

# Gerunds & Infinitives

<b>1</b>	<b>Grammar Notes</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Gerunds</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Infinitives</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Multiple-Choice</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Rules</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Fill in the Blanks</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Class Survey</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Writing</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Quiz</b>	<b>15</b>



# 1 Grammar Notes

## A. Form

A **gerund** is the *-ing form* of a verb.

- I like **swimming**.
- I don't like **playing** tennis.



An **infinitive** is *to + the base form* of a verb.

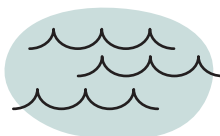
- I like **to swim**.
- I don't like **to play** tennis.



## B. Function

Gerunds and infinitives combine the action meaning of a **verb** with the grammatical function of a **noun**. They act as nouns (subjects and objects) in a sentence.

- **Speaking** in front of a crowd can be scary. (subject position)
- Do you want **to come** to the beach with us? (object position)





# 1 Grammar Notes cont.

## C. Gerund or Infinitive?

Some sentence positions take only a gerund or only an infinitive, but there is one position (following a verb) where the decision depends on the main verb.

Gerunds			
Position	Pattern	Notes	Examples
subject of a sentence	S = Ger	Gerunds are common in the subject position. While an infinitive is also possible, it is very formal and not common.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Shopping</b> is my favorite hobby.</li> <li>• <b>Working out</b> has really improved my health.</li> </ul>
following a preposition	Prep + Ger	Gerunds are also common after a preposition. This rule applies to all prepositions, including ones that are part of phrasal verbs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• She thought <b>about calling</b> him but decided she wouldn't.</li> <li>• They are planning <b>on going</b> to the party tonight.</li> </ul>
object of a verb	V + Ger	This is the one position where both gerunds and infinitives are used. It all depends on the main verb. Some common verbs that are followed by a gerund are <i>advise, avoid, enjoy, finish, practice, quit, and suggest</i> . See the list on page 7 for more of these verbs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He <b>enjoys learning</b> about gerunds.</li> <li>• My teacher <b>suggested studying</b> for the upcoming quiz.</li> </ul>



# 1 Grammar Notes cont.

## C. Gerund or Infinitive? cont.

Infinitives			
Position	Pattern	Notes	Examples
following an adjective	Adj + Inf	Infinitives are common after an adjective. Though it is sometimes possible to use a gerund in this position, it is more common to use an infinitive.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is <b>nice</b> <i>to meet</i> you.</li> <li>She mentioned that it was <b>dangerous</b> <i>to stand</i> near that machine.</li> </ul>
following a noun or pronoun	N + Inf	If the verb has a noun or pronoun object, it is almost always followed by an infinitive.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You asked <b>me</b> <i>to call</i> you.</li> <li>The doctor advised <b>Mark</b> <i>to eat</i> more vegetables.</li> </ul>
object of a verb	V + Inf	This is the one position where both gerunds and infinitives are commonly used. The choice of which to use depends on the main verb. Some common ones are <i>ask, choose, decide, get, need, plan, promise, and want</i> . See the list on page 7 for more of these verbs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They <b>want</b> <i>to get</i> their tests back as soon as possible.</li> <li>The students <b>are planning</b> <i>to have</i> a party this Friday.</li> </ul>



# 1 Grammar Notes cont.

## D. Notes

**1**

A verb can be in any tense. Progressive tenses use the *-ing* form, so it is possible to see two *-ing* forms side by side (progressive verb + gerund).

- My parents **are quitting** *smoking* next Friday.
- Michelle **was practicing** *juggling* five oranges when I saw her.

**2**

Go is often used to describe an activity in English. No matter the tense used, go is followed by a gerund.

- She **went golfing** last weekend.
- Do you want **to go skiing** today?
- We **are going sailing** next weekend.

**3**

The *N + Inf* rule is very handy. For example, the verb “advise” normally takes a gerund, as in “The doctor **advised** *eating* more vegetables.” But when there is a noun object, as in “The doctor advised **Mark** *to eat* more vegetables,” the infinitive must be used. The noun rule is more important than the verb rule!

**4**

Because both gerunds and infinitives keep their verb meanings (even though they function as nouns), they too can have objects. It’s common to see a sentence with two or more objects when gerunds or infinitives are used. For example:

- I enjoy **studying** *English*.  
“*Studying*” is the direct object of “*enjoy*”  
and “*English*” is the direct object of “*studying*.”
- My boss asked me **to help** *her*.  
“*Me*” is the direct object of “*asked*,” “*to help*” is also the direct object of “*asked*,” and “*her*” is the direct object of “*to help*.”



# 1 Grammar Notes cont.

## D. Notes cont.

5

Some verbs take either a gerund or an infinitive with no change in meaning. Some common verbs are *like*, *love*, and *hate*. See the list on page 7 for more of these verbs.

- I **love** *eating* pasta.
- I **love** *to eat* pasta.

6

Can gerunds and infinitives be negative? Yes! There are four ways to form negative sentences with gerunds and infinitives.

- not + main verb + gerund or infinitive**
  - She **doesn't like studying** after school.
  - He **didn't want to do** his homework.
- main verb + not + infinitive**
  - They decided **not to go** to the game.
  - We agreed **not to text** in class.
- main verb + to + not + base form** (less common)
  - They decided **to not go** to the game.
  - We agreed **to not text** in class.
- main verb + not + gerund** (not common)
  - She advised **not going out** in the storm.
  - He considered **not applying** for the job.

## E. Quick Guide

### Gerunds

S = Ger

Prep + Ger

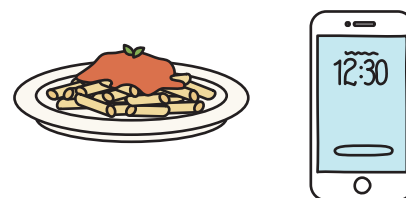
V + Ger

### Infinitives

Adj + Inf

N + Inf

V + Inf





# 1 Grammar Notes cont.

## F. Verb Lists

### Common Verbs Followed by a Gerund

- |              |            |           |             |
|--------------|------------|-----------|-------------|
| • admit      | • consider | • finish  | • miss      |
| • advise     | • deny     | • imagine | • practice  |
| • appreciate | • discuss  | • keep    | • quit      |
| • avoid      | • dislike  | • mention | • recommend |
| • complete   | • enjoy    | • mind    | • suggest   |

### Common Verbs Followed by an Infinitive

- |          |          |           |             |
|----------|----------|-----------|-------------|
| • afford | • expect | • need    | • refuse    |
| • agree  | • hope   | • offer   | • seem      |
| • appear | • intend | • plan    | • volunteer |
| • ask    | • learn  | • prepare | • wait      |
| • decide | • mean   | • promise | • want      |

### Common Verbs Followed by a Gerund or an Infinitive (with no meaning change)

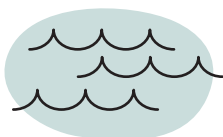
- |            |        |          |         |
|------------|--------|----------|---------|
| • begin    | • hate | • love   | • start |
| • continue | • like | • prefer |         |



## 2 Gerunds

Change the word in **bold** into a gerund.

- Ex. I love to **cook**. Cooking is very creative.
- 1 I like to **ride** my bicycle to school. \_\_\_\_\_ my bicycle is fun.
- 2 Kendra **swims** every day because \_\_\_\_\_ is good exercise.
- 3 She likes to **watch** movies. \_\_\_\_\_ movies is her hobby.
- 4 It is against the school rules to **fight**. \_\_\_\_\_ is forbidden.
- 5 My father **drives** too fast. \_\_\_\_\_ too fast is dangerous.
- 6 He doesn't like to **share** his toys. He's not good at \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7 It is great to **live** in Canada. \_\_\_\_\_ in Canada is nice.
- 8 We **go** jogging every day. We love \_\_\_\_\_ jogging.
- 9 It is dangerous to **run** by the pool. \_\_\_\_\_ by the pool is dangerous.
- 10 Cara wants to **become** a good piano player.  
\_\_\_\_\_ a good piano player is her goal.

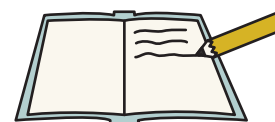




# 3 Infinitives

Change the verb in parentheses into an infinitive.

- Ex. Barbara pretended to be sleeping.  
(be)
- 1 Maria wants John \_\_\_\_\_ her move on Saturday.  
(help)
- 2 Janice expects \_\_\_\_\_ a good grade on the test.  
(get)
- 3 Our teacher requires us \_\_\_\_\_ perfect attendance.  
(have)
- 4 The school counselor advised Lisa \_\_\_\_\_ every night.  
(read)
- 5 Jay only needs one more comic book \_\_\_\_\_ his set.  
(complete)
- 6 The coach encouraged the players \_\_\_\_\_ their best.  
(try)
- 7 Gina wants \_\_\_\_\_ at the orphanage.  
(volunteer)
- 8 Do not hesitate \_\_\_\_\_ me if you need help.  
(call)
- 9 Mark and Karen decided \_\_\_\_\_ to Europe.  
(go)
- 10 My friend agreed \_\_\_\_\_ with me.  
(study)

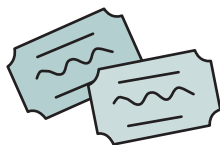




## 4 Multiple-Choice

Circle the correct answer.

- 1 My mom offered \_\_\_\_\_ me some money.  
a) loaning  
**b) to loan**
- 2 Chris is considering \_\_\_\_\_ English for another year.  
a) studying  
**b) to study**
- 3 They volunteered \_\_\_\_\_ tickets.  
a) selling  
**b) to sell**
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ is my favorite sport.  
a) Snowboarding  
**b) To snowboard**
- 5 It is essential \_\_\_\_\_ salt to this recipe.  
a) adding  
**b) to add**
- 6 You can get to the theater by \_\_\_\_\_ the bus.  
a) taking  
**b) to take**
- 7 Martha thought about \_\_\_\_\_ to Switzerland.  
a) traveling  
**b) to travel**
- 8 The children learned \_\_\_\_\_ to strangers.  
a) not talking  
**b) not to talk**
- 9 Elizabeth finds it difficult \_\_\_\_\_ money.  
a) saving  
**b) to save**
- 10 Do you want \_\_\_\_\_ jogging with me?  
a) going  
**b) to go**





# 5 Rules

Review the rules in the box. Then write the rule used in each sentence below.

**Gerunds**

- S = Ger
- Prep + Ger
- V + Ger

**Infinitives**

- Adj + Inf
- N + Inf
- V + Inf

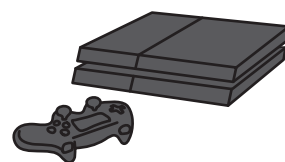
#	Sentence	Rule
Ex.	My father wants to retire in two years.	V + Inf
1	She thought about cleaning her brother's room.	
2	My parents can't afford to buy a new car.	
3	English can be very difficult to learn.	
4	Reading is a hobby every kid should have.	
5	Lee keeps forgetting his cell phone.	
6	My best friend believes in telling the truth.	
7	Texting while walking can be dangerous.	
8	The travel agent suggested going to Paris in May.	
9	Jim's mother advised him to do his chores.	
10	It is exciting to meet new people.	



# 6 Fill in the Blanks

Change the verb in parentheses into the gerund or infinitive form. When both forms are possible, write them both in the blank.

- Ex. Joshua dislikes eating vegetables.  
(eat)
- 1 He wanted his mother \_\_\_\_\_ him to school.  
(drive)
- 2 Jason needs \_\_\_\_\_ more.  
(study)
- 3 We love \_\_\_\_\_ sand castles at the beach.  
(build)
- 4 Louise asked \_\_\_\_\_ invited to my party.  
(be)
- 5 My friend's parents recommended \_\_\_\_\_ to Disneyland.  
(go)
- 6 Her brother likes \_\_\_\_\_ video games.  
(play)
- 7 I like snowboarding, but my cousin prefers \_\_\_\_\_.  
(ski)
- 8 Hye Jun doesn't like \_\_\_\_\_ in the rain.  
(walk)
- 9 The teacher encouraged us \_\_\_\_\_ our own languages.  
(speak, not)
- 10 It is easy \_\_\_\_\_ behind in your schoolwork.  
(fall)





# 7 Class Survey

Create your own class survey! Write eight questions using gerunds and infinitives with the verbs in the Word List. Then ask your classmates these questions, and write their answers on the right. Try to speak to a new classmate for each question.

## Word List

- enjoy                      • dislike
- like                        • hate
- love

#	Question	Answer
Ex.	What kinds of movies do you enjoy watching?	Paul enjoys watching comedies and action movies.
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		



8

**Write five to ten sentences about one of your hobbies. Use gerunds and infinitives as often as possible.**

## Example

My hobby is playing the guitar. I try to practice right after school every day. My friend likes to sing while I play the guitar. We enjoy making music together. One day we'll have enough courage to perform in front of our classmates...

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



## 9 Quiz

Circle the correct answer.

- 1 Junko and Yosuke enjoy \_\_\_\_\_ to the beach.  
a) going  
b) to go
- 2 John finished \_\_\_\_\_ the novel.  
a) reading  
b) to read
- 3 Victor hopes \_\_\_\_\_ his exam.  
a) passing  
b) to pass
- 4 It is important \_\_\_\_\_ people back right away.  
a) calling  
b) to call
- 5 The travel agent advised \_\_\_\_\_ shots before going to a tropical place.  
a) getting  
b) to get
- 6 Do you think it is easy \_\_\_\_\_ rice?  
a) making  
b) to make
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ attention when you are really tired is difficult.  
a) Paying  
b) To pay
- 8 They want \_\_\_\_\_ next weekend.  
a) to go skiing  
b) going to ski
- 9 Nicole decided \_\_\_\_\_ tonight.  
a) not going out  
b) not to go out
- 10 The coach promised \_\_\_\_\_ the players take a break.  
a) letting  
b) to let
- 11 It's too far \_\_\_\_\_ to the museum.  
a) walking  
b) to walk
- 12 Our teacher advised us \_\_\_\_\_ before the big test.  
a) studying  
b) to study