

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?

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 / 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.
- Jenny 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.
- '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.

For **regret**, see Unit 56B.

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 ...)
- Sam **suggested that** we went to the cinema. (*or* Sam suggested going ...)

Suggest → Unit 34 **Being done** (passive) → Unit 44B **Verb + to ...** → Unit 54 **Verb + to ... and -ing** → Units 55C, 56–58 **Regret / go on** → Unit 56B **Go on / carry on / keep on** → Unit 141A

Exercises




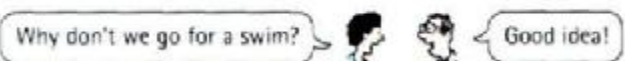


Unit 53

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

~~answer~~ apply be forget listen live lose make read try use write

- 1 He tried to avoid answering my question.
- 2 Could you please stop _____ so much noise?
- 3 I enjoy _____ to music.
- 4 I considered _____ for the job, but in the end I decided against it.
- 5 Have you finished _____ the newspaper yet?
- 6 We need to change our routine. We can't go on _____ like this.
- 7 I don't mind you _____ the phone as long as you pay for all your calls.
- 8 My memory is getting worse. I keep _____ things.
- 9 I've put off _____ the letter so many times. I really must do it today.
- 10 What a stupid thing to do! Can you imagine anybody _____ so stupid?
- 11 I've given up _____ to lose weight – it's impossible.
- 12 If you invest your money on the stock market, you risk _____ it.

53.2 Complete the sentences for each situation using -ing.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 |  | She suggested <u>going to the zoo</u> . |
| 2 |  | He didn't fancy _____. |
| 3 |  | She admitted _____. |
| 4 |  | She suggested _____. |
| 5 |  | He denied _____. |
| 6 |  | They didn't mind _____. |

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

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

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

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

Unit 54

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*)
- Tom **suggested going** to the cinema. (*not suggested to go*)
- 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

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

C

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)

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 change** the film in this camera?
- Ask Jack. He'll **tell you what to do**.

Verb + -ing → Unit 53 Verb + object + to ... (want etc.) → Unit 55

Verb + to ... and -ing → Units 55C, 56–58

54.1 Complete the sentences for these situations.

- | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1 |  | They decided <u>to get married</u> . |
| 2 |  | She agreed _____. |
| 3 |  | He offered _____. |
| 4 |  | They arranged _____. |
| 5 |  | She refused _____. |
| 6 |  | She promised _____. |

54.2 Complete each sentence with a suitable verb.

- Don't forget to post the letter I gave you.
- There was a lot of traffic, but we managed _____ to the airport in time.
- Jill has decided not _____ a car.
- We've got a new computer in our office. I haven't learnt _____ it yet.
- Karen failed _____ a good impression at the job interview.
- 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)
- It was a nice day, so we decided _____ for a walk. (go)
- It's a nice day. Does anyone fancy _____ for a walk? (go)
- I'm not in a hurry. I don't mind _____ . (wait)
- They don't have much money. They can't afford _____ out very often. (go)
- I wish that dog would stop _____ . It's driving me mad. (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)
- I'm still looking for a job, but I hope _____ something soon. (find)

54.4 Make a new sentence using the verb in brackets.

- You've lost weight. (seem) You seem to have lost weight.
- Tom is worried about something. (appear) Tom appears _____.
- You know a lot of people. (seem) You _____.
- My English is getting better. (seem) _____.
- That car has broken down. (appear) _____.
- David forgets things. (tend) _____.
- They have solved the problem. (claim) _____.

54.5 Complete each sentence using what/how/whether + the following verbs:

- do get go ride say use
- Do you know how to get to John's house?
 - Can you show me _____ this washing machine?
 - Would you know _____ if there was a fire in the building?
 - You'll never forget _____ a bicycle once you've learnt.
 - I was really astonished. I didn't know _____.
 - I've been invited to the party, but I haven't decided _____ or not.