

Chapter 1 : How to Use Gerunds & Infinitives in Everyday English

In English, if you want to follow a verb with another action, you must use a gerund or infinitive. For example: There are certain verbs that can only be followed by one or the other, and these verbs must be memorized. Many of these verbs are listed below. go on He went on to learn English and French.

Do these verb patterns have the same meaning? No, not at all! I wish I could forget falling down the stairs in front of the whole school. Write a sentence in the comments below so that I can check it for you. Do you remember dancing with me on our first date? Remember to take lots of pictures on your trip. What do you remember about your first date? I remember eating ribs covered in sticky sauce with my hands! It was really awkward I had sticky stuff coming all the way down my arms. Write it in the comments. Now remember with the to-infinitive is used to talk about something that someone needs to do to remind them to do something. Remember to whisk the eggs before adding the sugar. When you wish you could go back in time and change those actions. He regretted yelling at her as soon as she walked away. He woke up with a pounding headache and immediately regretted drinking so much the night before. What do you wish you could go back in time and change Can you write a sentence about it? Add it to the comments. And this verb pattern is really formal language. We missed our bus which meant waiting six hours until the next one. Did you mean to miss the meeting this morning? Make sure you bring your jacket or it will mean getting really wet and cold. Visiting my sister in London means spending eight hours on a plane. I meant to call you last night, but I totally forgot! She meant to put sugar in your coffee, but she accidentally added salt.

Chapter 2 : Gerunds + Infinitives | Exercises + PDF

Reporting verbs used with a gerund; accuse somebody of admit (to) apologise for confess (to) complain about: deny insist on prohibit suggest.

We watched him clear the table. They heard the thief crash through the door. She made me do it. We helped her finish the homework. Well, you have to decide what you find objectionable: This is especially true of formal, academic writing. There are exceptions to this. What would the study of language be without exceptions? When the noun preceding the gerund is modified by other words, use the common form of that noun, not the possessive. When the noun preceding the gerund is plural, collective, or abstract, use the common form of that noun, not the possessive. Professor Villa was amazed by her students working as hard as they did. It was a case of old age getting the better of them. There are certain situations in which the possessive and the gerund create an awkward combination. This seems to be particularly true when indefinite pronouns are involved. This would be greatly improved by saying, instead. I was shocked that somebody would make that remark. This is also true when the "owner" of the gerund comes wrapped in a noun phrase: I was thankful for the guy next door shoveling snow from my driveway. Form Meaning, and Use. Mary Nell Sorensen, at the University of Washington, has a considerable online document on the forms and uses of infinitives and gerunds.

Chapter 3 : Getting to Know Gerunds and Infinitives

Reporting verb + TO-infinitive. indirect speech. infinitive. Reporting verb + gerund Common reporting verbs Reporting verb + object + TO-infinitive.

Gerunds exercises PDF He enjoyed swimming. Infinitive exercises PDF He demanded to talk to me. He made her do it. She seems to be crying. He pretended to have been studying. List of verbs followed by gerund or infinitive There are a lot of verbs and expressions that are used with these forms. In this chapter you will find the list of the most common examples of verbs followed by gerunds and infinitives. In the English language there are verbs followed by infinitive They agreed to come , other verbs followed by gerund Did you enjoy flying? Examples of verbs followed by infinitive only: We hoped to find it. Did he seem to like it? I ordered my son to send it. Expressions and phrasal verbs followed by infinitive: I did my best to learn it. It turned out to be your car. We set out to cut the tree. Examples of verbs followed by gerund only: Did you escape writing the test? Excuse, forgive and prevent are used with three different forms: Excuse my being late. Excuse me being late. Excuse me for being late. Expressions and phrasal verbs followed by gerund: Is the film worth seeing? Examples of verbs followed by gerunds and infinitives. With the same meaning: If the verbs advise, allow, permit, recommend are used with the indirect object, they are followed by infinitive. If not, gerund must be used. She recommended John to read this book. She recommended reading this book. The verbs that have a different meaning with gerunds and infinitives. Remember I remember watching the match. We use gerund to talk about earlier actions. I remembered to watch the match. And so I sat down and switched on the TV. The infinitive is used to talk about following actions. Try I tried calling him because I needed to test my new mobile phone. I made an experiment with my mobile. I tried to call him because I needed to meet him. I made an attempt to get in touch with him. In other tenses they are used with gerunds and infinitives, but both forms have a slightly different meaning. I like to drive. I love to drive. I hate to drive. I prefer to drive. I like going to the cinema. I like to go to the dentist twice a year. It is my least favourite activity. I never enjoy it. I hate to iron on Sundays. Go on After dinner he went on showing us his photos. The gerund is used when we want to say that a previous activity continues. He gave us a lecture on the Greek history. And then he went on to show us his photos from Greece. The infinitive is used when we want to describe an activity that follows a previous action and is somehow connected to it. Stop I stopped smoking. This means that I do not smoke anymore. I stopped to smoke. I made a pause to have a cigarette. We can go to Spain. But it means spending more money. In this sentence we describe the consequences. Be afraid She was afraid of getting married. A marriage is something that frightens her. She was afraid to marry Bill. I apologize for a previous action. I apologize for something that will happen. The infinitive with this expression can also mean sorrow: Bare infinitive without to We usually use infinitives with to in the English language: I want to go. I told him to come. The infinitive without to bare infinitive is used as follows. I can bring it. He may take it. You must buy it. He dared not tell me. The verbs dare and need can also be followed by the infinitive with to. In such sentences we use do to make questions and negatives. I dared not call you. These two sentences have the same meaning, only the form is different. There is no need to listen. These two sentences are different in the form and meaning, too. After the verbs of senses - feel, hear, see, watch. We saw you swim. I heard her sing. It is more common, however, to use -ing form in English after the verbs of senses. We saw you swimming. I heard her singing. In the passive voice the form is different. She was seen to cry. After some more expressions - let, make, would rather, had better, help. She made me drive. I helped them carry it. The verb help can also be followed by the infinitive with to. I helped them to carry it. But with the passive voice we use the following form. I was made to drive. He was let to go.

Chapter 4 : Gerunds and Infinitives: Their Noun Roles

Verbs that are followed by other verbs can take either the gerund or the infinitive. A gerund is a verb ending in "ing" that functions as a noun. An infinitive is the basic or root form of a verb, typically preceded with "to."

They may function as subjects or objects in a sentence. A gerund is a verb in its ing present participle form that functions as a noun that names an activity rather than a person or thing. Any action verb can be made into a gerund. Jogging is a hobby of mine. Gerunds can act as an object following the verb: Daniel quit smoking a year ago. Gerunds can serve as an object after a preposition: I look forward to helping you paint the house. The same spelling rules that apply to the progressive tenses also apply to gerunds. Some verbs and verb phrases are directly followed a gerund: Paul avoids using chemicals on the vegetables he grows. Some verbs can be followed by a gerund or an infinitive without causing a change in meaning: Some people prefer getting up early in the morning. Some people prefer to get up early in the morning Some verbs can be followed by a gerund or infinitive but with a change in meaning: He remembered sending the fax. He remembered the act of send the fax He remembered to send the fax. He remembered the fax and sent it. An infinitive is a verb form that acts as other parts of speech in a sentence. Infinitive Examples Infinitives can be used as: Jim always forgets to eat a subject at the beginning of a sentence: To travel around the world requires a lot of time and money. You promised to buy me a diamond ring. Tara has the ability to succeed. Some verbs are directly followed by an infinitive: Do you want to call your family now? Some verbs are directly followed by a noun or pronoun and then by an infinitive: I convinced Catherine to become vegetarian. He advised me to sell all my shares of stock. Some verbs can be followed by an infinitive or a gerund without causing a change in meaning: Will you continue working after you give birth? Will you continue to work after you give birth? Some verbs can be followed by an infinitive or a gerund but with a change in meaning: He stopped drinking coffee. He never drank coffee again. He stopped to drink coffee. He stopped what he was doing and drank some coffee. Exercises – Gerunds and Infinitives Choose the correct gerund or infinitive from the parenthesis at the end of the sentence. She likes to get up early in the morning.

Chapter 5 : Gerunds & Infinitives - Meaning, Examples & Exercises

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.

You could say this actually makes sense: The regular verb is limited to the tense and subject. For example, in the sentence "Diana danced" the action is limited to Diana and to the past. However, the infinitive is unlimited. In the sentence "To dance is easy", the action is not limited to any subject or to any time. Infinitives are often used when actions are unreal, general, or future. Kate agreed to come. I hope to see you soon. We plan to finish this shortly. They decided to return home. She promised to stop smoking. We agreed never to talk about it again. He offered to sell the house. I refuse to pay! You seem to be disappointed. She asked him not to leave. I want to drink.

Top Gerunds or Infinitives? Click the following link for the list of verbs followed only by infinitives. Click on the small picture to see the full sized version. Here is the full explanation: Using a gerund suggests that you are referring to real activities or experiences. Using an infinitive suggests that you are talking about potential or possible activities or experiences. This is an actual action you are doing. Then you could say: The latter sentence sounds more theoretical.

Part II After the main verb, both gerunds and infinitives can be used. Some verbs take only an infinitive. Some verbs can take both gerunds and infinitives, with only a slight difference in the meaning as explained in Part I above. A few verbs take both gerunds and infinitives, but with a significant difference in the meaning.

Part III So when you need to decide which one to use, first check whether the main verb is limited only to gerunds, or only to infinitives. If the verb is not on any of the lists, you can use the following guidelines: After a preposition you should use a gerund. Expressions with the words "have", "spend" and "waste" take a gerund. In many cases, the infinitive form is used to show the intention or purpose. The infinitive form is also used to show the reason. If none of these guidelines apply, simply use the principle in Part I above. Does it describe a concrete action? Then use a gerund. Does it describe a general or potential action? Then use an infinitive. I wish I would paint more often. It shows you whether the verb requires a gerund, and infinitive, or can take both. Just look at the data below the definition. For an advanced tutorial on the subject visit the English Page tutorial on gerunds and infinitives.

Chapter 6 : Gerunds and Infinitives with Verbs

8 = verb followed by an infinitive OR an optional noun + an infinitive 13 = verb followed by a gerund OR an infinitive with a difference in meaning 14 = verb followed by a gerund OR an infinitive with little difference in meaning.

They were made to return their tickets. Some of the verbs that are followed by "ing" see page below

e. If the new subject is a pronoun, it is in the object form me, him, her, us, them: Most verbs of perception e. I heard him cry. NOT I heard him to cry. I watched them play. NOT I watched them to play. I saw her cross the road. NOT I saw her to cross the road. Most of these verbs can also be followed by "ing" forms. Note that there is usually a difference of meaning: I once heard him give a talk on international politics. I heard the whole talk. As I walked past his cabin, I heard him talking with his secretary. An "ing" form is not usually used to refer to a momentary action or event. I saw the bomb explode. NOT I saw the bomb exploding. Sometimes an "ing" form can suggest repetition. I saw the children throwing stones at the dogs. Some common verbs that are normally followed by the -ing form: I remember you buying that jumper. I dislike people telling me what to think. Nobody can stop him doing what he wants to. Prevent something from happening " Cleanliness experts say hygienic cleaning will help prevent germs spreading in the home. Prevent somebody from doing something " She hid the car keys to prevent him from driving in such terrible weather conditions Verbs change their meaning when they are followed by a Gerund or an Infinitive Some verbs have different meanings when they are followed by a gerund or an infinitive.

Chapter 7 : Verbs + Objects + Infinitive /Gerund/Clause | english garage

List of verbs followed by gerund or infinitive There are a lot of verbs and expressions that are used with these forms. In this chapter you will find the list of the most common examples of verbs followed by gerunds and infinitives.

When printing this page, you must include the entire legal notice. This material may not be published, reproduced, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed without permission. Use of this site constitutes acceptance of our terms and conditions of fair use. Comparing Gerunds, Participles, and Infinitives Summary: This handout provides a detailed overview including descriptions and examples of gerunds, participles, and infinitives. Comparing Gerunds and Participles Look at the pair of sentences below. In the first, the use of a gerund functioning as a noun allows the meaning to be expressed more precisely than in the second. In the second, the cause of the irritation is identified less precisely as Bill, who just happens to have been interrupting. In the second sentence, interrupting is actually a participle, not a gerund, since it functions as an adjective modifying Bill. I was irritated by Bill, constantly interrupting. The same pattern is shown in these other example pairs below: Notice the subtle change in meaning between the two sentences in each pair. The technique was extraordinary. The guitarist, finger-picking, was extraordinary. The person was extraordinary, demonstrating the technique. He was not impressed with their competing. The competing did not impress him. He was not impressed with them competing. They did not impress him as they competed. Grandpa enjoyed his grandchildren, running and laughing. Comparing Gerunds and Infinitives The difference in the form of gerunds and infinitives is quite clear just from comparing the following lists: Gerunds always function as nouns, but infinitives often also serve as nouns. Deciding which to use can be confusing in many situations, especially for people whose first language is not English. Confusion between gerunds and infinitives occurs primarily in cases in which one or the other functions as the direct object in a sentence. In English, some verbs take gerunds as verbal direct objects exclusively while other verbs take only infinitives and still others can take either. Many such verbs are listed below, organized according to which kind of verbal direct object they take. Verbs that take only infinitives as verbal direct objects agree.

Chapter 8 : Verbs Followed by Gerunds and Infinitives Â· engVid

Practice completing verbs with gerunds or infinitives Game Day "Read Context "Last night's first-ever ball game at Pacific Bell Park began with Willie Mays and ended up with a crowd of more than 40, strolling into a warm San Francisco night after an Giants win."

Chapter 9 : Using Gerunds and Infinitives | Writing Advice

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.