

Verb + **-ing** or **to ...** 3 (**like / would like** etc.)

## A

## Like / love / hate

When you talk about repeated actions, you can use **-ing** or **to ...** after these verbs.

So you can say:

- ☐ Do you **like getting** up early? or Do you **like to get** up early?
- ☐ Stephanie **hates flying**. or Stephanie **hates to fly**.
- ☐ I **love meeting** people. or I **love to meet** people.
- ☐ I don't **like being** kept waiting. or ... **like to be** kept waiting.
- ☐ I don't **like friends calling** me at work. or ... friends **to call** me at work.

but

- (1) We use **-ing** (*not to ...*) when we talk about a situation that already exists (or existed).

For example:

- ☐ Paul lives in Berlin now. He **likes living** there. (He **likes living** in Berlin = He lives there and he likes it)
- ☐ Do you **like being** a student? (You are a student – do you like it?)
- ☐ The office I worked in was horrible. I **hated working** there. (I worked there and I hated it)

- (2) There is sometimes a difference between **I like to do** and **I like doing**:

**I like doing** something = I do it and I enjoy it:

- ☐ I **like cleaning** the kitchen. (= I enjoy it.)

**I like to do** something = I think it is a good thing to do, but I don't necessarily enjoy it:

- ☐ It's not my favourite job, but I **like to clean** the kitchen as often as possible.

Note that **enjoy** and **mind** are always followed by **-ing** (*not to ...*):

- ☐ I **enjoy cleaning** the kitchen. (*not I enjoy to clean*)
- ☐ I **don't mind cleaning** the kitchen. (*not I don't mind to clean*)

## B

## Would like / would love / would hate / would prefer

**Would like / would love** etc. are usually followed by **to ...** :

- ☐ I'd **like** (= I **would like**) to go away for a few days.
- ☐ **Would you like to come** to dinner on Friday?
- ☐ I **wouldn't like to go** on holiday alone.
- ☐ I'd **love to meet** your family.
- ☐ **Would you prefer to have** dinner now or later?

Compare **I like** and **I would like** (I'd like):

- ☐ I **like playing** tennis. / I **like to play** tennis. (= I like it in general)
- ☐ I'd **like to play** tennis today. (= I want to play today)

**Would mind** is always followed by **-ing** (*not to ...*):

- ☐ **Would you mind closing** the door, please?

## C

I would like **to have done** something = I regret now that I didn't or couldn't do it:

- ☐ It's a shame we didn't see Anna when we were in London. I **would like to have seen** her again.
- ☐ We'd **like to have gone** away, but we were too busy at home.

You can use the same structure after **would love / would hate / would prefer**:

- ☐ Poor David! I **would hate to have been** in his position.
- ☐ I'd **love to have gone** to the party, but it was impossible.