her boyfriend - they've split up.
- 6 We went on working / to work until we finished.
- 7 Dave is very good at solving / to solve problems.
- 8 The best thing about weekends is not going / not to go to work.
- 9 Layla gave up modelling / to model when she had a baby.
- 10 I went on a training course to learning / to learn about the new software.

b Complete with a verb from the list in the correct form.

| | ot buy commute do le | ave lock not make retire | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|----------|
| _ | | | _ |
| | I'd like <u>to set up</u> my own c | company. | |
| 1 | My parents are planning _ | before they are 6 | 5. |
| 2 | Rob spends three hours _ | to work and back | OMANO. |
| 3 | every day. Mark and his wife agreed problems he had at work. | | |
| 4 | Did you remember | the door? | |
| | In the end I decided they were very expensive. | the shoes because | |
| 6 | The manager lets us | work early on Fridays | . |
| | All employees must | a jacket and tie at wo | |
| 8 | Please try | any more mistakes in the report | t. |
| 9 | I don't mind | overtime during the week. | |