

UNIT 4

Infinitive - Too/Enough - The -ing form - Participles

The Infinitive



She **wants to finish** her work.
She **must work** overtime.
She **hopes to get** a promotion soon.

The infinitives are:

- ◆ the **to - infinitive** e.g. I hope **to see** you soon.
- ◆ the **bare infinitive** (infinitive without to)
e.g. He can't **help** me.

The to - infinitive is used:

- ◆ to express purpose.
e.g. She went to the bank **to get** some money.
- ◆ after certain verbs (advise, agree, appear, decide, expect, hope, manage, offer, promise, refuse, seem, want, afford, pretend, etc.).
e.g. He **advised** me **to apply** for the job.
- ◆ after verbs such as know, decide, ask, learn, remember, want to know, etc., when they are followed by question words (who, what, where, how, etc.). 'Why' is followed by a subject + verb, not by an infinitive.
e.g. I can't **decide where to go**.
I want to know **why you've decided** to leave.
- ◆ after adjectives such as nice, sorry, glad, happy, willing, afraid, ashamed, etc.
e.g. He **is glad to be** back.
- ◆ after too and enough.
e.g. She's **too shy to talk** to the manager.
We've got **enough money to buy** a new car.
- ◆ after it + be + adjective (+ of + noun/pronoun).
e.g. It **was nice of him to help**.
- ◆ after would like/would love/would prefer (to express specific preference).
e.g. I **would like to learn** a foreign language.
- ◆ after only to express an unsatisfactory result.
e.g. He **rushed to the back door only to discover** that it was locked.

The bare infinitive is used:

- ◆ after modal verbs (may, should, can, etc.).
e.g. You **must study** hard.
 - ◆ after the verbs let, make, see, hear and feel.
e.g. They **made him pay** for the damage.
- but:** **be made/be heard/be seen + to - infinitive (passive)**
e.g. He **was made to pay** for the damage.
- ◆ after had better and would rather.
e.g. You **had better sign** the contract.
I **would rather go** home now.

- Note:**
- 1 **Help** is followed by either the to - infinitive or the bare infinitive.
e.g. She **helped** me **(to) fix** the tap.
 - 2 If two infinitives are joined by **and**, the **to** of the second infinitive can be omitted.
e.g. He **decided to go** to university **and study** biology.
 - 3 We form the negative infinitive with **not**.
e.g. He **decided not to accept** the job.
She **will not come**.

1

Complete B's answers using a question word + to - infinitive.

A: Which catering company are you going to hire?

B: I'm not sure 1) ...**which catering company to hire**.....



A: Where are you going to have your reception?

B: I don't know 2)



A: How many people are you going to invite?

B: I can't decide 3)



A: How are you going to do your hair?

B: I'm wondering 4)



A: What kind of flowers are you going to order?

B: I have no idea 5)

A: Don't you think it's time you made a decision?



Too/Enough



He is **too young** to walk by himself.



There is **enough snow** to build a snowman.

- ◆ **Too** comes **before** adjectives and adverbs. It shows that something is more than enough, necessary or wanted, and has a negative meaning.

too + adjective/adverb + to - infinitive

e.g. Tim is **too old** to join the basketball team.
(= Tim is so old that he can't join the basketball team.)

They run **too fast** for me to catch up with them.
(= They run so fast that I can't catch up with them.)

too ... for somebody/something

e.g. This plan is **too complicated** for me.

too ... for somebody/something + to - infinitive

e.g. This ring is **too expensive** for me to buy.

- ◆ **Enough** comes **after** adjectives and adverbs, but **before** nouns. It shows that there is as much of something as is wanted or needed and it has a positive meaning.

adjective/adverb + enough } + to - infinitive
enough + noun

e.g. He's **clever enough** to solve the problem.
(= He is so clever that he can solve the problem.)

We've got **enough money** to go on holiday this year.
(= We've got so much money that we can go on holiday this year.)

(not) + adjective + enough + to - infinitive

e.g. We are **old enough** to vote. (positive meaning)
We are **not old enough** to vote. (negative meaning)

8

In pairs, ask and answer questions using the prompts below, as in the example.

SA: Is this film **too scary** for you to watch?

SB: Yes, it's **too scary**. I can't watch it.

- 1 film / scary / watch
- 2 report / boring / read
- 3 exercise / difficult / do
- 4 shoes / tight / wear
- 5 car / expensive / buy
- 6 dish / spicy / eat
- 7 suitcase / heavy / carry
- 8 coffee / hot / drink

9

Complete the sentences with **too** or **enough** and the adjective in brackets.

- 1 A: Would you like to come to the disco?
B: Oh no. I'm **too tired**... to go to a disco. (tired)
- 2 A: Can you reach that top shelf?
B: No, I'm not to reach it. (tall)
- 3 A: Did they go on a picnic yesterday?
B: No. It was to go on a picnic. (cold)
- 4 A: Did Jane enjoy the horror film?
B: No. She was to enjoy it. (scared)
- 5 A: Does Tom go to school?
B: No. He isn't to go to school yet. (old)
- 6 A: Will you go to London by bus?
B: No. The bus is I'll take the train. (slow)
- 7 A: Did she like the dress you bought?
B: Yes, but it was (big)
- 8 A: Take a photograph of me!
B: I can't. It isn't in here. (bright)

10

Rewrite the sentences using **too**.

- 1 This music is so slow that I can't dance to it.
... **This music is too slow** for me to dance to.
- 2 The bird is so weak that it can't fly.
.....
- 3 She's so busy that she can't come out with us.
.....
- 4 The car was so expensive that he couldn't buy it.
.....
- 5 These shoes are so small that they don't fit me.
.....
- 6 The book is so boring that she can't read it.
.....
- 7 I was so tired that I couldn't keep my eyes open.
.....
- 8 The coffee was so strong that he couldn't drink it.
.....

The -ing form



Windsurfing is a popular summer sport.
A lot of young people **spend** hours **windsurfing**.

The -ing form is used:

- ◆ as a noun. e.g. **Swimming** keeps you fit.
- ◆ after prepositions.
e.g. He left **without saying** goodbye.
- ◆ after love, like, enjoy, dislike, hate and prefer to express general preference.
e.g. She **likes going** for long walks.
- ◆ after certain verbs (consider, avoid, deny, look forward to, confess to, fancy, involve, mention, risk, spend, mind, regret, admit, suggest, imagine, etc.).
e.g. Jessica **spent** all day **shopping**.
- ◆ after go for activities.
e.g. They often **go climbing** at the weekends.
- ◆ after: it's no use, it's (not) worth, it's no good, be busy, what's the use of ...?, there's no point in, can't help, can't stand, be/get used to, have difficulty (in).
e.g. **It's no use waiting** for the bus. It won't come.

- ◆ after the verbs see, hear, feel, watch, listen to and notice to describe an incomplete action, that is to say that somebody saw, heard, etc. only a part of the action.

e.g. I **heard** Jack **talking** on the phone.

(= I heard Jack while he was talking on the phone. I heard part of the action in progress.
I didn't listen to the whole conversation.)

- But:** see, hear, feel, watch, listen to, notice + bare infinitive describe a complete action, something that somebody saw, heard, etc. from beginning to end.

e.g. I **heard** Jack **talk** on the phone. (= I heard the whole conversation from beginning to end.)

Verbs taking the to -infinitive or the -ing form without a change in meaning

- ◆ **begin, start, continue**

We never have two -ing forms together.

e.g. They **started talking/to talk**.

But: It's **beginning to get** dark.

(NOT: ~~It's beginning getting dark.~~)

- ◆ **advise, allow, permit, recommend, encourage**
take the to-infinitive when they are followed by an object or when they are in the passive form. They take the -ing form when they are not followed by an object.

e.g. They **don't allow us to park** here. (object)

We **aren't allowed to park** here. (passive)

They **don't allow parking** here. (no object)

- ◆ **need/require/want + -ing form**

This construction often shows that it is necessary to repair or improve something. 'Need' can also be followed by a passive infinitive.

e.g. The flat **needs decorating**.

The flat **needs to be decorated**.

11

In pairs, ask and answer questions using the prompts below, as in the example.

SA: *Why does Sarah giggle so much?*

SB: *Well, she doesn't enjoy giggling, she just can't help doing it.*

- 1 Sarah / giggle so much?
- 2 you / always chew your pen?
- 3 he / blush all the time?
- 4 she / bite her nails?
- 5 you / shout at the children?

12

Underline the correct preposition and fill in the gaps with the -ing form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 He is ill. He is complaining with/about ...having... (have) a headache.
- 2 Marcus went out instead for/of (do) his homework.
- 3 Tracy was very excited with/about (go) to the party.
- 4 I hope you have a good excuse of/for (be) so late.
- 5 Sam is interested in/for (take up) French lessons.
- 6 You can't stop him to/from (take) the job if he wants to.
- 7 Susie ran because she was worried about/of (miss) the bus.
- 8 Thank you to/for (help) me with my homework.
- 9 She felt tired because she wasn't used to/with (work) so hard.
- 10 His boss blamed him for/of (lose) the deal.
- 11 I am in charge in/of (make) the Christmas deliveries.
- 12 We are thinking of/from (buy) a new car next month.
- 13 Sandra apologised for/about (ruin) the performance.
- 14 Ian was talking with/about (open) a shop in York.

13

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct infinitive form or the -ing form.

- 1 It's no use ...talking... (talk) to Bob; he won't change his mind.
- 2 She will (return) the books next weekend.
- 3 It was good of you (help) me fix my bicycle.
- 4 The man suggested (call) the police in, to investigate.
- 5 I can't get used to (live) in such a hot country.
- 6 He admitted (rob) the bank.
- 7 You had better (hurry), or you'll be late for work.
- 8 They refused (give) me my money back.
- 9 She is too short (become) a fashion model.
- 10 My parents let me (stay) up late at weekends.

- 11 Our teacher makes us (do) homework every evening.
- 12 The kitchen windows need (clean).
- 13 They have begun (make) preparations for the party.
- 14 He advised her (speak) to her boss.
- 15 I dislike (go) to the theatre alone.
- 16 Mr Roberts was seen (leave) his house at 12:15 last night.
- 17 My sister can't stand (watch) horror films. She gets terribly scared.
- 18 Can you imagine (spend) your holidays on the moon?
- 19 There's no point in (call) again. There's no one at home.
- 20 I don't allow people (smoke) in my house.
- 21 It was silly of you (forget) to lock the door.
- 22 He risks (lose) his wallet when he leaves it on his desk.

14

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct infinitive form or the -ing form.

- 1 A: Is Anne in the room?
B: Yes. I can see her ...dancing... (dance) with her husband over there.
- 2 A: Did you see the robber?
B: Yes. I saw him (get) into the car and drive away.
- 3 A: Is John here today?
B: Yes. I heard him (talk) on the phone as I walked past his office.
- 4 A: Colin is good at speaking in public, isn't he?
B: Yes. I heard him (make) a speech last month. It was excellent.
- 5 A: I walked past the sports centre today.
B: So did I, and I stopped for a moment to watch some boys (play) football.
- 6 A: Your hair looks great today.
B: Thanks. I watched the hairdresser (dry) it so I could learn how to do it myself.
- 7 A: That's a music school, isn't it?
B: That's right. I often hear the students (sing) as I walk past.
- 8 A: Did you stay until the end of the contest?
B: Yes. I listened to the chairman (announce) the results before I went home.
- 9 A: How do you know Tim is at home?
B: I saw him (cut) the grass as I was driving home.
- 10 A: How do you know that man stole the watch?
B: I saw him (put) it in his pocket and leave the shop without paying.