

Verb + -ing (enjoy doing / stop doing etc.)

A

Look at these examples:

- ☐ I **enjoy reading**. (*not* I enjoy to read)
- ☐ Would you **mind closing** the door?
(*not* mind to close)
- ☐ Chris **suggested going** to the cinema.
(*not* suggested to go)

After **enjoy**, **mind** and **suggest**, we use **-ing** (*not to* ...).Some more verbs that are followed by **-ing**:

stop	postpone	admit	avoid	imagine
finish	consider	deny	risk	fancy

- ☐ Suddenly everybody **stopped talking**. There was silence.
- ☐ I'll do the shopping when I've **finished cleaning** the flat.
- ☐ He tried to **avoid answering** my question.
- ☐ I don't **fancy going** out this evening. (= I'm not enthusiastic about it)
- ☐ Have you ever **considered going** to live in another country?
- ☐ They said they were innocent. They **denied doing** anything wrong.

The negative form is **not -ing**:

- ☐ When I'm on holiday, I enjoy **not having** to get up early.



B

We also use **-ing** after:

give up (= stop)
put off (= postpone)
go on or carry on (= continue)
keep or keep on (= do something continuously or repeatedly)

- ☐ I've **given up reading** newspapers. I think it's a waste of time.
- ☐ Catherine doesn't want to retire. She wants to **go on working**. (*or ... to carry on working.*)
- ☐ You **keep interrupting** when I'm talking! *or* You **keep on interrupting** ...

C

With some verbs you can use the structure *verb* + somebody + **-ing**:

- ☐ I can't **imagine George riding** a motorbike.
- ☐ You can't **stop me doing** what I want.
- ☐ Did you really say that? I don't **remember you saying** that.
- ☐ 'Sorry to **keep you waiting** so long.' 'That's all right.'

Note the passive form (**being done/seen/kept** etc.):

- ☐ I don't **mind being kept** waiting. (= I don't mind **people keeping** me ...)

D

When you are talking about finished actions, you can say **having done/stolen/said** etc. :

- ☐ They admitted **having stolen** the money.

But it is not necessary to use **having** (done). You can also say:

- ☐ They admitted **stealing** the money.
- ☐ I now regret **saying** (*or having said*) what I said.

E

After some of the verbs on this page (especially **admit/deny/suggest**) you can also use **that** ... :

- ☐ They **denied that** they had stolen the money. (*or* They **denied stealing** ...)
- ☐ Chris **suggested that** we went to the cinema. (*or* Sam **suggested going** ...)

Exercises

53.1 Complete the sentences for each situation using **-ing**.

- | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|
| 1 | What shall we do? |  | We could go to the zoo. | She suggested <u>going to the zoo</u> . |
| 2 | Do you want to play tennis? |  | No, not really. | He didn't fancy |
| 3 | You were driving too fast. |  | You're right. Sorry! | She admitted |
| 4 | Let's go swimming. |  | Good idea! | She suggested |
| 5 | You broke the DVD player. |  | No, I didn't! | He denied |
| 6 | Can you wait a few minutes? |  | Sure, no problem. | They didn't mind |

53.2 Complete each sentence with one of the following verbs (in the correct form):

answer	apply	be	forget	listen	live
lose	make	pay	read	try	use

- He tried to avoid answering my question.
- Could you please stop so much noise?
- I enjoy to music.
- I considered for the job, but in the end I decided against it.
- Have you finished the newspaper yet?
- We need to change our routine. We can't go on like this.
- I don't mind you my phone, but please ask me first.
- My memory is getting worse. I keep things.
- I've put off this bill so many times. I really must do it today.
- What a stupid thing to do! Can you imagine anybody so stupid?
- I've given up to lose weight – it's impossible.
- If you gamble, you risk your money.

53.3 Complete the sentences so that they mean the same as the first sentence.

- I can do what I want and you can't stop me.
You can't stop me doing what I want.
- It's not a good idea to travel during the rush hour.
It's better to avoid during the rush hour.
- Shall we paint the kitchen next weekend instead of this weekend?
Shall we postpone until next weekend?
- Could you turn the music down, please?
Would you mind, please?
- Please don't interrupt all the time.
Would you mind all the time?

53.4 Use your own ideas to complete these sentences. Use **-ing**.

- She's a very interesting person. I always enjoy talking to her.
- I'm not feeling very well. I don't fancy
- I'm afraid there aren't any chairs. I hope you don't mind
- It was a beautiful day, so I suggested
- It was very funny. I couldn't stop
- My car isn't very reliable. It keeps

Verb + **to ... (decide to ... / forget to ... etc.)**

A

offer	decide	hope	deserve	promise
agree	plan	manage	afford	threaten
refuse	arrange	fail	forget	learn

After these verbs you can use **to ... (infinitive)**:

- ☐ It was late, so we **decided to take** a taxi home.
- ☐ Simon was in a difficult situation, so I **agreed to help** him.
- ☐ How old were you when you **learnt to drive**? (or learnt **how** to drive)
- ☐ I waved to Karen, but **failed to attract** her attention.

The negative is **not to ...**:

- ☐ We **decided not to go** out because of the weather.
- ☐ I **promised not to be** late.

After some verbs **to ...** is not possible. For example, **enjoy/think/suggest**:

- ☐ I **enjoy reading**. (not enjoy to read)
- ☐ Andy **suggested meeting** for coffee. (not suggested to meet)
- ☐ Are you **thinking of buying** a car? (not thinking to buy)

For verb + **-ing**, see Unit 53. For verb + preposition + **-ing**, see Unit 62.

B

After **dare** you can use the infinitive with or without **to**:

- ☐ I wouldn't **dare to tell** him. or I wouldn't **dare tell** him.

But after **dare not (or daren't)**, you must use the infinitive without **to**:

- ☐ I **daren't tell** him what happened. (not I daren't to tell him)

C

We also use **to ...** after:

seem appear tend pretend claim

For example:

- ☐ They **seem to have** plenty of money.
- ☐ I like Dan, but I think he **tends to talk** too much.
- ☐ Ann **pretended not to see** me when she passed me in the street.

There is also a *continuous* infinitive (**to be doing**) and a *perfect* infinitive (**to have done**):

- ☐ I **pretended to be reading** the paper. (= I pretended that I **was reading**)
- ☐ You **seem to have lost** weight. (= it seems that you **have lost** weight)
- ☐ Joe **seems to be enjoying** his new job. (= it seems that he **is enjoying** it)

D

After some verbs you can use a question word (**what/whether/how** etc.) + **to ...**.

We use this structure especially after:

ask decide know remember forget explain learn understand wonder

We asked	how	to get	to the station.
Have you decided	where	to go	for your holidays?
I don't know	whether	to apply	for the job or not.
Do you understand	what	to do?	

Also

show/tell/ask/advise/teach somebody **what/how/where** to do something:

- ☐ Can somebody **show me how to use** this camera?
- ☐ Ask Jack. He'll **tell you what to do**.

Exercises

54.1 Complete the sentences for these situations.

- | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | Shall we get married? |  | Yes, let's. | They decided <u>to get married</u> . |
| 2 | Please help me. |  | OK. | She agreed |
| 3 | Can I carry your bag for you? |  | No, thanks. I can manage. | He offered |
| 4 | Let's meet at 8 o'clock. |  | OK, fine. | They arranged |
| 5 | What's your name? |  | I'm not going to tell you. | She refused |
| 6 | Please don't tell anyone. |  | I won't. I promise. | She promised |

54.2 Complete each sentence with a suitable verb.

- Don't forget to lock the door when you go out.
- There was a lot of traffic, but we managed to the airport in time.
- We couldn't afford in London. It's too expensive.
- We've got new computer software in our office. I haven't learnt it yet.
- Mark doesn't know what happened. I decided not him.
- We were all afraid to speak. Nobody dared anything.

54.3 Put the verb into the correct form, to ... or -ing. (See Unit 53 for verbs + -ing.)

- When I'm tired, I enjoy watching television. It's relaxing. (watch)
- I've decided for another job. I need a change. (look)
- Let's get a taxi. I don't fancy home. (walk)
- I'm not in a hurry. I don't mind (wait)
- Tina ran in a marathon last week, but she failed (finish)
- I wish that dog would stop It's driving me crazy. (bark)
- Our neighbour threatened the police if we didn't stop the noise. (call)
- We were hungry, so I suggested dinner early. (have)
- Hurry up! I don't want to risk the train. (miss)
- They didn't know I was listening to them. I pretended asleep. (be)

54.4 Make a new sentence using the verb in brackets.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 You've lost weight. | (seem) | <u>You seem to have lost weight.</u> |
| 2 Tom is worried about something. | (appear) | Tom appears |
| 3 You know a lot of people. | (seem) | You |
| 4 My English is getting better. | (seem) | |
| 5 That car has broken down. | (appear) | |
| 6 David forgets things. | (tend) | |
| 7 They have solved the problem. | (claim) | |

54.5 Complete each sentence using what/how/where/whether + these verbs:

do ~~get~~ go put ride use

- Do you know how to get to John's house?
- Would you know if there was a fire in the building?
- You'll never forget a bicycle once you've learnt.
- I've been invited to the party, but I haven't decided or not.
- My room is very untidy. I've got so many things and I don't know them.
- I have some clothes to wash. Can you show me the washing machine?

Verb (+ object) + **to ...** (I want you to ... etc.)

A

want	ask	help	would like
expect	beg	mean (= intend)	would prefer

These verbs are followed by **to ...** (*infinitive*). The structure can be:

verb + **to ...**

or

verb + object + **to ...**

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ We expected to be late. | ☐ We expected Dan to be late. |
| ☐ Would you like to go now? | ☐ Would you like me to go now? |
| ☐ He doesn't want to know . | ☐ He doesn't want anybody to know . |

Do not say 'want that':

- ☐ Do you **want me to come** with you? (*not* Do you want that I come)

After **help** you can use the infinitive with or without **to**. So you can say:

- ☐ Can you help me **to move** this table? or Can you help me **move** this table?

B

tell	remind	force	encourage	teach	enable
order	warn	invite	persuade	get (= persuade)	

These verbs have the structure *verb + object + to ...* :

- ☐ Can you **remind me to call** Sam tomorrow?
- ☐ Who **taught you to drive**?
- ☐ I didn't move the piano by myself. I **got somebody to help** me.
- ☐ Joe said the switch was dangerous and **warned me not to touch** it.

In the next example, the verb is *passive* (**I was warned** / **we were told** etc.):

- ☐ **I was warned not to touch** the switch.

You cannot use **suggest** with the structure *verb + object + to ...* :

- ☐ Jane **suggested that I ask** your advice. (*not* Jane suggested me to ask)

C

After **advise** and **allow**, two structures are possible. Compare:

verb + **-ing** (without an object)verb + object + **to ...**

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ I wouldn't advise staying in that hotel. | ☐ I wouldn't advise anybody to stay in that hotel. |
| ☐ They don't allow parking in front of the building. | ☐ They don't allow people to park in front of the building. |

Study these examples with **(be) allowed** (*passive*):

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Parking isn't allowed in front of the building. | ☐ You aren't allowed to park in front of the building. |
|---|--|

D

Make and let

These verbs have the structure *verb + object + infinitive* (without **to**):

- ☐ I **made him promise** that he wouldn't tell anybody what happened. (*not* to promise)
- ☐ Hot weather **makes me feel** tired. (= causes me to feel tired)
- ☐ Her parents wouldn't **let her go** out alone. (= wouldn't allow her to go out)
- ☐ **Let me carry** your bag for you.

We say '**make somebody do**' (*not* to do), but in the *passive* we say '**made to do**' (with **to**):

- ☐ **We were made to wait** for two hours. (= They **made us wait** ...)

Exercises

55.1 Complete the questions. Use **do you want me to ... ?** or **would you like me to ... ?** with these verbs (+ any other necessary words):

~~come~~ lend repeat show shut wait

- 1 Do you want to go alone, or do you want me to come with you ?
- 2 Do you have enough money, or do you want _____ ?
- 3 Shall I leave the window open, or would you _____ ?
- 4 Do you know how to use the machine, or would _____ ?
- 5 Did you hear what I said, or do _____ ?
- 6 Can I go now, or do _____ ?

55.2 Complete the sentences for these situations.

- 1  She told him to meet her at the station.
- 2  They invited him _____.
- 3  He reminded her _____.
- 4  She warned _____.
- 5  He asked _____.

55.3 Complete each second sentence so that the meaning is similar to the first sentence.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 My father said I could use his car. | My father allowed <u>me to use his car.</u> |
| 2 I was surprised that it rained. | I didn't expect _____ |
| 3 Don't stop him doing what he wants. | Let _____ |
| 4 Tim looks older when he wears glasses. | Tim's glasses make _____ |
| 5 I think you should know the truth. | I want _____ |
| 6 At first I didn't want to apply for the job, but Sarah persuaded me. | Sarah persuaded _____ |
| 7 My lawyer said I shouldn't say anything to the police. | My lawyer advised _____ |
| 8 I was told that I shouldn't believe everything he says. | I was warned _____ |
| 9 If you've got a car, you are able to get around more easily. | Having a car enables _____ |

55.4 Put the verb into the correct form: infinitive (**do/make/eat** etc.), **to + infinitive**, or **-ing**.

- 1 They don't allow people to park in front of the building. (park)
- 2 I've never been to Hong Kong, but I'd like _____ there. (go)
- 3 I'm in a difficult position. What do you advise me _____ ? (do)
- 4 The film was very sad. It made me _____ . (cry)
- 5 Lisa's parents always encouraged her _____ hard at school. (study)
- 6 If you want to get a cheap flight, I'd advise _____ early. (book)
- 7 Sarah wouldn't let me _____ her car. She doesn't trust me. (borrow)
- 8 If you enter a country with a tourist visa, you are normally not allowed _____ there. (work)
- 9 'I don't think Alex likes me.' 'What makes you _____ that?' (think)

Verb + **-ing** or **to ...** 1 (remember/regret etc.)

A

Some verbs are followed by **-ing** and some are followed by **to ...**.Verbs usually followed by **-ing**:

admit	fancy	postpone
avoid	finish	risk
consider	imagine	stop
deny	keep (on)	suggest
enjoy	mind	

For examples, see Unit 53.

Verbs usually followed by **to ...**:

afford	fail	offer
agree	forget	plan
arrange	hope	promise
decide	learn	refuse
deserve	manage	threaten

For examples, see Unit 54.

B

Some verbs can be followed by **-ing** or **to ...** with a difference of meaning:**remember**I **remember doing** something = I did it and now I remember this.You **remember doing** something *after* you have done it.

- ☐ I know I locked the door. I clearly **remember locking** it.
(= I locked it, and now I remember this)
- ☐ He could **remember driving** along the road just before the accident, but he couldn't remember the accident itself.

I **remembered to do** something = I remembered that I had to do it, so I did it.You **remember to do** something *before* you do it.

- ☐ I **remembered to lock** the door, but I forgot to shut the windows.
(= I remembered that I had to lock it, and so I locked it)
- ☐ I must **remember to pay** the electricity bill. (= I must not forget to pay it)

regretI **regret doing** something = I did it and now I'm sorry about it:

- ☐ I now **regret saying** what I said. I shouldn't have said it.
- ☐ Do you **regret not going** to college?

I **regret to say / to tell you / to inform**

you = I'm sorry that I have to say (etc.):

- ☐ (*from a formal letter*) We **regret to inform** you that your application has been unsuccessful.

go on**Go on doing** something = continue with the same thing:

- ☐ The president paused for a moment and then **went on talking**.
- ☐ We need to change. We can't **go on living** like this.

Go on to do something = do or say something new:

- ☐ After discussing the economy, the president then **went on to talk** about foreign policy.

C

The following verbs can be followed by **-ing** or **to ...** with no difference of meaning:**begin start continue intend bother**

So you can say:

- ☐ It **started raining**. or It **started to rain**.
- ☐ Andy **intends buying** a house. or Andy **intends to buy** ...
- ☐ Don't **bother locking** the door. or Don't **bother to lock** ...

But normally we do not use **-ing** after **-ing**:

- ☐ It's **starting to rain**. (*not* It's starting raining)

56.1 Put the verb into the correct form, -ing or to ...

- 1 They denied stealing the money. (steal)
- 2 I don't enjoy very much. (drive)
- 3 I can't afford out tonight. I don't have enough money. (go)
- 4 Has it stopped yet? (rain)
- 5 We were unlucky to lose the game. We deserved (win)
- 6 Why do you keep me questions? Can't you leave me alone? (ask)
- 7 Please stop me questions! (ask)
- 8 I refuse any more questions. (answer)
- 9 The driver of one of the cars admitted the accident. (cause)
- 10 Mark needed our help, and we promised what we could. (do)
- 11 I don't mind alone, but it's better to be with other people. (be)
- 12 The wall was quite high, but I managed over it. (climb)
- 13 'Does Sarah know about the meeting?' 'No, I forgot her.' (tell)
- 14 I've enjoyed to you. I hope you again soon. (talk, see)

56.2 Tom can remember some things about his childhood, but he can't remember others. Complete the sentences.

- 1 He was in hospital when he was a small child. He can still remember this.
He can remember being in hospital when he was a small child.
- 2 He went to Paris with his parents when he was eight. He remembers this.
He remembers with his parents when he was eight.
- 3 He cried on his first day at school. He doesn't remember this.
He doesn't on his first day at school.
- 4 Once he fell into the river. He can remember this.
He
- 5 He said he wanted to be a doctor. He can't remember this.
..... to be a doctor.
- 6 Once he was bitten by a dog. He doesn't remember this.
..... a dog.

56.3 Complete each sentence with a verb in the correct form, -ing or to ... Sometimes either form is possible.

- 1 a Please remember to lock the door when you go out.
b A: You lent me some money a few months ago.
B: Did I? Are you sure? I don't remember you any money.
- c A: Did you remember your sister?
B: Oh no, I completely forgot. I'll phone her tomorrow.
- d When you see Steve, remember hello to him from me.
- e Someone must have taken my bag. I clearly remember it by the window and now it has gone.
- 2 a I believe that what I said was right. I don't regret it.
b I knew they were in trouble, but I regret I did nothing to help them.
c It started to get cold, and he regretted not his coat.
- 3 a Ben joined the company nine years ago. He became assistant manager after two years, and a few years later he went on manager of the company.
b I can't go on here any more. I want a different job.
c When I came into the room, Lisa was reading a newspaper. She looked up and said hello, and then went on her newspaper.
- 4 a If the company continues money, the factory may be closed.
b Julia has been ill, but now she's beginning better.
c The baby started in the middle of the night.

Verb + -ing or to ... 2 (try/need/help)

A

Try to ... and try -ing

Try to do = attempt to do, make an effort to do:

- ☐ I was very tired. I **tried to keep** my eyes open, but I couldn't.
- ☐ Please **try to be** quiet when you come home. Everyone will be asleep.

Try also means 'do something as an experiment or test'. For example:

- ☐ These cakes are delicious. You should **try** one.
(= you should have one to see if you like it)
- ☐ We couldn't find anywhere to stay. We **tried** every hotel in the town, but they were all full.
(= we went to every hotel to see if they had a room)

If **try** (with this meaning) is followed by a verb, we say **try -ing**:

- ☐ A: The photocopier doesn't seem to be working.
B: **Try pressing** the green button.
(= press the green button – perhaps this will help to solve the problem)

Compare:

- ☐ I **tried to move** the table, but it was too heavy. (so I couldn't move it)
- ☐ I didn't like the way the furniture was arranged, so I **tried moving** the table to the other side of the room. But it didn't look right, so I moved it back again.

B

Need to ... and need -ing

I need to do something = it is necessary for me to do it:

- ☐ I **need to get** more exercise.
- ☐ He **needs to work** harder if he wants to make progress.
- ☐ I don't **need to come** to the meeting, do I?

Something **needs doing** = it needs to be done:

- ☐ My phone **needs charging**.
(= it needs to be charged)
- ☐ Do you think this jacket **needs cleaning**?
(= ... needs to be cleaned)
- ☐ It's a difficult problem. It **needs thinking** about very carefully. (= it needs to be thought about)



C

Help and can't help

You can say **help to do** or **help do** (with or without **to**):

- ☐ Everybody **helped to clean** up after the party. or
Everybody **helped clean** up ...
- ☐ Can you **help me to move** this table? or
Can you **help me move** ...

I can't help doing something = I can't stop myself doing it:

- ☐ I don't like him, but he has a lot of problems. I **can't help feeling** sorry for him.
- ☐ She tried to be serious, but she **couldn't help laughing**.
(= she couldn't stop herself laughing)
- ☐ I'm sorry I'm so nervous. I **can't help it**.
(= I can't help **being** nervous)



She **couldn't help laughing**.

57.1 Make suggestions. Use **try** + one of the following:

phone his office restart it ~~change the batteries~~
turn it the other way take an aspirin

- 1 The radio isn't working.
- 2 I can't open the door. The key won't turn.
- 3 The computer isn't working properly.
- 4 Fred isn't answering his phone. What shall I do?
- 5 I've got a terrible headache. I wish it would go.

Have you tried changing the batteries?

Try

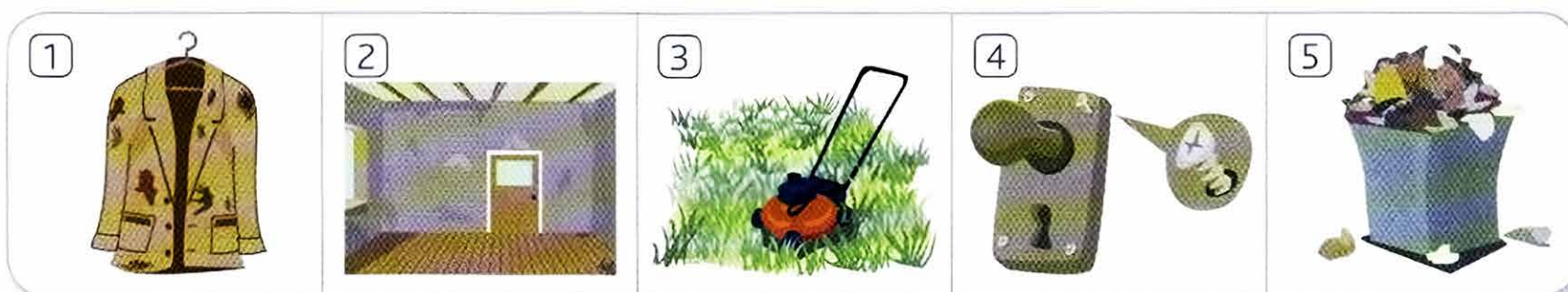
Have you tried

You could

Have you

57.2 For each picture, write a sentence with **need(s)** + one of the following verbs:

~~clean~~ cut empty paint tighten



- 1 This jacket is dirty. It needs cleaning.
- 2 The room isn't very nice. It
- 3 The grass is very long.
- 4 The screws are loose.
- 5 The bin is full.

57.3 Put the verb into the correct form.

- 1 a I was very tired. I tried to keep (keep) my eyes open, but I couldn't.
b I rang the doorbell, but there was no answer. Then I tried (knock) on the door, but there was still no answer.
c We tried (put) the fire out but without success. We had to call the fire brigade.
d Sue needed to borrow some money. She tried (ask) Gary, but he was short of money too.
e I tried (reach) the shelf, but I wasn't tall enough.
f Please leave me alone. I'm trying (concentrate).
- 2 a I need a change. I need (go) away for a while.
b My grandmother isn't able to look after herself any more. She needs (look) after.
c The windows are dirty. They need (clean).
d Your hair is getting very long. It needs (cut).
e You don't need (iron) that shirt. It doesn't need (iron).
- 3 a They were talking very loudly. I couldn't help (overhear) what they said.
b Can you help me (get) the dinner ready?
c He looks so funny. Whenever I see him, I can't help (smile).
d The fine weather helped (make) it a really nice holiday.