

Infinitive or -ing

Verb + -ing :

delay, fancy, consider, admit, miss, involve, finish, postpone, imagine, avoid, deny, risk, practise, enjoy, suggest, mind, give up, put off, carry on, go on, keep on, can't help /laughing/, dislike, can't stand.

verb + to:

offer, decide, hope, deserve, attempt, promise, agree, plan, aim, afford, manage, threaten, refuse, arrange, learn, forget, fail, seem, appear, tend, pretend, claim, decide, dare, want, ask, help, expect, beg, tell, remind, force, enable, teach, order, warn, invite, persuade, make, let.

both -ing + infinitive:

begin, start, intend, continue, bother, love, like, hate, can't bear /no difference in meaning/

difference in meaning:

stop + ing = give up the activity /he stopped smoking/

stop + inf. = intent /he stopped to smoke = with the aim to smoke/

advise, recommend, encourage, allow, permit, forbid:

verb + -ing /without an object/

I recommend waiting

verb + object + to:

I recommend **you** to wait

remember + -ing = I did it and now I remember /I remember posting the letter/

remember – to... = not to forget or to realise /please remember to post the letter/

regret + -ing = I am sorry about what I did /I regret saying it/

regret + to... = I'm sorry that I have to.../We regret to inform you.../

go on + -ing = continue /He went on talking/

go on + to.. = do or say something new /After discussing it he went on to talk about economy/

try + -ing = testing /try pressing the button

try + to.. = attempt, effort /I tried to move the table/

need + -ing = something needs to be done /the floor needs cleaning/

need + to.. = it is necessary /I need to take more exercise/

NOTE: would is followed by infinitive: I would like to go.

I would like to have done something= I regret I couldn't do it

EXERCISE:

Put the verbs in Italics into correct forms:

1. We can't go on *live* like this.
2. I don't mind *wait*.
3. She denied *steal* the money.
4. You can't stop me *do* what I want.
5. Sorry to keep you *wait* so long.
6. I always enjoy *talk* to her.
7. I don't fancy *go* to the theatre.
8. Can you imagine anybody *be* so stupid?
9. Sarah gave up *smoke*.
10. We decided *take* a taxi home.
11. I agreed *lend* him some money.
12. I promised *not be* late.
13. She pretended *not see* me.
14. I wouldn't dare *tell* him.
15. Can you help me *move* this table?
16. I wouldn't recommend *stay* in that hotel.
17. Where would you recommend me *go* for my holiday?
18. I like *dance*, would you like *dance* with me?
19. She doesn't allow *smoke* in the house.
20. They didn't allow us *smoke* in their house.
21. My parents always encouraged me *study* hard at school.
22. I remember *lock* the door.
23. Please remember *lock* the door when you leave.
24. I now regret *say* what I said.
25. We regret *inform* you that we cannot meet your request.
26. It started *rain*.
27. Don't bother *switch off* the TV.
28. I tried *move* the table but it was too heavy.
29. Try *change* the batteries and then *press* the green button.
30. I need *go* away for a while.
31. You don't need *iron* the shirt. I doesn't need *iron*.
32. Can you help me *get* the dinner ready?
33. I couldn't help *laugh*.
34. She can't bear *be* alone.

What is the difference between: he stopped smoking and: he stopped to smoke???