

Using Gerunds and Infinitives

Gerunds and infinitives are verb forms that can take the place of a noun in a sentence.

FOLLOWING A VERB (gerund or infinitive)

Both gerunds and infinitives can replace a noun as the object of a verb. Whether you use a gerund or an infinitive depends on the main verb in the sentence. Consult the lists below to find out which form to use following which verbs.

- I **expect** to have the report done by Friday. [INFINITIVE]
- I **anticipate** having the report done by Friday. [GERUND]

SOME COMMON VERBS FOLLOWED BY A GERUND (note: phrasal verbs, marked here with *, always fall into this category):

ACKNOWLEDGE	She acknowledged receiving assistance.	
* ACCUSE OF	He was accused of smuggling contraband goods.	
ADMIT	They admitted falsifying the data.	
ADVISE	The author advises undertaking further study.	
ALLOW	They don't allow smoking here.	Note that when an object is introduced an infinitive is used instead of a gerund: They allowed <u>us</u> to leave early.
ANTICIPATE	He anticipates having trouble with his supervisor.	
APPRECIATE	I appreciated having a chance to read your draft.	
AVOID	He avoided answering my question.	
COMPLETE	I finally completed writing my thesis.	
CONSIDER	They will consider granting you money.	
DEFER	She deferred writing her report.	
DELAY	We delayed reporting the results until we were sure.	
DENY	They denied copying the information.	
DISCUSS	They discussed running the experiments again.	
ENTAIL	This review procedure entails repeating the test.	
FANCY	Fancy meeting you here!	
FINISH	She finished writing the letter.	
GO	I go swimming.	
IMAGINE	He imagines meeting her one day.	
* INSIST ON	He insisted on proofreading the article again.	
INVOLVE	This procedure involves testing each sample twice.	
JUSTIFY	My results justify taking drastic action.	
* LOOK AFTER	He will look after mailing the tickets.	
KEEP	He keeps complaining about his girlfriend.	
MENTION	The author mentions seeing this event.	
MIND	Would you mind helping me?	
MISS	He misses talking to her.	
PERMIT	They don't permit smoking here.	Note that, like allow, when an object is introduced an infinitive is used instead of a gerund: They permitted <u>us</u> to leave early.
* PLAN ON	They had planned on attending the conference.	
POSTPONE	The committee has postponed writing the report.	
PRACTICE	She practiced painting.	
RECALL	I cannot recall getting those results before.	
RESENT	He resented spending so much time on the project.	
RECOMMEND	She recommends reading Marx.	
REJECT	He rejected working with them.	
RESIST	The writer resists giving any easy answers.	
RISK	She risks losing her viewing time.	
SANCTION	They will not sanction copying without permission.	
SUGGEST	I suggest repeating the experiment.	
* TAKE CARE OF	He will take care of sending it to you.	
TOLERATE	She can't tolerate waiting for results.	
WASTE (time/money)	Don't waste my time complaining.	

SOME COMMON VERBS FOLLOWED BY AN INFINITIVE:

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AFFORD	We cannot afford to hesitate.	
AGREE	The professors agreed to disagree.	
AIM	The government aims to reduce illiteracy rates.	
APPEAR	The results appear to support your theory.	
ARRANGE	They had arranged to meet at noon.	
ATTEMPT	He attempted to join them.	
BEG	I beg to differ with you.	
CARE	Would you care to respond?	
CHOOSE	He chose to stay at home.	
CLAIM	She claims to have new data.	
CONSENT	Will you consent to run for office?	
DECIDE	When did he decide to withdraw?	
DEMAND	I demand to see the results of the survey.	
DESERVE	She deserves to have a fair hearing.	
EXPECT	The committee expects to decide by tomorrow.	
FAIL	The trial failed to confirm his hypothesis.	
HAPPEN	They happened to be at the theatre when we met them.	
HELP	She helped me to do the exercise.	Note, help can also be followed by a bare infinitive: She helped me do the exercise.
HESITATE	I hesitate to try the experiment again.	
HOPE	What do you hope to accomplish?	
INTEND	She intends to write an autobiography.	
LEARN	We have learned to proceed with caution.	
MANAGE	How did she manage to find the solution?	
NEED	Do we need to find new subjects?	
NEGLECT	The author neglected to provide an index.	
OFFER	We could offer to change the time of the meeting.	
PLAN	They had planned to attend the conference.	
PREPARE	He was not prepared to give a lecture.	
PRETEND	I do not pretend to know the answer.	
PROCEED	He proceeded to show us how to use the machine.	
PROMISE	They promise to demonstrate the new equipment.	
REFUSE	She refused to cooperate any longer.	
SEEM	Something seems to be wrong with your design.	
STRUGGLE	We struggled to understand her point of view.	
SWEAR	He swears to tell the truth.	
THREATEN	The team threatened to stop their research.	
VOLUNTEER	Will you volunteer to lead the group?	
WAIT	We could not wait to hear the outcome.	
WANT	She did not want to go first.	
WISH	Do you wish to participate?	
WOULD HATE	He would hate to lose.	
WOULD LIKE	He would like to drink a cup of tea.	
WOULD LOVE	I would love to meet you.	

FOLLOWING AN INDIRECT OBJECT (infinitive only):

Some verbs are followed by a pronoun or noun referring to a person, and then an infinitive. Gerunds cannot be used in this position.

SOME COMMON VERBS FOLLOWED BY AN INDIRECT OBJECT PLUS AN INFINITIVE:

ASK	I must ask you to reconsider your statement.
BEG	They begged her to stay for another term.
CAUSE	His findings caused him to investigate further.
CHALLENGE	Wilkins challenged Watson to continue the research.
CONVINCE	Can we convince them to fund our study?
ENCOURAGE	She encouraged him to look beyond the obvious.
EXPECT	They did not expect us to win an award.
FORBID	The author forbade me to change his wording.
FORCE	They cannot force her to reveal her sources.
HIRE	Did the department hire him to teach the new course?
INSTRUCT	I will instruct her to prepare a handout.
INVITE	We invite you to attend the ceremony.
NEED	They need her to show the slides.
ORDER	He ordered the group to leave the building.
PERSUADE	Can we persuade you to contribute again?
REMIND	Please remind him to check the references.
REQUIRE	They will require you to submit an outline.
TEACH	We should teach them to follow standard procedures.
TELL	Did she tell him to make three copies?
URGE	I urge you to read the instructions before you begin.
WANT	I do not want you to have an accident.
WARN	Why didn't they warn me to turn down the heat?

FOLLOWING A PREPOSITION (gerund only):

Gerunds can follow a preposition; infinitives cannot.

- Can you touch your toes **without** bending your knees?
- He was fined **for** driving over the speed limit.
- She got the money **by** selling the car.
- A corkscrew is a tool **for** taking corks out of bottles.
- I am interested **in** collecting stamps.
- **After** playing football I drank some orange juice.
- Let's go for a walk instead **of** playing video games.
- Are you any good **at** tying knots ?

AFTER SOME EXPRESSIONS (gerund only):

It's no use ... / It's no good ... / There's no point in ... / I can't help... / I don't mind... / I can't stand/bear...

- **It's no use** convincing him to meet her.

AFTER "TOO" & "ENOUGH": TOO DIFFICULT / EASY ENOUGH (infinitive only):

- It's **too difficult** to convince him to be helpful.
- But it's easy **enough** to fool him to get what you want.

VERBS THAT CAN BE FOLLOWED BY BOTH INFINITIVE (to...) AND GERUND (-ing):**...WITH NO DIFFERENCE IN MEANING****LIKE/ LOVE/ DO NOT LIKE/ HATE**

I love getting up early. (I love this experience.)

I love to get up early. (It's a habit I love.)

BEGIN/ START

The girls left the room when the boys started to talk about football.

The girls left the room when the boys started talking about football.

NOTE: you cannot say 'they were starting talking about' the correct form is: 'they started to talk about'. When start/begin is used in a progressive/continuous tense, 'starting/beginning' is followed by 'to'

...WITH A DIFFERENCE IN MEANING**REMEMBER**

I never remember to switch off the lights before I leave home.

(I don't switch them off, because I forget to do it.)

I can't remember switching off the lights.

(Maybe I switched them off, maybe I didn't. I can't remember if I did it or not.)

FORGET

Don't forget to post this letter.

(I would like you to remember and go to the post office to post it. It's important that you do it.)

I'll never forget seeing her for the first time.

(Seeing her was such a significant experience in my life that I cannot forget it.)

GO ON (CONTINUE)

I wasn't listening to her, but she just went on talking about her new book.

(She didn't stop talking.)

Then she went on to talk about her new yacht.

(She stopped talking about the book & started talking about the yacht. She started doing something new.)

STOP

Tom and Barbara stopped talking to each other.

(They don't talk to each other anymore. Maybe they had an argument and don't want to talk to each other ever again.)

Tom and Barbara stopped to talk to each other.

(They were busy doing something, for example, working. Then they stopped working in order to talk to each other. Why did they stop working? To talk to each other.)

REGRET

I regret being rude to my parents.

(I was rude to them in the past and now I feel ashamed.)

I regret to inform you that your flight has been cancelled. → *FORMULAIC...most often this phrase only*

(You are sorry to be giving bad news to somebody.)

TRY

I can't lose weight.

Have you tried eating less?

(Have you tried this method? When you try doing something, you make an experiment.)

I tried to talk to him about it, but I couldn't.

(I made an effort to do something difficult.)

GERUND / INFINITIVE Practice 1:**This is EXACTLY what it will look like on the B2 Exam****[Page 5]**

Choose from the following words and complete the sentences below (1 - 10) with either the (not) to + infinitive form (e.g.: *to do*) or verb + ing form (e.g.: *doing*).

You may use each word ONLY ONCE. There are TWO EXTRA WORDS that DO NOT fit any of the sentences.

ACCEPT / BE / COME / EAT / HELP / LIVE / PUT / SEE / STUDY / TALK / TAKE / WALK

- 1) He asked _____ to the store manager.
- 2) You've never mentioned _____ in Japan before. How long did you live there?
- 3) If he keeps _____ to work late, he's going to get fired!
- 4) Debbie plans _____ abroad next year.
- 5) I agreed _____ Jack wash his car.
- 6) Mandy has promised _____ care of our dog while we are on vacation.
- 7) Mr. Edwards chose _____ the management position in Chicago rather than the position in Miami.
- 8) Eliza recommended _____ in a dim sum restaurant while we're in Hong Kong.
- 9) Witnesses reported _____ the bank robber as he was climbing out of the second-story window.
- 10) Mrs. Naidoo appears _____ the most qualified person for the job.

MORE GERUND / INFINITIVE Practice 2:

Choose from the following words and complete the sentences below (1 - 15) with either the (not) to + infinitive form (e.g.: *to do*) or verb + ing form (e.g.: *doing*).

BE / BUY / COMMUNICATE / FIND / HELP / HIKE / MOVE / READ /
SEE / SPEAK / STEAL / STUDY / WORK / WORK / WRITE

- 1) Sandra decided _____ economics in London.
- 2) Stephanie dislikes _____ in front of a computer all day.
- 3) The wilderness adventure course lasts ten days and involves _____ more than fifty miles through rugged mountainous terrain.
- 4) She managed _____ with them, even though she didn't speak their language.
- 5) The child denied _____ the piece of candy.
- 6) Laura and Ed discussed _____ to the city to find work; however, in the end, they decided against relocating.
- 7) Margaret just happened _____ the lost car keys while she was looking for something else.
- 8) She pretended _____ a student in order to get a student discount.
- 9) After his accident last year, he would never consider _____ another motorcycle.
- 10) I finally completed _____ my thesis.
- 11) Dan enjoys _____ science fiction.
- 12) Cheryl suggested _____ a movie after work.
- 13) I miss _____ in the travel industry. Maybe I can get my old job back.
- 14) Where did you learn _____ Spanish? Was it in Spain or in Latin America?
- 15) Do you mind _____ me translate this letter?

MORE GERUND OR INFINITIVE (...OR BOTH) Practice:

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Read "Ali's Story" below, and circle the correct answer for the words in **bold** [1 - 34].

Decide whether you need to use a gerund, infinitive or both forms of the word.

Ali's Story

Booking a School

Ali decided that he wanted **[1] to study / studying** abroad. In order **[2] to achieve / achieving** his goal, he had many things that he had **[3] to do / doing**. Firstly, he needed **[4] to improve / improving** his English so he could take the IELTS test. Unfortunately, Ali disliked **[5] to learn / learning** English so this would not be much fun. His friend recommended **[6] to attend / attending** a school close to his house. Ali went to look and from what he could see it seemed **[7] to be / being** a good school. He didn't delay **[8] to register / registering** for a course. He managed **[9] to get / getting** a good price for the course because they had a special offer on. This was good because he could not afford **[10] to pay / paying** too much.

Studying

He had never read much in his life and knew he was weak in this area, so he practiced **[11] to read / reading** as much as he could. He hated **[12] to write / writing** in English too as his grammar was quite weak so he also planned **[13] to practice / practicing** writing as many essays as possible. His teachers agreed **[14] to check / checking** these for him. As it turned out, Ali actually really enjoyed **[15] to study / studying** English. The other students on the course didn't hesitate **[16] to help / helping** Ali and the teachers always offered **[17] to assist / assisting** him if he was stuck. He kept up his studying for a number of months because he wouldn't risk **[18] to sit / sitting** the exam until he was ready.

Taking the Test

Then came the time for Ali **[19] to take / taking** the test. He couldn't stop **[20] to worry / worrying** before the test. His teacher had recommended **[21] to do / doing** Task 2 first in the writing so he followed those instructions. He finished **[22] to write / writing** his Task 2 after exactly 40 minutes and then went on to Task 1. The speaking test seemed **[23] to go / going** quite well even though he was nervous. He could recall **[24] to ask / asking** the examiner at the end how well he had done but she refused **[25] to tell /telling** him. Then came the time for his result. He had expected **[26] to get / getting** a band 5.5 but he was surprised **[27] to find / finding** out that he had been given a band 6.

The Result

So Ali could now go and study abroad. Although he was happy, unfortunately this meant **[28] to leave / leaving** his wife and children for a year. He considered **[29] to take / taking** them with him but it would be too expensive. He knew he would miss **[30] to see / seeing** them every day but his parents offered **[31] to take / taking** care of them and promised **[32] to make / making** sure they were safe. Ali did love **[33] to travel / traveling** though, so he knew he would enjoy the trip. He began **[34] to prepare / preparing** for his trip immediately.

KEY WORD SENTENCE TRANSFORMATIONS – Gerund / Infinitive**[Page 7]**

For each of the sentences below (1 - 15), complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence(s), using the word given for that sentence. **DO NOT CHANGE** the word given. You must use between two (2) and five (5) words, including the word given.

(1) It's really important that you pay the bill today. REMEMBER
You must _____ the bill today.

(2) I think it would be a good idea if you joined the beginner's class. SUGGEST
I _____ the beginner's class.

(3) Meeting John in town was really surprising. EXPECT
I _____ John in town.

(4) In the future she became a successful business woman. WENT
She _____ a successful business woman.

(5) I'll help you with your homework. MIND
I _____ you with your homework.

(6) Don't bother to apply for the job. POINT
There _____ for the job.

(7) Our teachers never let us leave the school. ALLOWED
We were not _____ the school.

(8) I visited Paris with the idea of improving my French. ORDER
I visited Paris _____ my French.

(9) The doctor told me to stop smoking. GIVE
The doctor told me _____.

(10) I have no memory of my first day at school. REMEMBER
I _____ to school on my first day.

(11) Were you successful in passing the exam? MANAGE
Did _____ the exam?

(12) She has to do a lot of different things in the new job. INVOLVES
Her new job _____ different things.

(13) I didn't want to say that. I'm really sorry. REGRET
I _____ that. I'm really sorry.

(14) Joan was in favour of visiting the museum. IDEA
Joan thought it would be _____ to the museum.

(15) Did you succeed in getting in contact with the boss today? MANAGE
Did you _____ with the boss today?

SOURCE: <https://www.fluentu.com/blog/english/gerunds-and-infinitives/>

RULE 1: Gerunds can be used as a subject of a sentence.

Take a look at some examples:

Walking is good for your health.

Making friends has become more difficult since I moved to a new city.

Becoming a millionaire is a dream of many young people today.

Here, the gerunds (**in bold**) are part of the sentence subjects ("walking," "making friends," "becoming a millionaire"). All three sentences sound like normal, everyday English.

Now read these two sentences:

"To be or not to be—that is the question."

"To mourn a mischief that is past and gone is the next way to draw new mischief on."

(Both sentences are quotes from William Shakespeare's works.)

They sound formal, don't they? They are poetic, aren't they? Shakespeare is one of the greatest authors of all time, but his English is famously difficult to understand. And that's because it is literature. It is formal and it is art.

In those two quotes, the infinitives "to be" and "to mourn" are used as the sentence subjects.

So, it is possible to use both infinitives and gerunds as subjects, but gerunds are much more commonly used as subjects. Just pay attention to how the choice reflects on the tone and meaning of your sentences.

RULE 2: Both gerunds and infinitives can be used as objects of a sentence.

You may say:

"I enjoy **drawing**."

You may also say:

"Yesterday, I decided **to draw**."

Both sentences are correct, but one has an infinitive as the object and the other has a gerund as the object.

What is the difference?

It's the verbs that precede (come before) the object! Some verbs require a gerund and some will require an infinitive. In the above examples, we can see that the formula is **"enjoy" + [gerund]** and **"decide" + [infinitive]**.

With practice, you will be able to remember which one is which.

Here are a few examples of **verbs that need to be followed by an infinitive**:

agree: I agreed to go to a party with my friend.

decide: The president decided not to participate in the discussions.

deserve: Everyone deserves to be respected.

expect: I expect to know my exam grade by tomorrow.

hope: We were hoping to avoid traffic by leaving early.

learn: He learned not to trust anyone.

need: She needs to learn how to cook.

offer: I offered to help my brother with homework.

plan: We are planning to watch a movie tonight.

promise: My friend promised to find the time to help me move.

seem: We seem to be lost.

wait: I cannot wait to see my family.

want: I don't want to go to bed yet.

There are lots of verbs that require an infinitive after. You will learn them naturally, as you progress in your English studies.

admit: *They admitted changing the schedule.*

advise: *I advise proceeding (moving forward) with caution.*

avoid: *She avoided looking me in the eye.*

consider (think about): *I considered staying silent, but I had to tell her.*

deny: *I denied knowing about his secret.*

involve: *The course involved writing three tests.*

mention (say something): *She mentioned seeing my brother at a baseball game.*

recommend: *I recommend practicing gerunds and infinitives.*

risk: *Don't risk losing your job!*

suggest: *I suggest reading more English short stories.*

RULE 3: Infinitives should be used after many adjectives.

Here are three sample sentences that will help to illustrate this rule:

*It is not easy **to graduate** from university.*

*It is necessary **to speak** English to work in a hotel.*

*It is wonderful **to have** close friends.*

When you describe something with an adjective (underlined in the examples above), an infinitive should follow (**in bold**). Using gerunds here would be incorrect.

But remember! If you want to make that object into a subject (see RULE 1), a gerund should be used:

Graduating from university is not easy.

Speaking English is necessary to work in a hotel.

Having close friends is wonderful.

How else do you know if an adjective should be followed by an infinitive? The construct "**too + [adjective]**" is another way to tell!

For example:

*This dress is too big **to wear**.*

*This car is too expensive **to buy**.*

And the same is true about "**[adjective] + enough**":

*My child is not tall enough **to ride** this rollercoaster.*

*The course was detailed enough **to widen** his knowledge base.*

*This rule is useful enough **to understand** the usage of infinitives!*

RULE 4: Only infinitives are used after certain verbs followed by nouns or pronouns referring to a person.

"We asked her not to go."

In this sentence, "we" is the subject, "asked" is the verb and "her" is the objective form of the pronoun "she." You must use an infinitive ("to go"), never a gerund, after certain verbs followed by nouns or pronouns referring to people.

To remember this rule, you will have to study verbs that take an object and an infinitive in this context.

Start with these examples. The objects (nouns and pronouns) are underlined. Notice how the underlined objects are all followed by infinitives.

ask: *Can I ask you **to help** me with something?*

expect: *I never expected him **to become** famous.*

hire (give a job to someone): *Did the company hire you just **to sit** in your office?*

invite: *I invited a friend **to attend** the ceremony.*

order: *She ordered the child **to stay** at home.*

remind: *Please remind me **to wash** the dishes.*

require: *The test required him **to concentrate** fully.*

teach: *That will teach you **to follow** the rules!*

tell: *Who told you **to come** here?*

urge: *They urged me **to continue** my research.*

warn: *I am warning you **not to do** this!*

RULE 5: Only gerunds are used after prepositions (with one exception).

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Consider this sentence:

I talked him out of taking that job.

Here, the gerund "taking" follows the preposition "of."

Prepositions can follow any word, be it a noun, a pronoun, a verb or an adjective. In the examples below, the prepositions are underlined, followed by the gerunds in bold.

A preposition that follows a noun:

*Novels about **growing up** are popular among teenagers.*

*I have an interest in **becoming** a painter.*

A preposition that follows a pronoun:

*I forgive you for **not telling** the truth.*

A preposition that follows a verb:

*She is thinking about **trying** martial arts.*

*He looks forward to **meeting** his cousins.*

A preposition that follows an adjective:

*I am wary of **going** alone.*

*My mom is scared of **flying**.*

There is one exception. Thankfully, it should be easy to remember!

THE EXCEPTION

"But" is a short word that connects two clauses of a sentence together. It is called a conjunction. Sometimes, "but" can also play a role of a preposition. When "but" is used as a preposition, it is the same in meaning as "except."

If "but" or "except" are used like this, they need to be followed by an infinitive:

*I had no choice but **to follow** her.*

(I had to follow her.)

*Mary made no stops on the way except **to get** gas.*

(Mary only stopped to get gas.)

*There is nothing left for me to do but **to collect** my money and go.*

(I only have to collect my money and go.)

You may not see "but" and "except" used this way often. Just follow the rule of gerunds after prepositions, and you will get it right most of the time!

Gerunds and infinitives may be confusing, but they make your English speech more varied and colorful. It is very useful to study them and practice using them correctly. The more you notice gerunds and infinitives in your study of the English language, the easier it will get!

Sometimes you will be unsure if you need to use an infinitive or a gerund in a sentence. In this situation, try changing the sentence and saying what you want to say in a different way.

READING COMPREHENSION (with - ING / Infinitive practice)**[Page 11]**

Read the following passage about fruit flies, and for each of the blank spaces (1 - 16) choose the best answer (a, b, c or d). Then look at the comprehension questions (1 - 4) and choose the best answer (a, b, c or d) for each.

It is breakfast time. You have been looking forward **(1)** _____ a nice ripe banana ever since you woke up. Just when you **(2)** _____ for the delicious piece of fruit on your counter, you see something that **(3)** _____ you much less hungry: a swarm of fruit flies!

Fruit flies are tiny insects that are **(4)** _____ to ripe or rotting fruits and vegetables. The flies not only eat the fruit, they also lay their eggs there. A single fruit fly can lay up to 500 eggs on the surface of a piece of fruit. Within eight days, the fruit flies that hatch from these eggs are full adults that can then lay their own eggs. As you can see, what might **(5)** _____ out as a small fruit fly problem can become very large very quickly.

Although there is a chance fruit flies can carry germs on to your food, this is not very likely. Fruit flies are annoying, but they probably will not **(6)** _____ you. Because they are such a **nuisance**, however, most people want to **(7)** _____ rid of these pesky bugs as quickly as possible. Some people use pesticide sprays on the fruit flies. Although this will kill the flies, it will also spread harmful poison all over your kitchen. Luckily, there is also a completely safe way for you to rid your house of fruit flies.

The first step is for you **(8)** _____ all fruits or vegetables from your counter. Store these items in the refrigerator or in sealed containers. Clean up any spilled juice or bits of food that might be on the floor.

Take out the trash and empty the recycling bin. Wash any dirty dishes that are in your sink. **(9)** _____ all of these things will stop new fruit flies from **(10)** _____ food or places **(11)** _____ their eggs.

Next, make a trap **(12)** _____ all of the remaining fruit flies in your house. First, fill a small bowl with a few tablespoons of vinegar. Then, put a piece of very ripe or rotting fruit into the vinegar. Cover the bowl very tightly with a sheet of plastic wrap and poke a few very small holes in the wrap with a fork. If all **(13)** _____ according to plan, the flies will enter the trap through the holes but will be unable **(14)** _____ back out. This trap will catch all of the remaining fruit flies. You can either kill these flies or release them outdoors.

Fruit flies can be a pest, but they do not have **(15)** _____ you crazy. With a little effort, you can get existing flies out of your house and prevent new ones from **(16)** _____ over your kitchen.

- | | | | | |
|-------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| (1) | a) to eating | b) to eat | c) eating | d) eat |
| (2) | a) to reach | b) reaching | c) reach | d) reached |
| (3) | a) is making | b) to make | c) make | d) makes |
| (4) | a) attracting | b) attracted | c) attract | d) to attract |
| (5) | a) to start | b) starting | c) start | d) started |
| (6) | a) hurt | b) hurting | c) to hurt | d) be hurting |
| (7) | a) to get | b) get | c) getting | d) got |
| (8) | a) to remove | b) removing | c) remove | d) removed |
| (9) | a) To do | b) For doing | c) Done | d) Doing |
| (10) | a) find | b) found | c) to find | d) finding |
| (11) | a) laying | b) lay | c) to lay | d) laid |
| (12) | a) to catch | b) caught | c) for to catch | d) to have caught |
| (13) | a) going | b) to go | c) goes | d) gone |
| (14) | a) flying | b) to fly | c) fly | d) flew |
| (15) | a) making | b) to made | c) make | d) to make |
| (16) | a) to take | b) taking | c) take | d) took |

Comprehension Questions:

- (1)** In reading this passage, we learn that fruit flies...
- I. ...die immediately after they lay their eggs
II. ...can grow into adults after only 8 days
III. ...are mostly harmless
- a) I only b) I and II only c) II and III only d) I, II, and III
- (2)** As used in paragraph 3, a **nuisance** is something that...
- a) ...bothers you b) ...can be dangerous c) ...grows fast d) ...is very small
- (3)** According to the passage, you should not use pesticide spray to kill fruit flies because...
- a) ...most sprays do not actually kill all of the fruit flies
b) ...buying sprays can get expensive if you need to use a lot of them
c) ...the sprays take too much time to work
d) ...it can be dangerous to use them in your kitchen
- (4)** Based on the information in the penultimate (next-to-last) paragraph, we can understand that the author thinks that...
- a) ...some people do not mind having fruit flies in their house
b) ...some people do not like killing insects
c) ...fruit flies do not like vinegar
d) ...making a fruit fly trap can be difficult

Unlike many verbs, suggest and recommend are not followed by an object + infinitive. In general, use either a gerund (Verb+ING) or a clause with **that**. The pattern would be **that + subject + base verb**:

- Jack's wife **recommended drinking** tea.
- The personal trainer **suggested using** the treadmill for cardio training.
- The doctor **suggested that Jack stop drinking** coffee. Not: ~~...suggested him to stop~~
- The teacher **recommended that we study** this list of vocabulary for the exam.

When pronouns are used in the **that clause**, always use the subject pronoun before the base verb. The base verb is generally used regardless of the subject of the **that clause** (even with he, she, or it):

- She **suggested that I go** to that store.
- I **suggested that she go** to that store. Not: ~~I suggested that she goes...~~
- Jack **recommended that he go** to that store. Not: ~~I suggested that he goes...~~
- The sofa? The decorator **recommended that it go** in front of the window. Not: ~~...recommended that it goes...~~

The word **that** can often be omitted after **suggest** and **recommend**, but mainly in spoken English:

- The doctor **suggested Jack stop** drinking coffee.
- The teacher **recommended we study** this list of vocabulary for the exam.
- Jack **recommended he go** to that store.

When making suggestions, it is generally NOT necessary to use the word **should**:

- I **suggest you stop** drinking so much coffee. Not: ~~I suggest you should stop...~~
- The doctor **suggested that Jack stop** drinking coffee. Not: ~~...suggested that Jack should stop...~~
- I **recommend you go** to that store. Not: ~~I recommend you should go...~~
- The teacher **recommended that we study** this list of vocabulary for the exam.
Not: ~~...recommended that we should study...~~

SUPPLEMENT: ALLOW

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There are different syntactic constructions for the verb ALLOW...

1) With a gerund complement indicating what is (or is not) allowed:

- Smoking is not allowed in this restaurant.
- Discrimination against women is not allowed.
- Naked bathing is not allowed on this beach.

NOTE: This construction does not accept an object (the person/thing being allowed to do something).

2) With a noun phrase object indicating what is (or is not) allowed:

- Some states do not allow abortion.
- This school allows the use of computers during exams.

3) With a "that" phrase, meaning you allow "that" something is true (you admit or agree that it is true).

- Warren allows that capitalist development may result in increased social inequality.

4) With a noun phrase patient/object and an infinitive complement (what they're being allowed to do):

- He won't allow me to leave
- Some states allow automatic weapons to be kept at home
- We showed our tickets and were allowed to enter.
- Sheep and cows are allowed to roam freely on this land.

It's worth noting that example #2, shows that the "patient" / direct object (who/what is being allowed to do something) doesn't need to be a person (in this case, it is "automatic weapons").

It's also worth noting that you may see things like:

- "The iPad allows to surf the Internet on the move", with no "patient" object.

These are not considered grammatical (they are usually from non-native speakers).

EXAMPLES of Student Errors...

- "It is a technology that allows to print various inks on many substrates such as glass, PET or kapton."
- "The asynchronous architecture allows low power operation..."
- "It allows using a single-ended signal from a pixel with fully differential SAR ADC."
- "This mechanism also allows to increase the fracture toughness, but without a decrease in..."

SYNONYMS:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| • enable (sb to do) sth | • make sth possible (for) | • clear the way for sth |
| • facilitate | • permit sth (to happen) | • let sb do sth |

EXAMPLES:

It allows **nicotine** to diffuse slowly and steadily into the bloodstream.

It allows **the train** to maintain a constant speed through the twists and turns of existing track.

It allows **organisms** to protect their essential dynamical properties in the face of environmental changes by varying less essential dynamical properties.

Instead, it allows **the analogue and digital information** to co-exist.

Significantly, it allows **us** to utilise our extensive content and brands in an already established digital business.

It allows **speakers** to adjust their messages to their receivers' response.

It allows **programs, DOS commands and batch files** to run without changes.

Its advantage is that it allows **a far deeper and richer assessment** to be made than the pen and paper exercise.

It allows **learners** to be creative within a carefully controlled language framework.