

GERUND

1. AS SUBJECT OF A SENTENCE.

Living in London is expensive.
Eating spaghetti isn't easy

Translate these sentences:

1. (El, el hecho de) nadar en un río es difícil.
2. Dormir en una tienda de campaña es incómodo.
3. Coleccionar monedas es ridículo.
4. Viajar en avión es más rápido que viajar en coche.
5. Trabajar en una fábrica es más aburrido que trabajar en una oficina.
6. Hablar inglés es bastante útil para viajar al extranjero.

2. AFTER CERTAIN VERBS.

Admit, avoid, carry on, detest, enjoy, finish, give up, go on, imagine, involve, can't help, keep (on), mind, miss, resist, risk, can't stand.

Fill in the blanks with one of the verbs above:

1. Think of the future! Can you _____ travelling by space-ship to Mars?
2. The policeman asked me if I _____ having stolen the money?
3. _____ ringing the bell; I'm sure there is someone at home.
4. Don't punish him! He can't _____ behaving like a child.
5. My last day in this office! Well, I won't _____ being here very much.
6. I'll be ready as soon as I've _____ filling in this form.
7. The lights on my car don't work. Should I _____ driving without them?
8. My tea isn't sweet enough. Would you _____ passing me the sugar?
9. I _____ waiting for buses in the rain.

3. AFTER PREPOSITIONS.

We ran out a few miles without stopping.
After going out, I phoned Ann.

4. VERBS AND EXPRESSIONS WITH PREPOSITION + GERUND.

Be fed up with, be fond of, be good/bad at, be used to, feel like, look forward to, succeed in, thank someone for, think about/of, what about...?

Fill in the blanks with a preposition (if it is necessary) and a suitable verb:

1. I'm not very good _____ new languages.
2. Miss Jones, are you busy? Do you feel _____ a walk.
3. A holiday in Switzerland! I'm not really looking forward _____ Mt. Blanc.
4. After _____ economics at university, he got a job with the Ministry of Trade.
5. What a strange custom! I'm not used _____ wine for breakfast.
6. I think I won't succeed _____ the exam.
7. The baby fell asleep on her arms and she put him to bed without _____ him up.
8. He is very fond _____ basketball.
9. What about _____ to the cinema?
10. He is fed up _____ a few kms a day. He thinks he isn't thinner.

5. EXPRESSIONS + GERUND.

It's no good/it's no use, it's (not) worth, go+ing (go fishing, skiing, surfing, skating...)

It's no good/use trying it.
This book is worth reading it.

Fill in the gaps with a verb:

1. My house is near. It's not worth _____
2. That film is good. That film is worth _____
3. There's a lot of snow so we can _____
4. He lives by the sea so he often _____

6. VERBS + INFINITIVE/ GERUND. The meaning does not change.

*Begin, start, bother, can't bear, continue.

He began studying/to study two hours ago.

*Hate, like, love, prefer + infinitive/ gerund, but in conditional tenses => infinitive.

I like swimming/to swim. (There is a slight difference). (Swimming is more common).
I'd like to swim.

Translate:

1. Me encanta ir al cine pero preferiría ir al teatro hoy.
2. ¿Has empezado a estudiar? Ya es muy tarde.
3. ¿Te gusta nadar? Hace mucha calor y podríamos ir a la playa.
4. Odia ver la tele pero le gustaría ir a ese nuevo concurso.

7. VERBS + INFINITIVE/ GERUND. The meaning changes.

Stop; try; allow/permit; remember and forget.

STOP

+gerund: parar, dejar de (en el momento): Stop talking!

+infinitive: parar para hacer algo diferente: when we got to the top of the hill, we stopped to look at the view.

MEAN

+gerund: implicar, traer como consecuencia, querer decir: Learning English means understanding songs.

+infinitive: tener la intención de: When he phoned you, he meant to tell you about the exams.

TRY

+gerund: experimentar, probar: He tried taking a couple of aspirins but they did not have any effect.

+infinitive: intentar: She tried to read it but he couldn't concentrate.

ALLOW and PERMIT

+gerund: cuando no se menciona a la persona: She doesn't allow smoking in the classroom.

+infinitive: cuando se menciona a la persona: She doesn't allow her students to smoke in the classroom.

*LET is followed by an infinitive without TO: She doesn't let her students smoke in the classroom.

REGRET, REMEMBER and FORGET

+ gerund: when the action expressed by the gerund is the earlier action: I remember locking the door before I left (=I locked it and now I clearly remember this). Locking=> 1st action; Remember=> 2nd action.

+ infinitive: when the action expressed by the infinitive is not the earlier action: Remember to post the letter (=you remember and later you post the letter). Remember=> 1st action; To post=> 2nd action.

Translate:

1. ¿Has probado a beber esa nueva cerveza? No, no me gusta beber.
2. ¡Deja de leer y escúchame! Esos niños tienen que dejar de escuchar la radio para hacer la tarea.
3. ¿Te olvidaste haber apagado la tele?
4. Mi padre no me deja (3) beber vino.

8. VERBS OF SENSATION + OBJECT + INFINITIVE (without TO)/ GERUND.

See, hear, feel, smell, listen to, watch.

I heard some birds sing/singing in the park.

Translate:

1. Lo vio cantar en aquel pub.
2. No los oí llegar la pasada noche.

9. NEED + gerund.

Passive meaning: The house needs painting.

Translate:

1. El coche necesita ser reparado.
2. Las paredes necesitan pintarse.

10. Prohibitions + gerund.

No smoking!

C.

INFINITIVE

1. VERBS + (NOT) TO + INFINITIVE.

Afford, agree, appear (=seem), ask, decide, expect, fail, help, hesitate, hope, learn, manage, neglect, prepare, pretend, promise, refuse, regret, seem, swear, want.

He wanted to have dinner early.

Fill in the blanks:

1. The car is so expensive they can't afford _____ it.
2. He has decided _____ mathematics.
3. She is learning _____ a bicycle.
4. He refused _____ his homework.
5. He pretended not _____ them.
6. You must promise not _____ this secret to anyone.

2. VERBS + OBJECT + TO + INFINITIVE.

Advise, ask, encourage, expect, forbid, help, invite, order, remind, teach, tell, warn, want, would like, would love, would prefer.

Advise someone to do something: The teacher advised the students/ them to study harder.

Ask someone to do something, I asked her to come.

Encourage someone to do something... They encouraged us to go.

Write a second sentence from the words given:

1. His parents want/ he/ stay with them.
2. He encouraged/we/ go camping.
3. The school forbids/students/ leave the building.
4. I would like/ they/ come with us.

Translate:

1. Nos recordó que apagáramos la tele.
2. Les aconsejé que estudiaran más.
3. Le pedí que condujera más despacio.
4. Nos invitó a cenar el sábado.
5. Quiero que leas ese libro. Es bastante interesante.
6. Le dijiste a Peter que no fuera de compras.

3. SUBJECT + TO BE + ADJECTIVES + TO + INFINITIVE.

Able, afraid, amazed, angry, delighted, disgusted, disappointed, glad, happy, likely, obliged, sorry, supposed, surprised, unable.

I was delighted to see them.

We are obliged to come here.

They are supposed to study hard.

* It is/was + adjective + to infinitive: difficult, easy, hard, impossible, possible.

It was possible to build the bridge.

Complete with an adjective:

1. She is crying. She is _____ to see him go.
2. I was _____ to win the football pools.
3. They can climb it. They are _____ to do it.
4. You are not _____ to fish anything in the fountain.
5. It is _____ to do this exercise.

4. VERBS OF THE SENSES + OBJECT + GERUND/ INFINITIVE without TO.

Hear, feel, listen to, see, smell, watch.

I heard the birds sing/ singing.

Translate:

1. Lo escuché tocar el piano. 3. La oímos llegar a casa.
2. Los vimos cruzar el río. 4. Olieron algo quemarse.

5. MAKE + OBJECT + INFINITIVE without TO.

The film made me cry.

* In passive, this verb is followed by an infinitive with to:

He made me move my car => I was made to move my car.

Translate:

1. La hizo reír.
2. Nos hizo dibujar una gasolinera.

6. LET + OBJECT + INFINITIVE without TO.

His parents let him smoke.

1. Déjame (3) ir.
2. No lo dejan (3) salir el Sábado.

7. WOULD RATHER + INFINITIVE without TO

I'd rather go to the cinema

1. Preferiría quedarme en casa.
2. Preferiríamos ir con ellos.

8. HAD BETTER + INFINITIVE without TO

You'd better go soon. It's late.

1. Lo mejor que puedes hacer es ir al médico.
2. Lo más aconsejable es que estudiemos más.

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct form (gerund, infinitive, or both):

1. I am looking forward to (see) _____ you.
2. It's no use (wait) _____.
3. He warned her (not touch) _____ the wire.
4. Don't forget (lock) _____ the door before (go) _____.
5. My mother told me (not speak) _____ to anyone about it.
6. He tried (explain) _____ but she refused (listen) _____.
7. At dinner she annoyed me by (smoke) _____ between the courses.
8. He decided (disguise) _____ himself by (dress) _____ as a monster.
9. I am beginning (understand) _____ what you mean.
10. The boys like (play) _____ games but hate (do) _____ lessons.
11. I couldn't help (overhear) _____ what you said.
12. I don't allow (smoke) _____ in my sitting room.
13. I don't allow anyone (smoke) _____ in my sitting room.
14. Please go on (write) _____; I don't mind (wait) _____.
15. He wore dark glasses (avoid) (be) _____ recognized.
16. Before (give) _____ evidence you must swear (speak) _____ the truth.
17. Stop (talk) _____; I am trying (finish) _____ a letter.
18. His doctor advised him (give up) (smoke) _____.
19. People used (make) _____ fire by (rub) _____ two sticks together.
20. They are used to (have breakfast) _____ early.
21. Some people seem (have) _____ a passion for (write) _____ in the newspapers.
22. It is easy (learn) _____ that lesson.
23. Would you like (come) _____ with us? Yes, I love (go) _____ to that place.
24. He kept (ask) _____ for an explanation.
25. I didn't mean (offend) _____ anyone but somehow I succeeded in (annoy) _____ them all.
26. He never thinks of (get) _____ out of your way..
27. Do you remember (hear) _____ the bombs (drop) _____.
28. I stopped (ask) _____ the way.
29. He heard the clock (strike) _____ six.
30. We watched the men (saw) _____ the tree.

GERUND

1) As subject of a sentence

2) Verbs + gerund:

Admit, avoid, carry on, detest, enjoy, finish, give up, go on, imagine, involve, can't help, keep (on), mind, miss, resist, risk, can't stand.

3) Prepositions + gerund.

4) Prepositional verbs + gerund:

Be fed up with, be fond of, be good/bad at, be interested in, be used to, dream of, feel like, insist on, look forward to, succeed in, thank s.o. for, think about/of, (what about...?).

5) Expressions + gerund:

It's no use/it's no good, it's worth, it's not worth, go + gerund (go shopping, go fishing, go surfing...).

6) Verbs + infinitive or gerund (without change of meaning)

Start, begin, continue, can't bear, bother.

Hate, like, love, prefer + infinitive/gerund. Exception: conditional tenses =>+ infinitive.

7) Verbs + infinitive or gerund (with change of meaning):

Try:

+ gerund: experimentar, probar.

+ infinitive: intentar.

Stop:

+ gerund: parar, dejar de.

+ infinitive: parar para hacer algo diferente.

Mean:

+ gerund: implicar, traer como consecuencia.

+ infinitive: tener la intención de.

Allow/permit:

+ gerund: cuando no se menciona a la persona a la que se le permite hacer algo.

+ infinitive: cuando se menciona a la persona.

Remember/forget/regret:

+ infinitive: la acción de recordar, olvidar o lamentarse es anterior. (Ej.:cerrar)

+ gerund: la acción de recordar, olvidar o lamentarse es posterior. (Ej.:haber cerrado)

8) Verbs (of sensation) + object + gerund or infinitive (without "to"):

See, hear, feel, smell, listen to, watch.

9) Need + gerund (passive meaning).

10) Prohibitions+gerund: No smoking!

INFINITIVE

1) Verbs + to + infinitive (negative= verbs + Not to infinitive):

Afford, agree, appear (=seem), arrange, ask, care, decide, expect, fail, help, hesitate, hope, learn, manage, neglect, prepare, pretend, promise, refuse, seem, swear, want.

2) Verbs + object + to + infinitive:

Advise, ask, encourage, expect, forbid, help, invite, order, remind, teach, tell, warn, want, would like, would love, would hate, would prefer.

3) To be + adjectives + to + infinitive:

Able, afraid, amazed, angry, delighted, disgusted, disappointed, glad, happy, likely, obliged, sad, sorry, supposed, surprised, unable.

It is/was + adjective + to infinitive: difficult, easy, hard, impossible, possible.

4) Verbs (of sensation) + object + gerund or infinitive (without "to"):

See, hear, feel, smell, listen to, watch.

5) Make + object + infinitive (without "to").

6) Let + object + infinitive (without "to").

7) would rather + infinitive (without "to")

8) had better + infinitive (without "to")

9) Modal verbs + infinitive (without "to") (exceptions: have to, ought to)