

Gerund and Infinitive Exercises

Level: B1, B2

Gerund or infinitive?

After one verb, English may require the -ing form (enjoy swimming), the to-infinitive (decide to go), or either — sometimes with a change of meaning (stop smoking vs stop to smoke).

Gerund after: enjoy, finish, avoid, suggest, mind, practice, keep, can't stand + -ing

Infinitive after: decide, want, hope, plan, promise, agree, refuse, learn + to + verb

Either, same meaning: start, begin, continue, like, love (I like reading / to read)

Either, different meaning: stop, remember, forget, try: I stopped smoking ≠ I stopped to smoke

After prepositions: always the gerund: good at drawing, interested in learning

Exercise 1: Choose the correct form

Select the correct option to complete each sentence.

1. I really enjoy ___ new people at conferences.
a) to meet b) meeting c) meet
2. They decided ___ a new house next year.
a) buying b) to buy c) buy
3. Please remember ___ the door when you leave.
a) locking b) to lock c) lock
4. She's very good ___ complex ideas simply.
a) at explaining b) to explain c) at explain
5. He avoided ___ the difficult question.
a) to answer b) answer c) answering

Exercise 2: Complete the sentences

Type the correct form (gerund or to-infinitive) of the verb in brackets.

6. She suggested ___ the meeting to Thursday. (move)
7. We hope ___ you again soon. (see)
8. Do you mind ___ the window? It's hot in here. (open)
9. He promised ___ me with the report. (help)
10. I'm looking forward to ___ from you. (hear)

Exercise 3: Put the words in order

Click the words in the correct order to build the sentence.

11. Put the words in the correct order: **swimming / enjoys / she / in the sea**

12. Put the words in the correct order: **to travel / want / they / next summer / abroad**

13. Put the words in the correct order: **smoking / stopped / my uncle / last year**

14. Put the words in the correct order: **learning / interested / she / in / is / Arabic**

Exercise 4: True or false?

Decide if each statement is true or false.

15. "I enjoy to read" is correct English. True / False

16. 'Stop doing something' and 'stop to do something' mean different things. True / False

17. After prepositions, verbs always take the -ing form. True / False

18. "I forgot posting the letter" means I didn't post it. True / False

Answer key

Exercise 1: Choose the correct form

1. b) meeting
2. b) to buy
3. b) to lock
4. a) at explaining
5. c) answering

Exercise 2: Complete the sentences

6. moving
7. to see
8. opening
9. to help
10. hearing

Exercise 3: Put the words in order

11. she enjoys swimming in the sea
12. they want to travel abroad next summer
13. my uncle stopped smoking last year
14. she is interested in learning Arabic

Exercise 4: True or false?

15. False
16. True
17. True
18. False