

GERUNDS & INFINITIVES

PART 2: INFINITIVES

© Ülkü Küçükakın

INFINITIVES: IN THE SUBJECT POSITION

- Just like gerunds, infinitive structure can also be used as the subject in the sentence.
 - ✓ To catch cold in winter is usually caused by dry indoor environments.
 - ✓ It looks easy, but to make delicious tea is actually an art if you ask me.
- Infinitive «to V1» gives a stronger and more emphasized meaning than gerund «Ving» in the subject position.
 - ✓ To lie about your sales figures will cost you your job. (stronger meaning)
 - ✓ Lying about your sales figures will cost you your job. (weaker meaning)

© Ülkü Küçükakın

INFINITIVES: IN THE OBJECT POSITION

- Infinitive «**to V1**» is commonly used *after the verb «to be»*. It describes the subject when it is used this way.
 - ✓ My greatest ambition **is to travel** around the world someday.
(What is *my greatest ambition*? It is *to travel around the world*.)
 - ✓ The worst thing about the winter season **is to catch** colds frequently.
 - ✓ One of my greatest joys in life **is to serve** tea and cookies to my guests.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

VERB + INFINITIVES

- Certain verbs are always followed by infinitive «**to V1**» in the sentence.
 - ✓ e.g. --- need + to V1
 - ✓ I **need to talk** to you about something.
 - ✓ My neighbors **are planning to move** abroad soon.
- Unfortunately, the only way to learn the verbs followed by «**to V1**» is to memorize them. ☹

© Ülkü Küçükakın

VERB + INFINITIVES

- Verbs that are followed by «to V1» forms are presented as a .pdf file.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

VERB + SMO + TO DO STH

- Some verbs can also be used in « *verb + smo. + to do sth* » form.
 - ✓ I **want** you *to help* your sister with her homework.
 - ✓ My father **encouraged** me *to overcome* my shyness.
 - ✓ The teacher **allowed** the students *to play* in the playground after school.
- Verbs that can be used like this are presented as a .pdf file.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

INFINITIVES & GERUNDS

- Some verbs can be followed by both gerunds and infinitives without a change in meaning.
 - like / love / hate (He **likes drawing** the nature. = He **likes to draw** the nature.)
 - begin / start (I **began studying** Chinese. = I **began to study** Chinese.)
 - continue
 - prefer
- This is caused by the differences between American and British English.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

INFINITIVE OF PURPOSE

- Infinitive «**to V1**» is used *to express purpose* in the sentence. It is called «**infinitive of purpose**».
- «**In order to V1**» and «**so as to V1**» can also be used to express purpose, but «**to V1**» is the most common use: «*in order to V1 = so as to V1 = to + V1* »
- Infinitive of purpose usually comes at the end of the sentence.
 - ✓ I had to listen closely **to understand his words.**
 - ✓ He is analyzing all the figures **to find out where the mistake is.**
 - ✓ **To defeat their team,** you need to practice more.
 - ✓ Ray usually listens to jazz music **to relax in the evening.**

© Ülkü Küçükakın

INFINITIVE OF PURPOSE

- «**For Ving**» is NOT used to express purpose.
- «**For Ving**» is used only to talk about *the function or use of a certain object or tool*.
 - ✓ I am using an external harddisk **for saving my old files and photos**.
(*saving*: Function of an external harddisk)
 - ✓ A mobile phone is the most practical tool **for checking e-mails**.
(*checking e-mails*: Function of a mobile phone)

© Ülkü Küçükakın

ADJECTIVE + INFINITIVES

- *Adjectives* are usually followed by «**to V1**» in the sentence.
 - ✓ Gary is **glad to work** in his family business.
 - ✓ It is actually **exhausting to sit** for hours in an office job.
 - ✓ It is **difficult to emerge** as a leader among all these assertive people.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

ADJ + FOR SMO + TO DO STH

- Sometimes, adjectives are used in « **adj + for smo. + to do sth.** » form.
 - ✓ The information was quite **clear** for the tourists *to understand*.
 - ✓ It is **essential** for your daughter *to gain* experience before applying to that position.
 - ✓ It will not be very **easy** for Louise *to gather* enough support for the campaign.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

NOUN + INFINITIVES

- *Abstract nouns* are usually followed by «**to V1**» structure.
 - ✓ I will join you with your **struggle** *to fight* racism.
 - ✓ I cannot understand your **reluctance** *to start* your own company.
 - ✓ The **efforts** *to empower* democracy in a country require public support.

...
 The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
 But I have promises to keep,
 And miles and miles to go
 Before I sleep.

*by Robert Frost
 from Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening*

© Ülkü Küçükakın

TOO ADJ TO DO STH

- «To V1» is very commonly used in the « *too + adj. + to do sth.* » structure.
 - ✓ Maria speaks **too fast** *to understand*.
 - ✓ This box is **too heavy** *to lift* on your own.
 - ✓ Your art is **too elegant** *to sell* in this gallery.
(Your art is too elegant, so it should not be or cannot be sold in this gallery.)
- «Too» always suggests a negative meaning. It shows that the action CANNOT be done, even when the adjective has a positive meaning!
 - ✓ Fiona is simply **too positive** *to be considered* a realist.
(We cannot consider Fiona a realist because she is too positive.)

© Ülkü Küçükakın

ADJ ENOUGH TO DO STH

- «To V1» is also commonly used in « *adj. + enough + to do sth.* » structure.
 - ✓ My son is **tall enough** *to swim* in this pool.
 - ✓ These clocks are not **accurate enough** *to use* in this station.
 - ✓ The boy was **clever enough** *to solve* the puzzle.
 - ✓ You are not **patient enough** *to work* as a real estate agent.
- COMPARE!
 - ✓ You are **too impatient** *to work* as a real estate agent.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

«BEING V3»

- «**Ving**» is used in «*being V3*» form when it carries a passive meaning.
 - ✓ I **enjoy** *giving* presents to my friends. (No passive meaning!)
 - ✓ I **enjoy** *being given* presents on special occasions. (Passive!)
 - ✓ I **hate** *being told* what to do with my life.
 - ✓ *Being selected* to the team made Raymond so happy.

© Ülkü Küçükakın



Being deeply loved by someone
gives you strength, while loving
someone deeply gives you
courage.

Lao Tzu

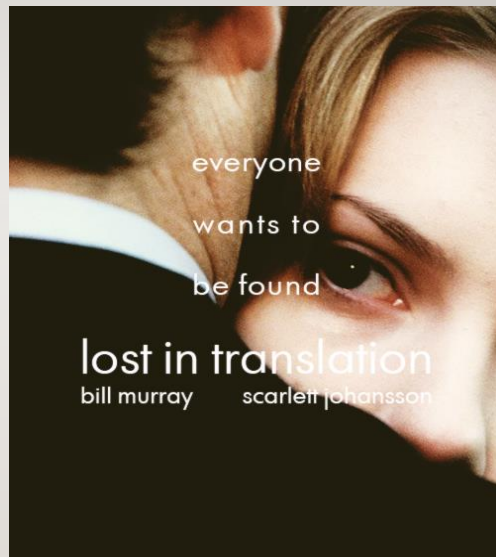
 BrainyQuote

«TO BE V3»

- «To V1» is used in «*to be V3*» form when it carries a passive meaning.
 - ✓ I **would like** *to tell* you the truth. (No passive meaning!)
 - ✓ I **would like** *to be told* only the truth. (passive)
 - ✓ I **want** *to be informed* about the progress.
 - ✓ I don't **expect** *to be invited* to their wedding.
 - ✓ She made a lot of effort *to be seen* as the most fit candidate for the position.
(infinitive of purpose, with a passive meaning: «Her purpose: to be seen as the best candidate»)

© Ülkü Küçükakın

«TO BE V3»: ANOTHER EXAMPLE



© Ülkü Küçükakın

PASSIVE + TO V1

- *Passive verbs* are always followed by «**to V1**» form.
 - ✓ The protestors **were told to stop** at that point.
 - ✓ Barry **is known to have** more money than all his relatives.
 - ✓ Diana **was promised to get** a salary raise.
 - ✓ Coal **is expected to be extracted** in large amounts in this mine. (passive to V1)
 - ✓ Last elephant populations **are estimated to have disappeared** from this area 150 years ago. (passive with a past meaning)
- This grammar point was covered in detail in «Reported Passives» part.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

NEED DOING vs NEED TO DO STH

- **need to do sth:** (active meaning)
 - ✓ I **need to wash** my car.
 - ✓ I **need to repair** the washing machine.
- **need doing sth:** (active structure; passive meaning)
 - ✓ My car **needs washing**.
= My car **needs to be washed**.
 - ✓ The wall **needs painting**.
= The wall **needs to be painted**.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

VERBS OF PERCEPTION

- Verbs that are used to describe *the actions of our five senses* are called «*verbs of perception*» (e.g. **see, hear, smell, feel**, etc...).
- These verbs are followed by *only V1 (without to)* or *Ving* form.
- That is, verbs of perception are used in these forms:
- «**SEE SMO DOING STH** vs. **SEE SMO DO STH**»
- These two structures have similar meaning, but «*see someone doing sth*» emphasizes the idea of «*while*» or «*now; at the time*».

© Ülkü Küçükakın

VERBS OF PERCEPTION

- EXAMPLES:
 - ✓ I **can see** your son *playing* behind the swings. (emphasizing NOW)
 - ✓ Last night, we **listened to** some street musicians *play* jazz on our street.
 - ✓ In the forest, I **felt** a spider *moving* on my back and got scared. (emphasizing WHILE)
 - ✓ We **noticed** some students *looking* at each other's paper during the exam. (emphasizing WHILE)
 - ✓ We **can smell** the potato chips *burning* in the kitchen! (emphasizing NOW)
 - ✓ In the park, we **witnessed** a pickpocket *steal* a purse from an old lady.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

VERBS OF PERCEPTION

- For most of the time, the two structures have the same meaning:
 - ✓ I can **see** you **whisper**.
 - = I can **see** you **whispering**.
 - ✓ Can you **hear** your mother **sing**?
 - = Can you **hear** your mother **singing**?

© Ülkü Küçükakın

VERBS OF PERCEPTION

- Most common verbs of perception:
 - ✓ see smo doing/do sth
 - ✓ watch smo doing/do sth
 - ✓ catch smo doing/do sth
 - ✓ hear smo doing/do sth
 - ✓ smell smo doing/do sth
 - ✓ feel smo doing/do sth
 - ✓ find smo doing/do sth
 - ✓ notice smo doing/do sth

© Ülkü Küçükakın



«LET SMO DO STH»

- The verb «**let**» is used in the «*let smo do sth*» form.
 - ✓ We don't **let** our kids *eat* more than one bar of chocolate a day.
 - ✓ Our neighbors **let** us *use* their washing machine when ours was broken.
 - ✓ I promise I will not **let** such a small matter *come* between you and me.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

«HELP SMO (TO) DO STH»

- The verb «**help**» can be used in two different forms without a change in meaning: «*help smo do sth*» or «*help smo TO do sth*»
 - ✓ I **am helping** my brother *learn* English.
= I **am helping** my brother *to learn* English.
 - ✓ We need some volunteers to **help** us *paint* the library.
 - ✓ We aim to **help** young people *to get rid of* their social media addiction.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

«MAKE SMO DO STH»

- The verb «**make**» is used in «*make smo do sth*» form.
 - «**Make someone do something**» has two meanings:
 - «1. force someone to do something» and «2. cause someone to do something involuntarily».
- ✓ My father **makes** me *mow* the lawn. (He forces me.)
 - ✓ The professor **makes** the students *memorize* the poems in literature course. (He forces them.)
 - ✓ Charlie Chaplin movies still **make** the audiences *laugh* so badly. (involuntary; positive meaning)
 - ✓ Cutting onions **makes** most people *cry*. (involuntary)

© Ülkü Küçükakın

CAUSATIVES

- The grammar point «Causatives» was covered in detail in «Passives and Causatives» part:
 - «have sth done» «have smo do sth»
 - «get sth done» «get smo to do sth»
- ✓ I **have** my car *checked* regularly.
= I **get** my car *checked* regularly.
 - ✓ I **have** my mechanic *check* my car regularly.
= I **get** my mechanic *to check* my car regularly.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

CAUSATIVES

- Causative structures can also be used in subject or object position in the sentence.
 - ✓ **Having your dead hard disk recovered** will cost you a lot more than you expect. (as the subject)
 - ✓ I had a difficult time finding a reliable person **to get my interviews translated into Russian**. (as the Object)

© Ülkü Küçükakın

SHORT SUMMARY...

- For a short summary of Gerunds / Infinitives, please see the .pdf file.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

THANK YOU...

& MORE EXERCISES!

© Ülkü Küçükakın