Infinitive and Gerund

Infinitive

After an adjective  
Example: The new computer is really easy to use.

After certain verbs (with to)  
Example: He refused to pay the bill.

• afford  
• agree  
• appear  
• arrange  
• beg  
• choose  
• decide  
• expect  
• fail  
• help (also without to)  
• hesitate  
• hope  
• learn  
• manage  
• mean  
• offer  
• plan  
• prepare  
• pretend  
• promise  
• refuse  
• want  
• wish  
• would like  
• would love  
• would prefer

Gerund

As the subject of a clause  
Example: Cycling is good for your health.

After a preposition  
Example: I did my homework before going out.

Verbs followed by Gerund  
Example: I enjoy cooking.

• admit  
• advise  
• allow  
• avoid  
• can't help  
• can’t stand  
• deny  
• dislike  
• enjoy  
• fancy  
• finish  
• keep  
• mind  
• miss  
• permit  
• practise  
• suggest  
• waste time / money

Verbs with Prepositions followed by Gerund  
Example: I'm looking forward to seeing you again soon.

• accuse of  
• agree with  
• apologize for  
• ask about  
• believe in  
• be used to  
• blame for  
• care for  
• carry on  
• complain about  
• concentrate on  
• depend on  
• dream about/of  
• feel like  
• forgive for  
• give up  
• insist on  
• keep on  
• look forward to  
• object to  
• think of  
• succeed in  
• use for

Words followed either by Infinitive or Ing-Form

Words with the same meaning  
Example: I started to read. / I started reading.

• attempt  
• begin  
• bother  
• cannot bear  
• cease  
• continue  
• hate  
• intend  
• love  
• prefer  
• start
## Words with the same meaning but different use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Infinitive - with an object</th>
<th>Gerund – without an object</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>advise</td>
<td>I advise you to go by bus.</td>
<td>I advise going by bus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>allow / permit</td>
<td>He allowed her to take the car.</td>
<td>He allowed taking the car.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forbid</td>
<td>She forbids us to smoke.</td>
<td>She forbids smoking.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Words with a different meaning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Infinitive meaning</th>
<th>Gerund meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>forget / remember</td>
<td>with regard to the future</td>
<td>with regard to the past</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Remember to switch off the lights.</em></td>
<td><em>Do you remember switching off the lights?</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Spanish: Recuerda apagar las luces</em></td>
<td><em>Spanish: ¿Recuerdas haber apagado las luces?</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>go on</td>
<td>start something new</td>
<td>continue with the same action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Go on to read.</em></td>
<td><em>Spanish: Go on reading.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>regret</td>
<td>with regard to the future</td>
<td>with regard to the past</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>I regret to say that’s wrong.</em></td>
<td><em>I regret saying that.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Spanish: Lamento decir que está mal.</em></td>
<td><em>Spanish: Lamento haber dicho que está mal.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stop</td>
<td>interrupt another action</td>
<td>terminate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>I stopped to smoke.</em></td>
<td><em>I stopped smoking.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Spanish: Paré para fumar.</em></td>
<td><em>Spanish: Paré de fumar.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>try</td>
<td>do something complicated</td>
<td>do it and see what happens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Try to solve this riddle.</em></td>
<td><em>Try talking to him.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Spanish: Intenta resolver este acertijo.</em></td>
<td><em>Spanish: Prueba a hablar con él.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Gerund or Infinitive - Exercise 1

1) A lot of people are worried about _______ their jobs. (lose)
2) He agreed _______ a new car. (buy)
3) The question is easy _______. (answer)
4) Not everybody can afford _______ to university. (go)
5) I look forward to _______ you at the weekend. (see)
6) Are you thinking of _______ London? (visit)
7) He apologized for _______ so late. (arrive)
8) Stop _______ noise, please; I’m studying. (make)
9) She doesn't mind _______ the night shift. (work)
10) I learned _______ the bike at the age of 5. (ride)

### Gerund or Infinitive - Exercise 2

1) We decided _______ a new car. (buy)
2) I regret _______ you we won’t lend you the money. (tell)
3) Peter gave up _______. (smoke)
4) He’d like _______ an aeroplane. (fly)
5) I enjoy _______ picture postcards. (write)
6) He offered _______ help with the cleaning. (help)
7) Avoid _______ silly mistakes. (make)
8) My parents wanted me _______ home at 11 o'clock. (be)
9) I dream about _______ a big house. (build)
10) He advised me _______ so much money. (not spend)
Gerund or Infinitive Exercise 1

1 Fill the gaps with the verb in brackets in the appropriate form.

1 I can’t stand ____________ in queues. ( to wait )
2 I wouldn’t like ____________ in his shoes. ( to be )
3 Jim loves ____________ in Thailand. ( to work )
4 I hate ____________ the shopping on Saturday. ( to do )
5 Blast! I forgot ____________ milk. ( to buy )
6 In the end we decided ____________ in. ( to stay )
7 I need ____________ some information about Portugal. ( to find )
8 My parents like ____________ for long walks at the weekend. ( to go )
9 Tony gave up ____________ years ago. ( to smoke )
10 I wanted ____________ and see Troy but no one else was interested. ( to go )
11 Mrs Leith offered ____________ us to the airport. ( to take )
12 Clare refused ____________ clean up after the party. ( to help )
13 I tried ____________ him to come but it was no use. ( to persuade )
14 Do you mind not ____________ ? ( to smoke )
15 Everybody really enjoyed ____________ the cha-cha-cha. ( to dance )
16 Lionel admitted ____________ my chocolate mousse. ( to eat )

2 Check your answers and put the verbs in bold into the right columns. Translate the verbs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VERB + GERUND</th>
<th>Translation</th>
<th>VERB + TO + INFINITIVE</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>admit</td>
<td></td>
<td>decide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>enjoy</td>
<td></td>
<td>forget</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>give up</td>
<td></td>
<td>offer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>love</td>
<td></td>
<td>want</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>try</td>
<td></td>
<td>would like</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gerund or Infinitive Exercise 2

1 Use the verbs in brackets to fill the gaps.

1 We **arranged** ______________ under the station clock at half nine. (to meet)
2 I always try to **avoid** ______________ him whenever I can. (to see)
3 I long ______________ in Scotland again. (to be)
4 My Mum demanded ______________ the manager. (to see)
5 My brother **denied** ______________ my chocolate mousse. Maybe his hamster ate it. (to eat)
6 I tried ______________ but I just couldn't. (to understand)
7 In the end I **gave up** ______________ to persuade her. (to try)
8 Charlie was pretending ______________ a chicken. (to be)
9 They **chose** ______________ in a cheap hotel but spend more money on meals. (to stay)
10 We like Galicia so much that we keep ______________ back there. (to go)
11 He **deserves** ______________ severely punished. (to be)
12 When we visit my aunt, they expect me ______________ on my best behaviour. (to be)
13 I didn't mean ______________ her feelings. I'm really sorry. (to hurt)
14 I always **put off** ______________ my homework until the last possible moment. (to do)
15 He goes on ______________ me the same thing over and over again. (to tell)
16 I can't stand ______________ in the queue at the baker's. (to wait)
17 The firemen **managed** ______________ the fire pretty quickly. (to put out)
18 I never **risk** ______________ through that part of town. (to go)
19 Clare offered ______________ me to the airport, which was very kind of her. (to take)
20 Dad **threatened** ______________ my pocket money if I didn't do my homework. (to stop)

2 Check your answers and put the verbs in **bold** into the right columns. Translate the verbs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VERB + GERUND</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 __________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 __________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 __________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 __________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5 __________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VERB + TO + INFINITIVE</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 __________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 __________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 __________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 __________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5 __________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gerund or Infinitive Exercise 1 answers

1. I can't stand waiting in queues. (to wait)
2. I wouldn't like to be in his shoes. (to be)
3. Jim loves working in Thailand. (to work)
4. I hate doing the shopping on Saturday. (to do)
5. Blast! I forgot to buy milk. (to buy)
6. In the end we decided to stay in. (to stay)
7. I need to find some information about Portugal. (to find)
8. My parents like going for long walks at the weekend. (to go)
9. Tony gave up smoking years ago. (to smoke)
10. I wanted to go and see Troy but no one else was interested. (to go)
11. Mrs Leith offered to take us to the airport. (to take)
12. Clare refused to help clean up after the party. (to help)
13. I tried to persuade him to come but it was no use. (to persuade)
14. Do you mind not smoking? (to smoke)
15. Everybody really enjoyed dancing the cha-cha-cha. (to dance)
16. Lionel admitted eating my chocolate mousse. (to eat)

VERB + GERUND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Translation</th>
<th>VERB + TO + INFINITIVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>admit</td>
<td>..........................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>can't stand</td>
<td>..........................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>enjoy</td>
<td>..........................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>give up</td>
<td>..........................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hate</td>
<td>..........................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>like</td>
<td>..........................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>love</td>
<td>..........................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mind</td>
<td>..........................</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gerund or Infinitive Exercise 2 answers

1. We arranged to meet under the station clock at half nine. (to meet)
2. I always try to avoid seeing him whenever I can. (to see)
3. I long to be in Scotland again. (to be)
4. My Mum demanded to see the manager. (to see)
5. My brother denied eating my chocolate mousse. Maybe his hamster ate it. (to eat)
6. I tried to understand but I just couldn't. (to understand)
7. In the end I gave up trying to persuade her. (to try)
8. Charlie was pretending to be a chicken. (to be)
9. They chose to stay in a cheap hotel but spend more money on meals. (to stay)
10. We like Galicia so much that we keep going back there. (to go)
11. He deserves to be severely punished. (to be)
12. When we visit my aunt, they expect me to be on my best behaviour. (to be)
13. I didn't mean to hurt her feelings. I'm really sorry. (to hurt)
14. I always put off doing my homework until the last possible moment. (to do)
15. He goes on telling me the same thing over and over again. (to tell)
16. I can't stand waiting in the queue at the baker's. (to wait)
17. The firemen managed to put out the fire pretty quickly. (to put out)
18. I never risk going through that part of town. (to go)
19. Clare offered to take me to the airport, which was very kind of her. (to take)
20. Dad threatened to stop my pocket money if I didn't do my homework. (to stop)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VERB + GERUND</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>avoid</td>
<td>..................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deny</td>
<td>..................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>give up</td>
<td>..................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>put off</td>
<td>..................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>risk</td>
<td>..................</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VERB + TO + INFINITIVE</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>arrange</td>
<td>..................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>choose</td>
<td>..................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deserve</td>
<td>..................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>manage</td>
<td>..................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>threaten</td>
<td>..................</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>