

“InterEducation” | Educational Center & School of Foreign Languages



Accredited by:



**Eastern
Mediterranean
University**

"For Your International Career"



**GLOBAL
LEARNING VILLAGE**
Language School

GERUNDS & INFINITIVE

110



A gerund is a noun made from a verb by adding "**-ing**." You can use a gerund as the *subject, the complement, the object of a sentence, or as an object after a preposition.*

Examples:

- **Reading** helps you learn English. *subject of sentence*
- Her favorite hobby is **reading**. *complement of sentence*
- I enjoy **reading**. *object of sentence*
- I look forward to **helping** you paint the house. *object after a preposition*

Gerunds can be made negative by adding "not."

Examples:

- He enjoys **not working**.
- The best thing for your health is **not smoking**.



A gerund is a noun made from a verb by adding "**-ing**." You can use a gerund as the *subject*, *the complement*, *the object of a sentence*, or as an object after a preposition.

Examples:

- **Reading** helps you learn English. *subject of sentence*
- Her favorite hobby is **reading**. *complement of sentence*
- I enjoy **reading**. *object of sentence*
- I look forward to **helping** you paint the house. *object after a preposition*

Gerunds can be made negative by adding "not."

Examples:

- He enjoys **not working**.
- The best thing for your health is **not smoking**.



Infinitives are the "to" form of the verb.

You can also use an infinitive as the subject, the complement, or the object of a sentence.

Examples:

- **To learn** is important. *subject of sentence*
- The most important thing is **to learn**. *complement of sentence*
- He wants **to learn**. *object of sentence*

Infinitives can be made negative by adding "not."

Examples:

- I decided **not to go**.
- The most important thing is **not to give up**.



Both **gerunds** and **infinitives** can be used as the subject or the complement of a sentence.

However, as subjects or complements, gerunds usually sound more like normal, spoken English, whereas infinitives sound more abstract.

Gerunds sound more natural and would be more common in everyday English. Infinitives emphasize the possibility or potential for something and sound more philosophical.

Examples:

- **Learning** is important. *normal subject*
- **To learn** is important. *abstract subject - less common*
- The most important thing is **learning**. *normal complement*
- The most important thing is **to learn**. *abstract complement - less common*



| Gerund 'ing' | Infinitives (+ 'to') | Infinitives without 'to' |
|---|---|---|
| 1. After prepositions: She is good at playing games. | 1. After adjectives: It's easy to learn this grammar. | 1. Any modal verbs: I might go to Spain. |
| 2. As the subject of the sentence: Smoking is bad for your healths. | 2. To express purpose: She is saving money to travel. (WHY?) [чтобы :] | 2. After make/let: I make him take out the garbage. |
| 3. After some verbs: I don't mind running in the rain. | 3. After some verbs: I want to ride my bike. | |



As the object of a sentence, it is more difficult to choose between a gerund or an infinitive. In such situations, gerunds and infinitives are not normally interchangeable. Usually, the main verb in the sentence determines whether you use a gerund or an infinitive.

Examples:

- He **enjoys swimming**. *"Enjoy" requires a gerund.*
- He **wants to swim**. *"Want" requires an infinitive.*



As the object of a sentence, it is more difficult to choose between a gerund or an infinitive. In such situations, gerunds and infinitives are not normally interchangeable. Usually, the main verb in the sentence determines whether you use a gerund or an infinitive.

Examples:

- He **enjoys swimming**. *"Enjoy" requires a gerund.*
- He **wants to swim**. *"Want" requires an infinitive.*



| Gerund (____ing) | 'to' + infinitive |
|---|--|
| Begin (non continuous) I began working hard. | Begin (continuous) I'm beginning to get nervous. |
| STOP - a process I stopped smoking. | STOP = in order to I stopped to have a cigarette. |
| KEEP - continue a process They kept running because a dog was chasing them. | KEEP = in order to I kept his wallet to take the money |



| Gerund (____ing) | 'to' + infinitive |
|--|--|
| FORGET - you have done something I'll never forget kissing my first girl. | FORGET - you need to do something I forgot to lock the door. |
| REMEMBER - you have done something I remember meeting you for the first time. | REMEMBER - you need to do something I always remember to check hw's. |
| REGRET - you have done something I regret not working so hard during holidays. | REGRET = you need to do something I regret to tell you that not everyone will be able to enroll into EPS202. |



Some verbs are followed by gerunds as objects.

Examples:

- She **suggested going** to a movie.
- Mary **keeps talking** about her problems.

Some verbs are followed by infinitives.

Examples:

- She **wants to go** to a movie.
- Mary **needs to talk** about her problems.



Some verbs and verb phrases are directly followed a gerund:
Paul avoids **using** chemicals on the vegetables he grows.

Some verbs can be followed by a gerund or an infinitive without causing a change in meaning:

Some people prefer **getting up** early in the morning.

Some people prefer **to get up** early in the morning

Some verbs can be followed by a gerund or infinitive but with a change in meaning:

He remembered **sending** the fax. (He remembered the act of send the fax)

He remembered **to send** the fax. (He remembered the fax and sent it.)



Spelling Tip

Verbing (Present Participle)

- Add **ing** to most verbs. Ex. play > playing, cry > crying, bark > **barking**
- For verbs that end in **e**, remove the **e** and add **ing**. Ex: slide > **sliding**, ride > **riding**
- For verbs that end in **ie**, change the **ie** to **y** and add **ing**. Ex: die > **dying**, tie > **tying**
- For a verb whose **last** syllable is written with a consonant-vowel-consonant and is stressed, double the last letter before adding **ing**. Ex: beg > **begging**, begin > **beginning**. **However**: enter > **entering** (last syllable is not stressed)

