

# GERUND OR INFINITIVE

Some verbs can take either the gerund or infinitive. See if you can explain the difference in meaning between the examples "a" with gerund, and "b" with the infinitive.

REMEMBER/FORGET	<p>a. Do you remember watching this film before?</p> <p>b. Remember to post this letter, please.</p> <p>→ GERUND: referring to an action which occurred beforehand.</p> <p>→ INFINITIVE: referring to an action that comes afterwards.</p>
LIKE/ LOVE/ HATE/ PREFER	<p>a. I like going to the Pyrennees.</p> <p>b. Would you like to go to the cinema?</p> <p>→ GERUND: meaning "to enjoy"</p> <p>→ INFINITIVE: meaning "want" or "wish"</p>
NEED/ WANT	<p>a. The piano needs/wants tuning.</p> <p>b. You need to study hard.</p> <p>→ GERUND: passive meaning</p> <p>→ INFINITIVE: have a need</p>
STOP	<p>a. If you stop smoking, you'll feel better.</p> <p>b. He stopped to look at the map and then walked on.</p> <p>→ GERUND: meaning "cease"</p> <p>→ INFINITIVE: "interrupt an action to perform another"</p>

## • VERBS USED WITH GERUNDS

avoid	cannot help	deny	dislike	enjoy
give up	keep on	mind	miss	postpone
put off	recommend	suggest	be used to	get used to

## • VERBS USED WITH EITHER GERUND OR AN INFINITIVE

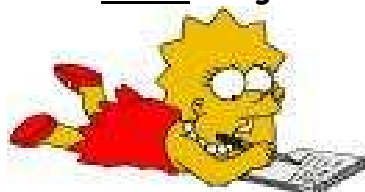
begin, continue, start...

## • EXPRESSIONS WITH GERUNDS

- The gerund is also used after prepositions. *I look forward to seeing you.*
- *Going to the mountain is one of my favourite hobbies.*
- *It's no use pretending you didn't know.*
- *It's no good asking her. She will not know anything.*
- *It's (not) worth reading that book.*
- *There's no point in shouting at her. She is deaf.*
- *Go climbing/ swimming/ skiing/ fishing/ sailing/ shopping...*

## • EXPRESSIONS FOLLOWED BY INFINITIVE

- After WH words: I didn't know what to do.
- After superlatives: London is the best place to visit abroad.
- After too + adjectives: Repairing a computer is not too easy to do.
- After adjective + enough: She is not old enough to vote.
- After every/some/any/no + body/place/thing: There was nowhere to park.
- Purpose: He went there to see his girlfriend.



- Complete the following sentences using one of the verbs of the list above.
  1. I know it's none of my business but I \_\_\_\_\_ wondering where he gets all his money from.
  2. He \_\_\_\_\_ going to have a drink.
  3. If you can't \_\_\_\_\_ smoking, at least you could cut down a bit!
  4. He categorically \_\_\_\_\_ stealing the radio.
  5. Do you \_\_\_\_\_ reading a newspaper article about the Pyrenees?
  6. Now I'm living on my own and I really \_\_\_\_\_ having someone to chat to.
  7. I've \_\_\_\_\_ going to the dentist for as long as I could but now I've no choice.
  8. The shoes seemed such a bargain that I couldn't \_\_\_\_\_ buying them.
  
- Complete the following sentences using verbs in the -ing form and any other necessary words.
  1. Don't ever attempt to mend a plug before \_\_\_\_\_ the electricity.
  2. It's no use \_\_\_\_\_ to convince me. My mind is made up!
  3. He clearly wasn't used \_\_\_\_\_ orders from a woman.
  4. Well, thanks for calling. I'll look forward \_\_\_\_\_ from you again in the near future.
  5. When I was a child, I was very \_\_\_\_\_ playing football. I always lost.
  
- Make sentences with worth -ing and there's no point.
  1. It would cost too much to repair this watch. It's not worth ...
  2. If you have time, you should go to see "Million Dollar Baby". It's worth ...
  3. Why work if you don't need money? There's no ...
  4. Don't visit England if you like eating well.
  5. Don't go to La Romareda if you don't want to suffer.
  
- Complete the following gaps with an infinitive or the -ing form.
  1. Doctors don't allow people \_\_\_\_\_ (smoke) in hospitals.
  2. I like \_\_\_\_\_ (go) for walks in the park.
  3. No \_\_\_\_\_ (park).
  4. \_\_\_\_\_ (chew) gum in class is not allowed.
  5. \_\_\_\_\_ (swim) is one of my hobbies.
  6. Why do you insist on \_\_\_\_\_ (tell) the same old story?
  7. We'd like \_\_\_\_\_ (camp) near the river.
  8. We helped him \_\_\_\_\_ (carry) the suitcase.
  9. We let them \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to bed later.
  10. Let's \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to the cinema tonight.
  11. Money makes the world \_\_\_\_\_ (go) round.
  12. The students were made \_\_\_\_\_ (study) hard.
  13. We were allowed \_\_\_\_\_ (stay) up late.
  14. I don't know what \_\_\_\_\_ (say).
  15. Did they tell you where \_\_\_\_\_ (go)?
  16. The most important thing now is \_\_\_\_\_ (find) a substitute.
  17. They started work early \_\_\_\_\_ (have) plenty of time.
  18. It is easy \_\_\_\_\_ (learn) English.
  19. Would you like something \_\_\_\_\_ (drink)?
  20. She is too young \_\_\_\_\_ (get) married.
  21. My children aren't old enough \_\_\_\_\_ (walk) alone at night.
  22. My brother likes Maths, so it was easy for him \_\_\_\_\_ (solve) the problem.
  23. My mother is always the first \_\_\_\_\_ (get) up.
  24. He was the only one \_\_\_\_\_ (realise) my mistake.
  25. I forgot \_\_\_\_\_ (buy) the stamps.
  26. They went on \_\_\_\_\_ (work) until the next morning.
  27. I remember \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to France every summer when I was a kid.
  28. When she went out, she remembered \_\_\_\_\_ (buy) the newspaper.
  29. Stop \_\_\_\_\_ (make) so much noise!
  30. On the way home he stopped \_\_\_\_\_ (visit) his family.