**VERBS + INFINITIVES and VERBS + - ING FORMS (gerunds)**

**1 Some verbs (e.g. *want*) are followed by another verb with *to* – infinitive.**

*Examples:*

*I decided to go home as soon as possible.*

*We all wanted to have more English classes.*

Common verbs followed by the *to – infinitive* are:

**afford, agree, arrange, ask, choose, decide, expect, fail, forget, hope, intend, learn, mean, offer, plan, promise, refuse, want, would like, would love, …**

*Examples:*

*When he was twenty, he hoped to be a pilot.*

*My parents agreed to pay for the lessons.*

*I expect him to come as soon as possible.*

*She has tried to talk to her boss.*

*I needed to be at work early this morning.*

**2 Some verbs (e.g. *enjoy*) are followed by another verb with – *ing* form.**

*Examples:*

*I enjoy learning English.*

*He finished talking.*

Common verbs followed by *–ing forms* are:

**Verbs of liking and disliking**

**like, love, enjoy, fancy, dislike, hate, …**

*Examples:*

*I love swimming but I hate jogging.*

*They always enjoyed visiting their friends.*

**Verbs of saying and thinking**

**admit, deny, consider, imagine, suggest**

Examples:

*Our guide suggested waiting until the storm was over.*

*Everyone denied seeing the accident.*

Other common verbs are:

**avoid, can’t help, feel like, finish, give up, keep, miss, practise, risk, …**

*Examples:*

*I haven’t finished writing my essay.*

*Let’s practise speaking English.*

*Keep smiling.*

**3 Some verbs can take either *to* - infinitive or – *ing* form.**

After **begin, can’t bear, continue, prefer, start** can be used both – ing and to – infinitive with the same meaning.

*Examples:*

*When did you begin to learn/ begin learning karate?*

*I started to have / started having these headaches about a month ago.*

*The President continued to speak / continued speaking for an hour.*

*I prefer to live / prefer living in the country.*

After some verbs we can use both – ing and to – infinitive with a different meaning.

**remember**

*She always*remembers***to lock****the door. X I*remember***seeing****the Alps for the first time.*

***forget***

*He often*forgets***to lock****the door.  X I'll never*forget***seeing****the Alps.*

**hate**

I hate **to tell** you that you failed the test. X I hate **making** such stupid mistakes.

**try**

*I'm*trying***to learn****English. X The room was hot. I*tried***opening****the window, but it didn't help.*

**stop**

*I*stopped***smoking****. X I*stopped***to smoke****.*

**!!! TIP**

**When you learn a new verb, learn what comes after it.**

*Example:* [*http://dictionary.cambridge.org/*](http://dictionary.cambridge.org/)

decide /dɪˈsaɪd/

A2 [[I or T]](http://dictionary.cambridge.org/help/codes.html) **to**[**choose**](http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/british/choose)**something,**[**especially**](http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/british/especially)**after**[**thinking**](http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/british/thinking)[**carefully**](http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/british/carefully) **about several**[**possibilities**](http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/british/possibility)**:**

*They have to decide by next*[*Friday*](http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/british/friday)*.*

*I don't*[*mind*](http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/british/mind)*which one we have - you decide.*

[[+ to infinitive]](http://dictionary.cambridge.org/help/codes.html) *In the end, we decided****to****go to the*[*theatre*](http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/british/theatre)*.*

[[+ (that)]](http://dictionary.cambridge.org/help/codes.html) *She decided****(that)****she would*[*retire*](http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/british/retire)*to the*[*country*](http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/british/country)

*.*[[+ question word]](http://dictionary.cambridge.org/help/codes.html) *I can't decide****wh****at to do.*

**PRACTICE**

**A Complete the sentences using the verbs in brackets in the *–ing* or *to –* infinitive form.**

1) Do you promise \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (tidy) your room this weekend?

2) I’ve always wanted \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (have) a dog.

3) Would you mind \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (open) the window, please? It’s too hot here.

4) Dogs don’t enjoy \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (be) at home all day.

5) Philip refused \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (listen) to my advice.

6) Did the hotel offer \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (change) your room?

7) Children love \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (go) to the circus.

8) We don’t need \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (take) an umbrella with us.

9) You should avoid \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (eat) too many sweet things.

10) The workers finished \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (paint) the house.

**B Underline the correct option.**

Most teenagers like 1) *to spend / spending* time in front of the TV, but is this a good thing? Is TV just a way of avoiding 2) *to do / doing* something more useful? Some people think that most TV programmes are not right for teenagers. ‘Teenagers need 3) *to have/ having* better programmes,’ agrees TV producer Erica Johnson. ‘Our TV company promises 4) *to make / making* educational programmes which teenagers will enjoy 5) *to watch/ watching*.’ Erica suggests 6) *to create / creating* a special channel for teenagers. ‘Teenagers want 7) *to be / being* different, so a different channel is a good idea. TV is a great way of learning. Teenagers can learn 8) *to understand / understanding* the world through television. What do teenagers think? Emily, 13, said, ‘It’s a bad idea. We have enough channels already. I wouldn’t like 9) *to see / seeing* one more.’ Erica said, ‘We are planning 10) *to show / showing* the first programme on this new channel next spring.’