

# Unit 1 – Grammar Lesson: Gerund & Infinitive

English with Salhi Younes

## 1) Gerund (-ing form)

The gerund (-ing) is used as a noun. Common cases include:

Usage	Example
After certain verbs (enjoy, avoid, suggest...)	She <u>enjoys</u> <b>reading</b> books. 📖
After prepositions (in, on, about...)	He succeeded <u>in</u> <b>passing</b> the exam. 🎓
After fixed expressions (would you mind, it's no use, looking forward to...)	We are <u>looking forward to</u> <b>meeting</b> you. 😊
After 'be used to' / 'get used to'	I <u>am used to</u> <b>waking</b> up early. ⌚

📌 Tip: Gerunds describe actions as activities or things. Example: 'Swimming is fun 🏊'.

## 2) Infinitive (to + base verb)

The infinitive (to + verb) often shows purpose or intention. Common cases include:

Usage	Example
After certain verbs (want, hope, decide...)	They <u>decided</u> <b>to study</b> together. 📚
After adjectives (easy, hard, eager...)	It's <u>hard</u> <b>to focus</b> today. 💡
After WH-words (what, where, how...)	I don't know <u>what</u> <b>to say</b> . 🗣️
After 'used' (past habit)	She <u>used</u> <b>to play</b> tennis every day. 🎾

📌 Tip: Infinitives are linked to goals or purposes. Example: 'I want to learn English 📖'.

## 3) Bare Infinitive (without 'to')

The bare infinitive (base verb) follows modals and some special verbs.

Usage	Example
After modal verbs (must, can, should...)	You <u>must</u> <b>work</b> harder. 💪
After would rather / had better	You'd <u>better</u> <b>study</b> now. 📖
After let / make / help	They <u>made</u> me <b>clean</b> the room. 🧹

📌 Tip: Bare infinitives often follow helping verbs. Example: 'She can sing 🎤'.



#### 4) Special Meaning Cases

Some verbs change meaning depending on whether they are followed by a gerund or an infinitive:

Pattern	Meaning	Example
stop + gerund	Quit the activity	He <u>stopped smoking</u> last year. 🚫
stop + infinitive	Pause another activity to do this one	He <u>stopped to smoke</u> . 🚶 → 🚬
remember/forget + gerund	Past action	I <u>remember locking</u> the door. 🔒
remember/forget + infinitive	Future/ongoing duty	<u>Remember to lock</u> the door. 🔑
can't help + gerund	Unable to stop oneself	I <u>can't help laughing</u> . 😂

📝 Tip: Compare: 'He stopped smoking' (quit) vs 'He stopped to smoke' (pause to smoke).

#### 5) Recap Chart

Gerund (-ing)	Infinitive (to + V)	Bare Infinitive (V)
She <u>enjoys reading</u> . 🎨	She <u>hopes to travel</u> . ✈️	You <u>must work</u> . 💪
I <u>look forward to meeting</u> you. 😊	It's <u>important to study</u> . 📖	They <u>made me clean</u> . 🧹
He <u>stopped smoking</u> . 🚫	He <u>stopped to smoke</u> . 🚶 → 🚬	She <u>can sing</u> . 🎤

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