



Unit 3 Lesson 1

Let's Play with Infinitives

Weihnachten

Essen, trinken, singen, spielen,
Wünschen, hoffen, lieben, bleiben.

Kerstmis

Eten, drinken, zingen, spelen,
Wensen, hopen, liefhebben, blijven.

Can you spot the infinitive rule in these languages?

What language do you think the second poem is written in?

What could the poem be about?

Can you try translating it?

What links can you spot between the languages?

Write your own infinitives poem (in English or in another language)



Double Dutch: Extract taken from the UK Linguistics Olympiad

Problem 1. Double Dutch (5 marks)

Dutch, which is closely related to English, is spoken in The Netherlands and in part of Belgium. Here are some Dutch words and phrases in different grammatical forms, with their English translations.



| | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| ik heet | <i>I am called</i> | heten | <i>to be called</i> |
| ik huur | <i>I rent</i> | huren | <i>to rent</i> |
| een nek | <i>a neck</i> | nekken | <i>necks</i> |
| een heer | <i>a man</i> | heren | <i>men</i> |
| ik gok | <i>I bet</i> | gokken | <i>to bet</i> |
| ik leef | <i>I live</i> | leven | <i>to live</i> |
| een lip | <i>a lip</i> | lippen | <i>lips</i> |
| ik maak | <i>I make</i> | maken | <i>to make</i> |
| ik geef | <i>I give</i> | geven | <i>to give</i> |
| ik woon | <i>I live</i> | (1) | <i>to live</i> |
| een haar | <i>a hair</i> | (2) | <i>hairs</i> |
| (3) | <i>an ear</i> | oren | <i>ears</i> |
| een uur | <i>an hour</i> | (4) | <i>hours</i> |
| (5) | <i>an address</i> | adressen | <i>addresses</i> |
| (6) | <i>I erase</i> | gommen | <i>to erase</i> |
| (7) | <i>a raven</i> | raven | <i>ravens</i> |
| ik stap | <i>I step</i> | (8) | <i>to step</i> |

Fill in the gaps 1 – 8 with the correct word. Use the linguistic clues in the grid to work them out.