

# Gerund and Infinitives

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## When To Use GERUNDS ?

### 1. In SUBJECT POSITION (For DEU YDY Exams. But For YDS, there are some exceptions)

- Swimming is beneficial to our health.
- Reading helps us learn more.
- Dancing is a good way to keep fit.
- **Swimming** is my favorite sport. **Swimming** can help you to lose weight.
- **Having to get up** early won't bother me at all.
- **Cycling** is more environmentally friendly than *driving* a car.

### 2. After Prepositions:

- I'm keen on eating chocolate.
- Generally speaking, I go to the school by walking.
- I have succeeded in doing what I wanted to do
- She is afraid of *going out in the dark*.

### 3. After Pronouns (my, your, her, his, our, etc)

- I cannot forget my dad's taking us to the zoo when we were little kids.
- She can't remember my saying this to her.

### 4. After some Phrases like "be worth", "no use"

- Izmir is worth living.
- I don't really think that Recep İvedik 4 is worth watching. If you ask me, it is just waste of time.
- There is no use arguing about this. (= Tartışmanın "faydası yok", "gereği yok" manasında.)

### 5. After some certain verbs (Too many of them : 😞 😊 )

- I like **reading** contemporary books. [ BUT I would love to read this book now. ) ]

## Some Important Verbs which are used in Gerund Form(Ving):

Admit	deny	avoid	discuss	can't help	enjoy	can't stand	finish	consider	imagine	delay	keep
Mention	miss	postpone	recommend, suggest *	remember							

### EXAMPLES:

He **admitted stealing** his mother's silver tray but **denied selling** it for drugs.

I **appreciate being with** friends.

He **avoided looking** at me while I was criticizing him.

I **can't help feeling** sorry for them when I see small children in the street begging for money.

I **excused her taking** my dress without my permission.

I **miss our gathering** round my grandmother and **listening** to her war stories.

They had to **postpone giving** a party because of the car accident their son had.

In order to improve your English, you should **practice speaking** it whenever possible.

You have to **quit eating** too much if you want to lose weight.

I **don't recall meeting** you before.

I **resented not receiving** an invitation to the party.

Though she is on a strict diet, she sometimes **can't resist eating** dessert.

You **risk losing** all your money in that business.

I **suggest going** for a walk instead of playing cards here.

My parents **won't tolerate lying**.

## ***When To Use Infinitives?***

### **1. After NOUNS**

- The best method to learn English is going to England.
- The most logical thing to do during this Covid19 pandemic is to keep the social distance.

### **2. After ADJECTIVES**

- Glad to meet you.
- This question was pretty easy to solve.
- Mathematics is fun to learn.
- Arabic is a bit complicated to master.
- It's difficult to get up early, especially when you are hangover.

### **3. To Express PURPOSE**

- I killed the mosquito to take my revenge.
- I gave him some money to help.
- I tried to improve my Python skills to understand how computers work.

### **4. With Questions Words**

- I don't know what to do and how to do.
- She had no idea which to choose.
- I don't know how to solve this puzzle. Can you help me with it?

### **5. After certain verbs**

- We decided to leave early.

#### **Some Important Ones:**

Want: I want to invest in gold. It is better than investing in euro/dollar.

Would like/would love: I'd love to ask a question, if you don't mind.

Kendinden sonra doğrudan Infinitive alan fiillerden yaygın olarak kullanılanlar şunlardır:

<i>afford</i>	<i>consent</i>	<i>hesitate</i>	<i>plan</i>	<i>seem</i>
<i>agree</i>	<i>decide</i>	<i>hope</i>	<i>prepare</i>	<i>struggle</i>
<i>appear</i>	<i>demand</i>	<i>learn</i>	<i>pretend</i>	<i>swear</i>
<i>arrange</i>	<i>deserve</i>	<i>manage</i>	<i>proceed</i>	<i>tend</i>
<i>care</i>	<i>endeavor</i>	<i>mean</i>	<i>promise</i>	<i>threaten</i>
<i>choose (prefer)</i>	<i>fail</i>	<i>offer</i>	<i>prove</i>	<i>volunteer</i>
<i>claim</i>	<i>happen</i>		<i>refuse</i>	<i>wait</i>

### EXAMPLES:

They couldn't *afford to go* on holiday last summer.

I didn't *agree to work* with him.

You *appear to be* pale today. Is there something wrong?

We *arranged to meet* in front of the cinema.

I don't *care to live* alone.

She *chose to stay* home while we went out.

Don't *hesitate to contact* me if you need any help.

She *demanded* in a firm voice to *talk* to me.

She *endeavored to finish* her homework, but she couldn't.

She *hopes to pass* the exam with a good grade.

He never *seems to succeed*.

She sometimes *tends to speak* too much.

Some of the students *volunteered to bring* some food for the picnic.

He couldn't *wait to see* the manager.

## EXTRA INFO

**We use the bare infinitive (the infinitive without 'to'):**

After modal verbs - I can meet you at six o'clock

After 'let', 'make' and (sometimes) 'help' - The teacher let us leave early

After some verbs of perception (see, watch, hear, notice, feel, sense) - I watched her walk away

After expressions with 'why' - why go out the night before an exam?

***More Examples for you to understand better:***

**Here are some of the most common verbs that are usually followed by the gerund:**

enjoy: I enjoyed living in France.

fancy: I fancy seeing a film tonight.

discuss: We discussed going on holiday together.

dislike: I dislike waiting for buses.

finish: We've finished preparing for the meeting.

mind: I don't mind coming early.

suggest: He suggested staying at the Grand Hotel.

recommend: They recommended meeting earlier.

keep: He kept working, although he felt ill.

avoid: She avoided talking to her boss.

miss: She misses living near the beach.

appreciate: I appreciated her helping me.

delay: He delayed doing his taxes.

postpone: He postponed returning to Paris

practise: She practised singing the song.

consider: She considered moving to New York.

can't stand: He can't stand her smoking in the office.

can't help: He can't help talking so loudly.

risk: He risked being caught.

admit: He admitted cheating on the test.

**And here are some common verbs followed by 'to' and the infinitive.**

agree: She agreed to give a presentation at the meeting.

ask\*: I asked to leave early / I asked him to leave early.

decide: We decided to go out for dinner.

help\*: He helped to clean the kitchen / he helped his flatmate to clean the kitchen.

plan: She plans to buy a new flat next year.

hope: I hope to pass the exam.

learn: They are learning to sing.

want\*: I want to come to the party / I want him to come to the party.

would like\*: I would like to see her tonight / I would like you to see her tonight.

promise: We promised not to be late.

can afford: We can't afford to go on holiday.

manage: He managed to open the door without the key.

prepare\*: They prepared to take the test /

the teachers prepared the students to take the test.

demand: He demanded to speak to Mr. Harris.

choose: I chose to help.

offer: Frank offered to drive us to the supermarket.

wait: She waited to buy a movie ticket.

would hate\*: I'd hate to be late / I'd hate you to be late.

would love\*: I'd love to come / I'd love him to come.

seem: Nancy seemed to be disappointed.

**Some Examples Sentences to practice Gerunds/Infinitives and understand better:**

1. She delayed **getting** out of bed.
2. He demanded to speak to the manager.
3. I offered to help.
4. I miss **going** to the beach.
5. We postponed **doing** our homework.
6. I'd hate to arrive too late.
7. She admitted **stealing** the money.
8. I chose to work here.
9. She waited to buy a drink.
10. I really appreciate **being** on holiday.
11. I couldn't help **laughing**.
12. It seems to be raining.
13. I considered **moving** to Spain.
14. They practised **speaking**.
15. Finally, I managed to finish the work.
16. I really can't stand **waiting** for the bus.
17. Unfortunately, we can't afford to buy a new car this year.
18. She risked **being** late.
19. I'd love to come with you.
20. I prepared to go on holiday.



**To sum up, Gerunds and infinitives** are special forms of verbs that can act like nouns in sentences.

### 1. Gerunds:

- A gerund is formed by adding “-ing” to the base form of a verb (e.g., “swim” becomes “**swimming**”).
- Gerunds act like **nouns** in sentences. They can be subjects, objects, or even part of prepositional phrases.
- Example: “**Swimming** is my favorite sport.”

### 2. Infinitives:

- An infinitive is the base form of a verb preceded by “to” (e.g., “to run”, “to eat”).
- Infinitives can also act like **nouns**, but they can also function as **adjectives** or **adverbs**.
- Example: “I want to **run** in the marathon.”

**Gerunds** (highlighted in **bold**):

- **Swimming** is great exercise.
- I enjoy **dancing** at parties.
- She loves **singing** in the shower.
- **Running** makes me feel energized.
- We practiced **playing** the piano.

**Infinitives** (highlighted in **bold**):

- I want **to eat** pizza for dinner.
- He decided **to study** harder.
- She hopes **to become** a doctor.
- They plan **to visit** the zoo.
- It’s important **to listen** in class.

## “Choosing between Gerunds and Infinitives.”

# When

do we use gerunds,  
and when do we use infinitives?

### Use Gerunds:

- After certain verbs (e.g., **enjoy, love, hate, practice**).
- After prepositions (e.g., **before, after, by, without**).
- As the subject or object of a sentence.
- Example: "**I enjoy swimming** in the ocean."

### Use Infinitives:

- After certain verbs (e.g., **want, decide, hope, plan**).
- After many adjectives (e.g., **difficult, easy, important**).
- To show purpose (e.g., **I came to London to study** English).

### 3 GRAMMAR choosing between gerunds and infinitives

- a Complete the questionnaire by putting the verbs in the correct form: the gerund (e.g. *working*) or to + infinitive (e.g. *to work*).

#### Match your **personality** to the **job**



- 1 I'd like to work as part of a team. work ☐
- 2 I enjoy helping people with their problems. help ☐
- 3 I don't mind not earning a very large salary. not earn ☐
- 4 I'm good at listening to people. listen ☐
- 5 I'm good at making quick decisions. make ☐
- 6 Taking risks doesn't worry me. take ☐
- 7 I'm happy to work by myself. work ☐
- 8 I'm not afraid of managing large amounts of money. manage ☐

- 9 I'm good at expressing myself. express ☐
- 10 I always try to follow my instincts. follow ☐
- 11 It's important for me to be creative. be ☐
- 12 I enjoy improvising. improvise ☐


- 13 Doing complex calculations is not difficult for me. do ☐
- 14 I enjoy solving logical problems. solve ☐
- 15 I find it easy to theoretical principles. understand ☐
- 16 I am able to calculate space and distance. calculate ☐



- 1 After some verbs, e.g. *enjoy* and *don't mind*, use the gerund.
- 2 After some verbs, e.g. *would like*, use to + infinitive.
- 3 After adjectives, use to + infinitive.
- 4 After prepositions, use the gerund.
- 5 As the subject of a phrase or sentence, use the gerund.

## choosing between gerunds and infinitives

### gerund (verb + -ing)


- 1 I'm not very **good at working** in a team.  8.6  
Katie's **given up smoking**.
- 2 **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.

#### 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**.  8.7
- 2 Liam is saving money **to buy** a new car.
- 3 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 I **can't drive**.  8.8  
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)

### a 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.

not buy commute do leave lock not make retire  
set-up wear not worry

I'd like to set up my own company.

- 1 My parents are planning to retire before they are 65.
- 2 Rob spends three hours commuting to work and back every day.
- 3 Mark and his wife agreed not to worry about the problems he had at work.
- 4 Did you remember to lock the door?
- 5 In the end I decided not to buy the shoes because they were very expensive.
- 6 The manager lets us leave work early on Fridays.
- 7 All employees must wear a jacket and tie at work.
- 8 Please try not to make any more mistakes in the report.
- 9 I don't mind doing overtime during the week.

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