

Session 1

In the first of 5 sessions, we have a first look at verb patterns, and pick up some work vocabulary as we meet a Chinese video blogger called Sunny who's looking for a job.

Activity 2

What comes after the verb?

Love, like, hope...

In her vlog, Sunny used a lot of different verbs like **try**, **enjoy**, **hate**, **hope** and **like**. But what came after them? How much can you remember?

In this game, you're going to match the beginnings and endings of her sentences.

Good job! Now let's look at those sentences more closely.

Grammar

In all the sentences, the first verb was followed by either:

A gerund (base verb-ing: **looking**, **singing**, **swimming**)

An infinitive with 'to' (to + base verb: **to study**, **to be**)

Gerunds and infinitives can be confusing in English, because they look like verbs, but they sometimes work like nouns. Some learners of English find it difficult to decide when to use a **gerund** after a verb, and when to use an **infinitive with 'to'**.

So, which should you use, and when? Don't worry, you're going to find out in this unit. We'll start with a counting exercise. [Have another look at Sunny's vlog](#) (or read the transcript) and answer these questions:

How many verbs followed by gerunds are there? (example: **tried looking**)

How many verbs followed by infinitives are there? (example: **decided to study**)

Transcript

My name's Sunny – I'm from China.

Hi! So... I'm looking for a job. The problem is, I don't know what to do – and I've tried looking everywhere. So... my career advisor told me to think about what I like doing.

I love dancing... I really, really, really like travelling. I enjoy singing and performing... I guess that's why I decided to study drama at university...

Keeping fit! I always try to keep fit, though I hate swimming! I suppose I just hate to be bored. I even tried to learn juggling and ukulele.

I hope to be famous one day! But for now – I need a job. What do you guys think I should do? Message me!

Next

So, Sunny used **seven** verb-gerund combinations:

tried looking

like doing

love dancing

like travelling

enjoy singing and performing

hate swimming

learn juggling

She used **five** verb-infinitive combinations:

decided to study

try to keep

hate to be

tried to learn

hope to be

More on that in session 2. Now, it's time for 6 Minute Vocabulary. Neil and Sophie take a good look at some of the suffixes we use in job names, like **actor**, **politician** and **receptionist**.

