

## Lecture: Grammar-Level: 2<sup>nd</sup> year

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Group: 06

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### **The infinitive**

The full infinitive consists of two words, to+ verb, e. g. to work, to do, to write, etc. but after certain verbs and expressions, we use the form without to; i. e. the bare infinitive. E. g. you had better say nothing.

To avoid repetition, an infinitive is sometimes represented by its “to”. E. g. do you smoke?... no, but I used to (smoke is deleted).

### Uses of the infinitive

The infinitive form is generally used in the following cases:

- a. The infinitive may be used alone, e. g. we began to walk, or as part of an infinitive phrase, e. g. we began to walk down the road.
- b. The infinitive may be the subject of a sentence, e. g. to save money now seems impossible
- c. The infinitive may be the complement of a verb, e.g. his plan is to keep the affair secret
- d. The infinitive may be the object or part of the object of a verb.

It can follow the verb directly, e. g. he wants to pay

Or

It can follow the verb + object, e. g. he wants me to pay.

- e. The infinitive can express purpose and connect two clauses, e. g. he went to France to learn French.
- f. The infinitive can be used after certain adjectives: angry, glad, happy, sorry, fortunate, likely, lucky.
- g. Be + infinitive can express commands or instructions, e. g. no one is to leave the building without the permission of the police (no one must leave), he is to stay here till we return (he must stay).
- h. The infinitive can replace relative clauses, e. g. she is the only one to survive the crash...she is the only one who survived.
- i. The infinitive can be used after certain nouns: ability, ambition, anxiety, attempt, decision, demand, desire, determination, effort, offer, plan, promise, request,

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willingness, wish. E. g. he made an attempt/effort to stand up. Their plan/promise to rebuild the town was not taken seriously.

- j. The infinitive phrase can be placed at the beginning or the end of a sentence. E.g. to tell the truth....
- k. Verb + how/ what/ when/ which/ why + infinitive: the verbs most frequently used in this way are ask, decide, discover, find out, forget, know, remember, see, think, understand, wonder.
  - e. g. he discovered how to open box.
  - e. g. I found out where to buy fruit cheaply.

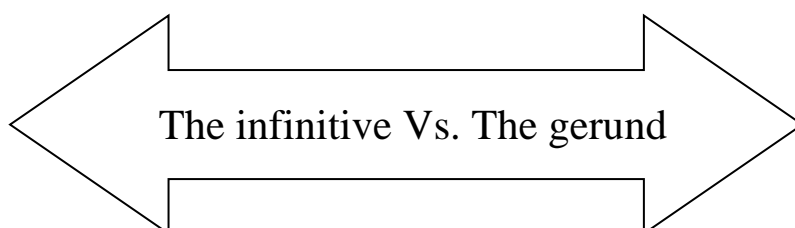
### The Gerund

A gerund is a noun formed by taking a verb and adding the suffix “-ing.” The gerund form of “give,” for example, is “giving.” It has exactly the same form as the present participle.

### Uses of the gerund

It can be used in the following ways:

- a. As a subject of a sentence: smoking is dangerous.
- b. As a complement of a verb: her hobby is painting.
- c. After prepositions: he was accused of smuggling.
- d. After certain verbs.
- e. In noun compounds: the living room.( the gerund carries the main stress)



The gerund can be used instead of the infinitive when the action is being considered in general sense, but it is always safe to use an infinitive. When we want to refer to a particular action, we must use the infinitive:

- He says, ‘come to the party.’ It was impossible to refuse. (to refuse coming to the party in particular).
- But it is not always easy to refuse invitations → can be replaced by → refusing invitations is not always easy. (invitations in general not a specific one).

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<b>Verbs commonly followed by an infinitive</b>	<b>Verbs commonly followed by a gerund</b>
Agree, appear, arrange, ask, attempt, beg, can/can't afford/ wait, care, chance, choose, claim, come, consent, dare, decide, demand, deserve, determine, elect, endeavour, expect, fail, get, grow, guarantee, hesitate, hope, hurry, incline, learn, manage, mean, pretend, Need, neglect, offer, pay, plan, prepare, profess, promise, prove, refuse, seem, remain, request, resolve, say, seek, shudder, strive, struggle, swear, tend, wait, threaten, turn out, volunteer, want, wish, would like	Acknowledge, admit, advise, allow, avoid, Anticipate, appreciate, be worth, can't help, Celebrate, confess, consider, defend, delay, detest, discontinue, discuss, dislike, Endure, enjoy, escape, evade, explain, Fear, feel like, finish, forgive, give up (stop), keep (continue), keep on, mention, mind (object to), omit, permit, picture, practice, prevent, put off, recall, recollect, recommend, report, resent, resist, resume, risk, suggest, support, tolerate, understand, urge, warrant
<b>Verbs followed by a gerund or infinitive with little to no change in meaning:</b>	
Begin, can't bear, can't stand, continue, hate, like, love, prefer, propose, start	
<b>Verbs followed by a gerund or infinitive with a change in meaning:</b>	
forget	I forgot to meet him. (I didn't meet him because I forgot to do it.)
	I forgot meeting him. (I don't have the memory of meeting him before.)
go on	He went on to learn English and French. (He ended one period of time before this.)
	He went on learning English and French. (He continued learning the languages.)
quit	She quit to work here. (She quit another job in order to work here.)
	She quit working here. (She quit her job here. She doesn't work here anymore.)
regret	I regret promising to help you. (I'm sorry that I made the promise.)
	I regret to tell you that we can't hire you. (I'm telling you now, and I'm sorry.)
remember	She remembered to visit her grandmother. (She didn't forget to visit.)
	She remembered visiting her grandmother. (She had memories of this time.)
stop	I stopped to call you. (I interrupted another action in order to call you.)
	I stopped calling you. (I stopped this activity. Maybe we had a fight.)
try	I tried to open the window. (I attempted this action but didn't succeed.)
	I tried opening the window. (This was one option I sampled. Maybe the room was hot.)