

Infinitive and verb + -ing

1 These sentences (some of which are from the article you have just read) are examples of when to use the infinitive and when to use the verb + -ing form. Decide which sentence (a-i) is an example (1-10) for each of the rules on this page. You can use some of the sentences as examples for more than one rule.

- a Not finishing that race was the most valuable lesson I could have learned.
- b I promised then to come back one day and finish the race.
- c In fact, what I did involved simply running, biking and paddling a kayak as much and as hard as I could.
- d There is a lot to be said for just gaining experience.
- e I was training a couple of hours a day during the week to get fit.
- f There are medical teams to take care of injured runners.
- g He was just too tired to carry on.
- h It's no use entering a race if you haven't prepared properly.
- i Two of my team-mates decided not to continue the race after just a day and a half.

2 Complete these sentences by writing the verb in brackets in the correct form in the gaps.

- 1 Carlos has suggested *starting* (start) a five-a-side football team. What do you think?
- 2 I don't think the weather is good enough (go) sailing this afternoon.
- 3 We've decided (hold) the race early in the morning before it gets too hot.
- 4 (train) is essential if you want to perform well.
- 5 I've joined a gym (get) myself fitter.
- 6 If you train too hard, you risk (injure) yourself before the race.
- 7 It's no good (run) in a marathon if you're not wearing the right shoes.
- 8 She was disqualified from the race for (push) an opponent.

Using the infinitive and verb + -ing

The infinitive is used:

- 1 to say why you do something (sentence)
- 2 to say why something exists (sentence)
- 3 after too and enough (sentence)
- 4 after these verbs (there is a more complete list on page 166): agree, appear, ask, arrange, decide, expect, fail, help, promise (sentences and)
- 5 The negative is formed by placing not before the infinitive (sentence)

The verb + -ing is used:

- 6 after prepositions (sentence)
- 7 as subjects or objects of a verb (sentence)
- 8 after these verbs (there is a more complete list on page 166): admit, enjoy, finish, involve, mind, postpone, risk, suggest (sentence)
- 9 after these expressions: it's no good, it's not worth, it's no use, it's a waste of time, spend time, can't help (sentence)
- 10 The negative is formed by placing not before the verb + -ing (sentence)

5 Candidates often make mistakes with the infinitive and verb + -ing. Some of these sentences are correct. Find and correct the mistakes.

- 1 Students are not allowed running along school corridors.
- 2 Few people choose spending their time taking exercise.
- 3 The Internet means that we spend more time sitting at home, but we cannot imagine to live without it.
- 4 Being fit and healthy does not mean to run 20 km a day.
- 5 Many students would prefer to cycle to school than go by school bus.
- 6 Many people only think about take exercise when they are overweight.
- 7 Unless they try to compete as a team, they will not succeed to win the competition.
- 8 Doing a sport is a good alternative if you are bored to sit and read a book.
- 9 It may be good to use a bicycle instead of going by public transport.
- 10 There are several good reasons for ride a bike.

Work in pairs. For questions 1 and 2, choose the correct answer A–D. Why are the other answers incorrect?

- 1 Why don't we start jogging if we want some exercise?

TAKING

He suggested in order to get some exercise.

- A that they should take up jogging
- B taking up jogging
- C to take up jogging
- D going jogging

- 2 She won the match without difficulty.

EASY

She found the match.

- A it easy to win
- B that it was easy to win
- C she could easily win
- D it simple to win

Now do these Part 4 questions. Use the clues below each question to help you.

- 1 Marianne prepared for the race by training every evening.

READY

Marianne trained every evening for the race.

- Can you think of an expression with *ready* which means *prepare*?
- Why did Marianne train every evening?
- Do you use the verb + *-ing* or an infinitive to say why she trained every evening?

- 2 I found it impossible not to laugh at his efforts.

HELP

I at his efforts.

- You need an expression with *help* which means 'find it impossible'.
- Your answer needs to be in the same tense.

- 3 Cycling on the pavement is prohibited.

USE

Cyclists the pavement.

- How do you use *allowed* to mean it's prohibited?
- Do you use the verb + *-ing* or an infinitive after *allowed*?

Now do these Part 4 questions.

- 1 We'd like all our students to participate in the sports programme.

PART

We are keen on all our students the sports programme.

- 2 Buying the equipment for this sport is cheaper than hiring it.

MORE

It's the equipment for this sport than to buy it.

- 3 You should have phoned her to tell her the game was cancelled.

GIVE

You were supposed to tell her the game was cancelled.

- 4 Mateo managed to win the race.

SUCCEEDED

Mateo the race.

- 5 'I'll never get angry with the referee again,' said Martin.

TEMPER

Martin promised never the referee again.

- 6 Tanya found windsurfing easy to learn.

DIFFICULTY

Tanya to windsurf.

For questions 1–5, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Be sure to use the correct form of the verbs in bold.

- 1 It is **believed** that continual nose touching **indicates** that someone is lying.

Continual nose touching is that someone is lying.

- 2 It is **said** that people who repeatedly cover their mouth **are trying** to hide the truth.

People who repeatedly cover their mouth to hide the truth.

- 3 It is **considered** that avoiding eye contact **is** a sure sign of deception.

Avoiding eye contact a sure sign of deception.

- 4 People **think** that we **use** fewer hand gestures when telling a lie.

We fewer hand gestures when telling a lie.

- 5 Everyone **knows** he **lied** because he kept moving about in his chair.

He because he kept moving about in his chair.

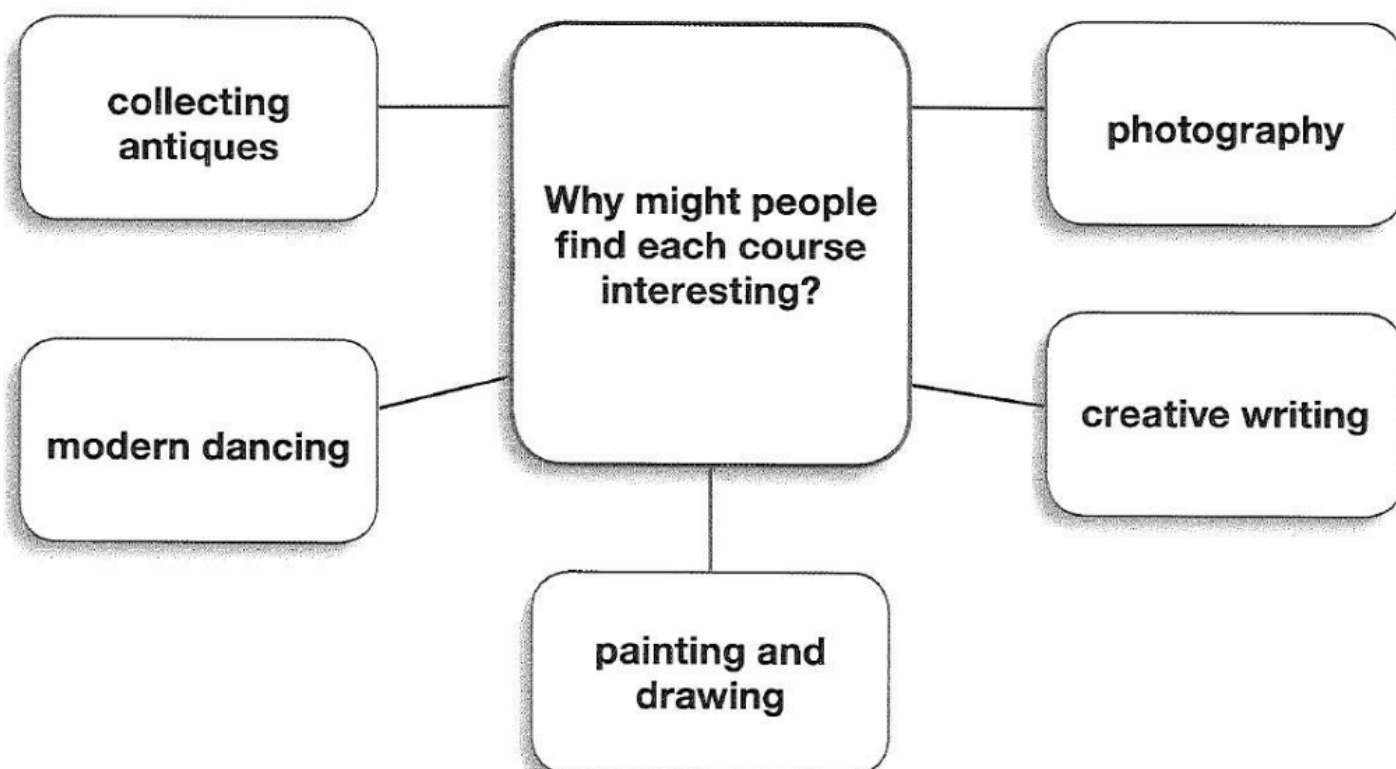
Put the words into the correct column in the table.

duty	earnings	hire	income	position	profession	take on	task
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Responsibility	Salary	Job	Employ
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Jenny Smythe: Events organiser

The events Jenny prefers to organise are (1)
 Jenny is currently organising a street fair in the (2) quarter of her town.
 Jenny feels (3) about the event she's currently organising.
 When Jenny takes on a job, she makes something she calls a '(4)'.
 After talking to clients, Jenny then contacts (5) , who offer the necessary services.
 Jenny uses the word '(6) ' to describe how she feels when an event goes well.
 Jenny studied (7) before she became an events organiser.
 Jenny believes that being (8) is the most important requirement for her job.
 When Jenny had a problem with one event, she used the (9) she had made.
 Jenny recommends getting experience in any kind of (10) job, like the one she did.



You are going to read an article about returning to work after being away on holiday. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A–G** the one which fits each gap (37–42). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Just because I've been on holiday doesn't mean I have to be happy

'Holiday hangover', 'back-to-work blues', 'post-travel depression' – it's a well-known condition, and I'm suffering from it.

My car. My tortoise. My friends. My bed. The list reads the same every time, but I still write it. I write it on the last day of every holiday, to convince myself that going home isn't so bad. Then I feel utterly miserable. There are plenty of things I'm not great at – driving, maths, returning library books on time – but the thing I'm worst at is coming back to work after a holiday.

It's an extreme case of being selfishly miserable. To have had a lovely sunshine break and then return to the office, where everyone has been working hard without restaurant lunches or morning swims, with a face like thunder is terribly bad manners. **37** Given the number of names for it – 'holiday hangover', 'back-to-work blues', 'post-travel depression' – it's a well-known condition.

In a recent survey conducted by a travel website, 82 per cent of the 1,254 people asked experienced post-holiday misery. **38** Probably just before they logged on to a job vacancy website or started fantasising about retraining for work in the countryside.

Even if you manage to avoid end-of-holiday panic, and you feel refreshed, relaxed and ready to face the world of work, you're guaranteed to walk into stress, conflict and injustice. **39** Or the surprise departmental reorganisation that took place while you were away.

Still, it could be worse. Over three-quarters of people questioned said that their holiday depression lasted for a

month. **40** Perhaps they should have saved their cash and not bothered going.

After years of practice, I've come up with a few things that help. A bit. The first is the list mentioned above. **41** Unlike some people I know, I can't just roll off an intercontinental flight and roll in to the office. The third is concentrating on getting through the first day back at work without running away, making a grand plan for a new life or spending (too much) time on my own tearfully looking at my holiday photos saying to myself: 'I can't believe this is my life.'

I feel sorry for my poor colleagues having to look at my long face today, but at least by having my break now I'm getting my bad mood in early. **42** Then I can support them in their hour (month?) of need. I might even lend them one of my pets.



- A** By September, on the other hand, when the schools go back and the main summer-holiday season is over, I'll be back to normal.
- B** The most content, with both their home and working life, appear to be those who stay at home all summer.
- C** For instance, that highly important task you left with a colleague that's been ignored and later caused your email inbox to turn toxic.
- D** At least, though, I'm not the only fed-up wage slave to feel like this.
- E** The next one is making sure I have a day off everything between getting home and going to work.
- F** Also, over two-thirds of them answered the next question, 'Are you usually glad to be home after a holiday abroad?' with a – presumably unhappy-sounding – 'No'.
- G** Longer by at least a fortnight, I'd guess, than the holiday they'd taken.