## GERUNDS AND INFINITIVES

### GERUNDS – V-ing

Gerunds are the -ing forms of verbs. We can use a gerund...

1. ...as the subject of a sentence (*Speaking languages is very important*)
2. ...after prepositions (*I’m bored of playing this game*)
3. ...after some verbs (*She enjoys spending time with me*)

**WE USE V-ing AFTER THESE VERBS:**
- Go
  - We usually go *fishing* to the lake.
- Give up
  - My father gave up *smoking* last year.
- Enjoy
  - I enjoyed *living* in France.
- Finish
  - We've finished *preparing* for the meeting.
- Mind (only -ing)
  - I don't mind *coming* early.
- Suggest
  - He suggested *staying* at the Grand Hotel.
- Keep
  - He kept *working*, although he felt ill.
- Miss
  - She misses *living* near the beach.
- Practise
  - She practised *singing* the song.
- Fancy
  - I fancy *seeing* a film tonight.
- Discuss
  - We discussed *going* on holiday together.
- Recommend
  - They recommended *meeting* earlier.
- Avoid
  - She avoided *talking* to her boss.
- Consider
  - She considered *moving* to New York.
- Admit
  - He admitted *cheating* on the test.
- Dislike (only -ing)
  - He dislikes *waiting* for buses.
- Mention
  - He mentioned *going* to that college.
- Involve
  - The job involves *travelling* to Japan.

The negative form is *not + V-ing*
- She was really sorry for *not going* to the wedding.

There are some verbs that can be followed by both GERUNDS and INFINITIVES: *start, continue, begin, like, hate, love, prefer.*

**The verb stop admits both, but we different meanings:**
1. He stopped *to smoke*. (He stopped what he was doing just to smoke)
2. He stopped *smoking*. (He gave up smoking and he doesn’t smoke anymore)

### TO INFINITIVE

Infinitives are the base forms of verbs. We can use an infinitive + to...

1. ...to express purpose (*You could join a sports club to meet people*)
2. ...after adjectives (*It's hard to explain*)
3. ...after some verbs (*You need to be part of this group*)

**WE USE TO-Infinitive AFTER THESE VERBS:**
- Start
  - He started *to play* the piano one year ago.
- Forgive
  - I forgot *to phone* you for your birthday.
- Try
  - They tried *to explain* the problem.
- Need
  - You need *to give up* smoking.
- Agree
  - She agreed *to give* a presentation at the meeting.
- Decide
  - We decided *to go* out for dinner.
- Help
  - He helped *to clean* the kitchen.
- Plan
  - She plans *to buy* a new flat.
- Hope
  - I hope *to pass* my exam.
- Learn
  - They are learning *to sing."
- Want*
  - I want *to come* to the party.
- Promise
  - We promised *to carry* the Cds for the party.
- Would like*
  - I would like *to study* Medicine.
- Seem
  - Nancy seemed *to be* disappointed.
- Expect*
  - They expect *to arrive* early.
- Refuse
  - The guard refused *to let* them enter the building.
- Offer
  - Frank offered *to drive* us to the market.
- Pretend
  - The boy pretended *to be* a monster.

The negative form is *not + to + infinitive*
- We promised *not to be* late for the meeting.

*We can use an OBJECT before the infinitive of these verbs:*
- I would like *YOU to come* to the party.
- She wanted *ME to bring* the flowers.
- They expect *JULIE to arrive* early.

Note that “help” can also be followed by the infinitive without “to”, with no difference in meaning: I *helped to carry it* = I *helped carry it.*