

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

A Look at these examples:

- I **enjoy** dancing. (*not* 'I enjoy to dance')
- Would you **mind** closing the door? (*not* 'mind to close')
- Ian **suggested** going to the cinema. (*not* 'suggested to go')

After **enjoy**, **mind** and **suggest**, we use **-ing** (*not to...*).

Here are some more verbs that are followed by **-ing**:

stop	delay	fancy	consider	admit	miss	involve
finish	postpone	imagine	avoid	deny	risk	practise

- 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.
- Have you ever **considered** going to live in another country?

Note the negative form **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)
carry on / go on (= continue)
keep *or* keep on (= do something continuously or repeatedly)

- Paula has **given up** smoking.
- We must do something. We can't **go on** living like this! (*or ...carry on living...*)
- Don't **keep** interrupting me while I'm speaking. (*or Don't 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.:

- She admitted **having stolen** the money.

But it is not necessary to use **having** (done). You can also use the simple **-ing** form for finished actions:

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

For **regret**, see Unit 55B.

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

- She **denied that** she had stolen the money. (*or She denied stealing...*)
- Ian **suggested that** we went to the cinema. (*or Ian suggested going...*)

For **suggest**, see also Unit 34.

EXERCISES

52.1 Complete each sentence with one of these verbs:

answer apply be be listen make see try use wash work 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 your hair yet?
- 6 If you walk into the road without looking, you risk knocked down.
- 7 Jim is 65 but he isn't going to retire yet. He wants to carry on
- 8 I don't mind you the phone as long as you pay for all your calls.
- 9 Hello! Fancy you here! What a surprise!
- 10 I've put off the letter so many times. I really must do it today.
- 11 What a stupid thing to do! Can you imagine anybody so stupid?
- 12 Sarah gave up to find a job in this country and decided to go abroad.

52.2 Complete the sentences for each situation using -ing.

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 1 | What shall we do? | We could go to the cinema. | She suggested <u>going</u>
to the cinema..... |
| 2 | Do you want to play tennis? | No, not really. | He didn't fancy |
| 3 | You were driving too fast. | Yes, it's true. Sorry! | She admitted |
| 4 | Why don't we go for a swim? | Good idea! | She suggested |
| 5 | You broke into the shop. | No, I didn't! | He denied |
| 6 | Can you wait a few minutes? | Sure, no problem. | They didn't mind |

52.3 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 go away tomorrow instead of today?
Shall we postpone until
- 4 The driver of the car said it was true that he didn't have a licence.
The driver of the car admitted
- 5 Could you turn the radio down, please?
Would you mind
- 6 Please don't interrupt me all the time.
Would you mind

52.4 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 lovely day, so I suggested
- 5 It was very funny. I couldn't stop
- 6 My car isn't very reliable. It keeps

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

A

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

If these verbs are followed by another verb, the structure is usually *verb + to...* (*infinitive*):

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

Note these examples with the *negative not to...*:

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

With many verbs you cannot normally use *to...* . For example, *enjoy/think/suggest*:

- I **enjoy dancing**. (*not* 'enjoy to dance')
- Ian **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 52. For verb + preposition + *-ing*, see Unit 61.

B

We also use *to...* after: *seem appear tend pretend claim*. For example:

- They **seem to have plenty** of money.
- I like George but I think he **tends to talk** too much.
- Ann **pretended not to see** me as 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)

C

We say 'decide to do something', 'promise to do something' etc. In the same way, we say 'a decision to do something', 'a promise to do something' etc. (*noun + to...*):

- I think his **decision to give up** his job was stupid.
- George has a **tendency to talk** too much.

D

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

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

E

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

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**.

EXERCISES

53.1 Complete the sentences for each situation.

- | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|---|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 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 |

53.2 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.
- I wonder where Sue is. She promised not late.
- We were all too afraid to speak. Nobody dared anything.

53.3 Put the verb into the correct form, to... or -ing. (See Unit 52 for verb + -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)

53.4 Make a new sentence using the verb in brackets.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 He has lost weight. | (seem) | <u>He seems 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) | |

53.5 Complete each sentence using what/how/whether + one of these 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 have learned.
- I was really astonished. I didn't know
- I've been invited to the party but I don't know or not.

51.2

- 2 It's (very) expensive, isn't it?
- 3 The film was great, wasn't it?
- 4 She has / She has got / She's got a lovely voice, hasn't she? or She has a lovely voice, doesn't she?
- 5 It doesn't look very good, does it?
- 6 You've had your hair cut, haven't you?
- 7 This bridge isn't very safe, is it?

51.3

- 2 Jack, you couldn't get me some stamps, could you?
- 3 Kate, you don't know where Ann is, do you? or ...you haven't seen Ann, have you?
- 4 Helen, you haven't got a bicycle pump, have you? or ...you don't have a bicycle pump, do you?
- 5 Robin, you haven't seen my keys, have you?

UNIT 52**52.1**

- | | |
|-------------|------------|
| 2 making | 8 using |
| 3 listening | 9 seeing |
| 4 applying | 10 writing |
| 5 washing | 11 being |
| 6 being | 12 trying |
| 7 working | |

52.2

- 2 playing tennis
- 3 driving too fast
- 4 going for a swim
- 5 breaking into the shop
- 6 waiting a few minutes

52.3

- 2 travelling during the rush hour
- 3 going away (until) tomorrow
- 4 not having a licence
- 5 turning the radio down
- 6 not interrupting me all the time

52.4

Example answers:

- 2 going out
- 3 sitting on the floor
- 4 having a picnic
- 5 laughing
- 6 breaking down

UNIT 53**53.1**

- 2 She agreed to help him.
- 3 He offered to carry her bag.
- 4 They arranged to meet at 8 o'clock.
- 5 She refused to tell him her name.

53.2

- 2 to get
- 3 to buy / to have / to drive
- 4 (how) to use / (how) to operate
- 5 to be
- 6 say or to say

53.3

- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| 2 to go | 7 to call |
| 3 going | 8 having |
| 4 waiting | 9 missing |
| 5 to go | 10 to find |
| 6 barking | |

53.4

- 2 Tom appears to be worried about something.
- 3 You seem to know a lot of people.
- 4 My English seems to be getting better.
- 5 That car appears to have broken down.
- 6 David tends to forget things.
- 7 They claim to have solved the problem.

53.5

- 2 how to use
- 3 what to do
- 4 how to ride
- 5 what to say
- 6 whether to go

UNIT 54**54.1**

- 2 do you want me to lend you some
- 3 would you like me to shut it
- 4 would you like me to show you
- 5 do you want me to repeat it
- 6 do you want me to wait

54.2

- 2 to stay (with them) for a few days.
- 3 She wouldn't let him use her phone.
- 4 She warned him to be careful.
- 5 He asked her to give him a hand.

54.3

- 2 I didn't expect it to rain.
- 3 Let him do what he wants.
- 4 Glasses make him look older.
- 5 I want you to know the truth.
- 6 Remind me to phone my sister.
- 7 Sarah persuaded me to apply for the job.
- 8 My lawyer advised me not to say anything to the police.
- 9 I was warned not to believe everything he says.
- 10 Having a car enables you to travel round more easily.