

THE INFINITIVE

1. to infinitive

to infinitive is used:

1.1 to express purpose.

*There 's a reporter here **to interview** you.*

1.2 after certain verbs. (see the list below)

*We can 't **afford to go** out much.*

1.3 after the objects of certain verbs (see the list below)

*You surely don 't **expect me to come** with you?*

1.4 after the auxiliary verbs be and have.

*Does she **have to be** so aggressive all the time?*

*The police are **to start** towing away vehicles soon.*

1.5 after adjectives.

*Fortunately, it is not **likely to happen**.*

1.6 after too + adjective and adjective + enough.

*It 's just **too hot to eat**.*

*Are you fit **enough to take** part in the race?*

1.7 as the subject of a sentence.

***To spend** so much money would be foolish.*

2. Infinitive without *to*

The infinitive without ***to*** is used:

2.1 after modal verbs.

*We **could telephone** to see how she is.*

2.2 after the objects of certain verbs

a) make, let and sometimes help

*She wouldn't **let me pay** for the damage.*

*You can't **make me go**.*

*The porter will **help you carry** your cases.*

b) hear, see, feel, notice, watch

*Didn't you **hear me shout**? x I heard a tap dripping so I got up.*

*I **saw him go** into the building. x I saw him talking to someone.*

2.3 after would rather..., had better ... and why not...?

*I'd **rather speak** to you in private.*

*You'd **better hurry** up.*

***Why not take** a break?*

3. Perfect infinitive

TO + HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE

3.1 *The perfect infinitive* is used when we want to be clear that we´re talking about

1. an earlier time
2. a completed action

*I´d like **to have known** him better.*

*It´s useful **to have had** some experience in the field.*

THE GERUND / -ing FORM

1. -ing form as noun

You 'll enjoy **the singing**.

Any cheating will be severely punished.

I 'm doing less **driving** now.

2. Verb + -ing

- certain verbs are followed only by **-ing form** of the verb (or nouns). (see the list below)

You know how he **detests going** to parties.

Let me know when you 've **finished working**.

Your house **needs painting**.

3. Prepositions / conjunctions + -ing form

3.1 -ing form can be used after any preposition.

I finally **succeeded in** starting the car.

Doing yoga is a good **way of** relaxing.

He 's is **good at** coming up with solutions.

3.2 -ing forms are used after the following time conjunctions:
before, after, when, while, on, since.

After checking the door was securely locked, she left.

4. Possessive + -ing form

- ***-ing form*** after a verb, preposition or other expression may be interrupted by a possessive pronoun or noun + 's to show **a change of subject**.

1. We appreciated **Helen's offering** to help.
2. We appreciated **her offering** to help.
3. I hope you won't mind **my interrupting** you.
4. I look forward to **your joining** us.
5. It's no use **her trying** to get out of it.

1. Compare these pairs of sentences. What is the difference in meaning?

1a I remember thanking her for her gift when we met last month.

1b John, you must remember to thank Aunt Sue for her lovely present.

2a She tried to swallow it, but her throat was too sore.

2b She tried swallowing menthol syrup, but it didn't help her sore throat.

3a The driving was tiring, so he stopped to drink some coffee at a service station.

3b He stopped drinking coffee while he was on a diet.

4a After finishing his first degree, he went on to study medicine.

4b He went on studying medicine despite failing the first year exams.

5a I can't find my passport. I think I forgot to bring it!

5b I'll never forget losing my passport when I was on holiday in the States.