

## MENG321: Tips for Gerunds and Infinitives

### Gerunds

**As the subject of a clause:** **Cycling** is good for your health.

**After a preposition:** I did my homework *before* **going out**.

**Verbs followed by Gerunds:** I *enjoy* **cooking**.

admit	cannot stand	finish	practice
advise	deny	keep	suggest
allow	dislike	mind	waste time
avoid	enjoy	miss	waste money
cannot help	fancy	permit	

**Verbs with Prepositions followed by Gerunds:**

I am *looking forward to* **seeing** you again.

accused of	blame for	dream about	look forward to
agree with	care for	feel like	object to
apologize for	carry on	forgive for	think of
ask about	complain about	give up	succeed in
believe in	concentrate on	insist on	use for
be used to	depend on	keep on	

## Infinitives

**After an adjective:** The new computer is *easy to use*.

**After certain verbs (with to):** He *refused to pay* the bill.

afford	expect	mean	want
agree	fail	offer	wish
appear	help	plan	would like
arrange	hesitate	prepare	would love
beg	hope	pretend	would prefer
choose	learn	promise	
decide	manage	refuse	

## Words followed by either a Gerund or an Infinitive form

**Words with the same meaning:** I started *to read*. / I started *reading*.

attempt	cannot bear	hate	prefer
begin	cease	intend	start
bother	continue	love	

**Words with the same meaning but different use:**

Word	Infinitive - with an object	Gerund – without an object
advise	<i>I advise you to go by bus.</i>	<i>I advise going by bus.</i>
allow/permit	<i>He allowed her to take the car.</i>	<i>He allowed taking the car.</i>
forbid	<i>She forbids us to smoke.</i>	<i>She forbids smoking.</i>

**Words with a different meaning:**

<b>Word</b>	<b>Infinitive meaning</b>	<b>Gerund meaning</b>
forget/remember	With regard to the future: <i>Remember to switch off the lights.</i>	With regard to the past: <i>Do you remember switching off the lights?</i>
go on	Start something new: <i>Go on to read.</i>	Continue with the same action: <i>Go on reading.</i>
regret	With regard to the future: <i>I regret to say that is wrong.</i>	With regard to the past: <i>I regret saying that.</i>
stop	To interrupt another action: <i>I stopped to smoke.</i>	To terminate: <i>I stopped smoking.</i>
try	To do something complicated: <i>Try to solve this riddle.</i>	To do it and see what happens: <i>Try talking to him.</i>