

Gerund or Infinitive Exercises

COMMON VERBS FOLLOWED BY THE GERUND:

Enjoy	I enjoyed living in France.
fancy	I fancy seeing a film tonight.
discuss	We discussed going on holiday together.
dislike	I dislike waiting for buses.
finish	We've finished preparing for the meeting.
suggest	He suggested staying at the Grand Hotel.
recommend	They recommended meeting earlier.
avoid	She avoided talking to her boss.
miss	She misses living near the beach.
appreciate	I appreciated her helping me.
delay	He delayed doing his taxes.
postpone	He postponed returning to Paris.
practise	She practised singing the song.
consider	She considered moving to New York.
risk	He risked being caught.
admit	He admitted cheating on the test.
deny	He denied committing the crime.
mention	He mentioned going to that college.
imagine	He imagines working there one day.
tolerate	I tolerated her talking.
understand	I understand his quitting.
involve	The job involves travelling to Japan once a month.
complete	He completed renovating the house.
report	He reported her stealing the money.
anticipate	I anticipated arriving late.
recall	Tom recalled using his credit card at the store.

COMMON VERBS FOLLOWED BY TO + INFINITIVE:

agree	She agreed to give a presentation at the meeting
ask*	I asked to leave early / I asked him to leave early
decide	We decided to go out for dinner
help*	He helped to clean the kitchen / he helped his flatmate to clean the kitchen
plan	She plans to buy a new flat next year
hope	I hope to pass the exam
learn	They are learning to sing
want*	I want to come to the party / I want him to come to the party.
would like*	I would like to see her tonight / I would like you to see her tonight
promise	We promised not to be late
can afford	We can't afford to go on holiday.
manage	He managed to open the door without the key.
prepare*	They prepared to take the test /the teachers prepared the students to take the test.
demand	He demanded to speak to Mr. Harris.
choose	I chose to help.
offer	Frank offered to drive us to the supermarket.
wait	She waited to buy a movie ticket.
would hate*	I'd hate to be late / I'd hate you to be late.
would love*	I'd love to come / I'd love him to come.

seem	Nancy seemed to be disappointed.
expect*	They expect to arrive early / they expect Julie to arrive early
intend	We intend to visit you next spring.
pretend	The child pretended to be a monster.
refuse	The guard refused to let them enter the building.
would prefer*	I'd prefer to do it / I'd prefer him to do it.
deserve	He deserves to go to jail.
appear	His health appeared to be better.
arrange	Naomi arranged to stay with her cousin in Miami.

*We can use an object before the infinitive with these verbs.

(Note that 'help' can also be followed by the infinitive without 'to' with no difference in meaning: 'I helped to carry it' = 'I helped carry it'.)

Exercises

1. Put the verb into the correct form:

1. I don't fancy _____ (go) out tonight.
2. She avoided _____ (tell) him about her plans.
3. I would like _____ (come) to the party with you.
4. He enjoys _____ (have) a bath in the evening.
5. She kept _____ (talk) during the film.
6. I am learning _____ (speak) English.
7. Do you mind _____ (give) me a hand?
8. She helped me _____ (carry) my suitcases.
9. I've finished _____ (cook). Come and eat!
10. He decided _____ (study) Biology.
11. I dislike _____ (wait).
12. He asked _____ (come) with us.
13. I promise _____ (help) you tomorrow.
14. We discussed _____ (go) to the cinema, but in the end we stayed at home.
15. She agreed _____ (bring) the pudding.
16. I don't recommend _____ (take) the bus, it takes forever!
17. We hope _____ (visit) Amsterdam next month.
18. She suggested _____ (go) to the museum.
19. They plan _____ (start) college in the autumn.
20. I don't want _____ (leave) yet.

2. Put the verb into the gerund or the infinitive with 'to':

1. She delayed _____ (get) out of bed.
2. He demanded _____ (speak) to the manager.
3. I offered _____ (help).
4. I miss _____ (go) to the beach.
5. We postponed _____ (do) our homework.

6. I'd hate _____ (arrive) too late.
7. She admitted _____ (steal) the money.
8. I chose _____ (work) here.
9. She waited _____ (buy) a drink.
10. I really appreciate _____ (be) on holiday.
11. I couldn't help _____ (laugh).
12. It seems _____ (be) raining.
13. I considered _____ (move) to Spain.
14. They practised _____ (speak).
15. Finally I managed _____ (finish) the work.
16. I really can't stand _____ (wait) for the bus.
17. Unfortunately, we can't afford _____ (buy) a new car this year.
18. She risked _____ (be) late.
19. I'd love _____ (come) with you.
20. I prepared _____ (go) on holiday.

3. Put the verb into the gerund or the infinitive with 'to':

1. It appears _____ (be) raining.
2. We intend _____ (go) to the countryside this weekend.
3. I pretended _____ (be) sick so I didn't have to go to work.
4. Can you imagine _____ (live) without TV?
5. They tolerate _____ (smoke) but they prefer people not to.
6. I anticipate _____ (arrive) on Tuesday.
7. A wedding involves _____ (negotiate) with everyone in the family.
8. He denies _____ (steal) the money.
9. He claims _____ (be) a millionaire but I don't believe him.
10. I expect _____ (be) there about seven.
11. Julia reported _____ (see) the boys to the police.
12. It tends _____ (rain) a lot in Scotland.
13. Do you recall _____ (meet) her at the party last week?
14. She mentioned _____ (go) to the cinema, but I don't know what she decided to do in the end.
15. The teenager refused _____ (go) on holiday with his parents.
16. I understand _____ (be) late once or twice, but every day is too much!
17. I would prefer you _____ (come) early if you can.
18. That criminal deserves _____ (get) a long sentence.
19. She completed _____ (paint) her flat.
20. We arranged _____ (meet) at four but at four thirty she still hadn't arrived.

1. Answers:

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|--------------|--------------|
| 1. going | 11. waiting |
| 2. telling | 12. to come |
| 3. to come | 13. to help |
| 4. having | 14. going |
| 5. talking | 15. to bring |
| 6. to speak | 16. taking |
| 7. giving | 17. to visit |
| 8. to carry | 18. going |
| 9. cooking | 19. to start |
| 10. to study | 20. to leave |

2. Answers:

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. getting | 11. laughing |
| 2. to speak | 12. to be |
| 3. to help | 13. moving |
| 4. going | 14. speaking |
| 5. doing | 15. to finish |
| 6. to arrive | 16. waiting |
| 7. stealing | 17. to buy |
| 8. to work | 18. being |
| 9. to buy | 19. to come |
| 10. being | 20. to go |

3. Answers:

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. to be | 11. seeing |
| 2. to go | 12. to rain |
| 3. to be | 13. meeting |
| 4. living | 14. going |
| 5. smoking | 15. to go |
| 6. arriving | 16. being |
| 7. negotiating | 17. to come |
| 8. stealing | 18. to get |
| 9. to be | 19. painting |
| 10. to be | 20. to meet |