

Unit 6: GERUNDS AND INFINITIVES

I. GERUND

Preposition + gerund

bored with, fond of, look forward to, get used to, insist on
I'm bored with waiting. Mike insisted on buying her a drink.

Gerund as the subject of the sentence

Learning English is fun!



Common phrases + gerund

It's (not) worth... This book is worth reading.
It's no good... It is no good trying to apologize.
There's no point... There's no point carrying on with this.

Verb + gerund

liking and disliking	<i>enjoy, dislike, hate</i>
phrasal verbs	<i>go on, give up, put off</i>
some phrases with <i>can't</i>	<i>can't help, can't stand</i>
other verbs	<i>avoid, delay, finish, keep, risk, suggest</i>
<i>go + sports or leisure activities</i>	<i>go skiing, go dancing, go shopping</i>

II. INFINITIVE

Adjective + infinitive

Your writing is difficult to read.
It's lovely to see you again.

Infinitive of purpose

I'm calling to find out if you stock spare parts.

Verb + infinitive

plans and decisions	<i>aim, arrange, choose, decide, plan, prepare</i>
expectations	<i>demand, expect, hope, want, wish, would like</i>
promises and refusals	<i>fail, guarantee, offer, promise, refuse</i>
other verbs	<i>agree, learn, manage, seem, tend</i>

Verb + object + infinitive

advise, allow, help, remind, teach, use

Noun + infinitive

attempt, effort, opportunity, way
It was good opportunity to work and travel.
This is an easy way to stop smoking.

III. GERUND OR INFINITIVE: NO CHANGE IN MEANING

begin, bother, continue, intend, start

It was starting to get dark.

IV. GERUND OR INFINITIVE: CHANGE IN MEANING

forget, stop, regret, remember, try

I definitely remember posting the letter. X I must remember to post the letter.
I'll never forget flying to Mexico. X Sorry, I forgot to turn off the lights.
I regret spending all the money. I've got none left. X I regret to inform you that we...
I tried clicking on the box, but it doesn't work. X I'm trying to run this computer program.
We stopped buying from that supplier. X I stopped to buy something for my wife.

Put the VERBS and other words in brackets into their correct forms, add prepositions, particles or auxiliary verbs if necessary. You may need to use the passive forms of the verbs:

- 1 Three of the bank's employees _____ (ACCUSE, yesterday, BUY) shares while in possession of inside information.
- 2 The treasurer _____ (ADMIT, LOSE) \$10,000 of the company's money in a Las Vegas casino.
- 3 The consultants _____ (ADVISE, the company, RESTRUCTURE) its middle management.
- 4 The management _____ (AGREE, SHOW) the documents to the trade union representatives.
- 5 Buying just one ordinary share will _____ (ALLOW, you, VOTE) at the Annual General Meeting.
- 6 The production manager _____ (APOLOGIZE, ARRIVE) late for the meeting.
- 7 I have _____ (ARRANGE, COME BACK) at short notice if any problems arise during my holiday.
- 8 Because of the cash flow crisis, the company _____ (ATTEMPT, BORROW) a further \$100,000.
- 9 The company's staff were asked _____ (AVOID, SPEAK) to journalists.
- 10 We _____ (BE not aware, LOSE) any customers because of these delays.
- 11 The company _____ (BELIEVE, DISTRIBUTE) profits among both staff and shareholders.
- 12 Quality problems were _____ (BLAME, the company, LOSE) 20% of its market share.
- 13 The new factory must _____ (BE capable, PRODUCE) a range of different products.
- 14 I hate fog. I _____ (CAN'T STAND, WAIT) for hours at airports.
- 15 Despite the mixed market research reports, we are going to _____ (CARRY ON, DEVELOP) this product.
- 16 The R&D department _____ (COMPLAIN, LOSE) 10% of its budget.
- 17 Rather than diversifying, we are going to _____ (CONCENTRATE, MAKE) our traditional products.
- 18 I would like to thank all of you for _____ (CONTRIBUTE, INCREASE) our sales this past year.