

11

Infinitives and gerunds

We use the base form of the verb to create infinitives. We can use the base form after *to* (*I didn't really want **to read** when I was younger*) or without *to* in the bare infinitive (*I thought it was torture when the teacher made us **read** aloud in class*).

We add *-ing* to the base form of the verb to create gerunds (*Now I enjoy **reading** more than anything else*). Gerunds have the same form as the present participles of verbs, but they are used as nouns (***Reading** is the key to knowledge*).

- 1 Read through this article from an advice column in a magazine and find two more examples of the same verb (*avoid* and *smoke*) being used as both an infinitive and a gerund.

My best friend smokes a lot. I tell her she should quit, but she says she can't. What can I do to help her?

Quitting is hard but not impossible – as long as
5 your friend really wants to kick the habit. 'She
has a good chance of stopping successfully if
she thinks about quitting as a three-part
process: she has to deal with her social habit,
her psychological dependence and then her
10 physical addiction,' says Lowell Kleinman, MD,
a doctor who has helped hundreds of people
to stop smoking for good.

Let's start with the habit: when does your
friend smoke – on her way to college, after a
15 meal, when she's with friends? Help her break
the pattern. 'Try going a different way to
college, eating at a different place and avoiding
social situations that will make her want to
smoke,' says Dr Kleinman.

20 As for psychological dependence: does your
friend smoke when she's bored or stressed?
Nicotine can have a calming effect, which is why
many people continue smoking even though

25 they know it's bad for their heart, lungs, skin
and teeth. Encourage her to avoid stressful
situations and to find healthier ways of coping
with stress – doing yoga, keeping a journal or
just talking to you.

Finally, physical addiction: when your friend
30 doesn't have a cigarette at regular intervals,
does she experience withdrawal symptoms –
restlessness, anxiety, irritability and strong
cigarette cravings? If so, her body is addicted.
And traditional techniques, like going cold
35 turkey or cutting back gradually, often aren't
successful in beating an addiction. Instead, Dr
Kleinman recommends Nicotine Replacement
Therapy (NRT) – the patch, gum or an inhaler –
which helps wean your body off nicotine by
40 supplying decreasing doses. The inhaler is
available only by prescription, but the patch and
gum can be purchased over the counter.

You can also point out that there are real
advantages to becoming a non-smoker. She'll
45 not only have better health, but also fresher
breath, clearer skin and whiter teeth.

- 2 Find four phrases in the article above that match the definitions listed here.

- 1 : the unpleasant state that drug addicts experience when they suddenly stop taking a drug; also a way of treating addicts that makes them experience this state.
- 2 : performing a system of exercises for your body and for controlling your breathing, used by people who want to become fitter or more relaxed.
- 3 : to stop doing something harmful that you have done for a long time.
- 4 : without needing a prescription (written permission from a doctor).

Simple infinitives and gerunds

Infinitives

We usually use infinitives (*to* + verb) and negative infinitives (*not to* + verb) after verbs, adjectives or nouns (1). We can also use them after indefinite pronouns and *wh*-words (2).

1 We agreed **to meet** on Friday. • I'm happy **to be** here. • You made a promise **not to tell** anyone.

2 I was looking for someone **to help** me. • I wasn't sure about what **to do** and what **not to do** here.

We can also use infinitives to express purpose (= in order to): *He only did it to get attention.*

We can use infinitives in clauses with objects, prepositional phrases and adverbs. We don't usually put adverbs between *to* and the verb ('a split infinitive') unless it is for emphasis.

3 We're planning **to take the children to the zoo later**. • I want **to (really) understand** Islam.

We usually leave out the second *to* when we join two infinitives with *and*, or with *or* (4). We can use *to* or *not to* alone instead of repeating a verb or clause (5).

4 Brian just wants **to sit and _ watch** videos all day. • Do they intend **to buy** a flat **or _ rent** one?

5 Would you like to play? ~ I'd **love to** _. • I was hoping to go with you, but I've **decided not to** _.

We don't leave out *be*: *Was Michael happy?* ~ *He seemed to be.* (NOT ~~He seemed to.~~)

Bare infinitives

We use bare infinitives (base form of the verb) after modals (6), after perception verbs such as *hear* and *see* with objects (7) and after the verbs *let* and *make* with objects (8).

6 I can't **stay** long. • What will we **do** if they tell us we must **pay** more? (NOT ... ~~we must to pay~~ more?)

7 I didn't **hear** Tom **come** in. • I've never **seen** anyone **eat** as much as your friend can.

8 Please **make** her **stop**! • They won't **let** us **leave**. (NOT ~~They won't let us to leave.~~)

After the verb *help*, we can use an infinitive with or without *to*: *Annie helped me (to) clean up.*

Gerunds

We can use gerunds (verb + *-ing*) and negative gerunds (*not* + verb + *-ing*) after verbs and prepositions (9). We can also use gerunds as subjects (10).

9 I don't **mind waiting**. • Paul enjoys **not having** a job. • She watches TV **instead of working**.

10 **Studying** makes me sleepy. • My doctor says that **swimming** is the best kind of exercise.

Gerunds are also called '-ing forms'. They are often used after *No* in signs: *No Parking*.

We can use gerunds in clauses with objects, prepositional phrases and adverbs (11). Before gerunds, we can use nouns (*Tom*) or object pronouns (*them*), but possessive nouns and determiners (*Tom's*, *their*) can also be used, typically in formal situations (12).

11 He denied **taking the money**. • They recommend **washing silk shirts gently in cold water**.

12 I can't recall **Tom/Tom's** visiting us. • We listened to **them/their** arguing all night.

Gerund or present participle?

We use gerunds like nouns, which can be subjects or objects (13). We usually use present participles as verbs with different forms of *be* (14). We use present participles, not gerunds, in reduced versions of relative clauses or adverbial clauses (15).

13 **Talking** and action are two quite different things. • Have they finished **(the) cleaning** yet?

14 We **were talking** about money. • I **have been cleaning** my room all morning.

15 The man **(who is) talking** to Liz is her dad. • While **(I'm) cleaning**, I listen to music.

3 Look at the four definitions listed in 2 at the bottom of page 138 and find one example of:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1 an infinitive after a verb | 2 a bare infinitive after a verb |
| 3 a gerund after an infinitive | 4 a gerund after a preposition |

Complex infinitives and gerunds

Complex infinitives

Instead of the simple infinitive (1), we can use the perfect infinitive (*to have* + past participle) when we want to be clear that we're talking about an earlier time or a completed action (2).

- 1 *Ali seems **to be** ill a lot. • I'm hoping **to read** the guidebook before we get to Berlin.*
- 2 *Ali seems **to have been** ill a lot. • I'm hoping **to have read** the guidebook before we get to Berlin.*

We can use the perfect infinitive after *would* plus *like*, *hate*, *love* or *prefer* when we talk about earlier events (3). We can also use the simple infinitive after *would have liked*, etc. with a similar meaning (4).

We sometimes use the perfect forms of both verbs in informal situations (5).

- 3 *I would like **to have been** there. • You would hate **to have seen** all the destruction.*
- 4 *I would have liked **to be** there. • You would have hated **to see** all the destruction.*
- 5 *I would have liked **to have been** there. • You would have hated **to have seen** it.*

We can use the continuous infinitive (*to be* + present participle) for an action in progress (6) and the perfect continuous infinitive (*to have been* + present participle) for an action in progress at an earlier time (7).

- 6 *The children will pretend **to be sleeping**. • The girl seemed **to be waiting** for someone.*
- 7 *They'll pretend **to have been sleeping**. • She seemed **to have been waiting** there for hours.*

We can use the passive infinitive (*to be* + past participle) for present or future actions happening to the subject (8) and the perfect passive infinitive (*to have been* + past participle) for earlier actions (9).

- 8 *My computer is supposed **to be repaired** today. • The workers want **to be paid** in cash.*
- 9 *It was supposed **to have been repaired** last week. • They were hoping **to have been paid** already.*

Complex gerunds

Instead of the simple gerund (10), we can use the perfect gerund (*having* + past participle) when we want to be clear that the action was in the past (11).

- 10 *Kirsten regretted **telling** us about the money. • We thanked them for **supporting** us.*
- 11 *She regretted **having told** us about the money. • We thanked them for **having supported** us.*

We can use the passive gerund (*being* + past participle) for an action which happens to the subject (12) and the perfect passive gerund (*having been* + past participle) to emphasize that the action happened in the past (13).

- 12 *In her book, Annie O'Neill wrote about **being punished** as a child for speaking Irish.*
- 13 *She still has nightmares from **having been locked up** in a small dark cupboard for hours.*

4 Complete these sentences with *to be*, *being*, *to have* or *having*.

Example: I didn't mind *being* the youngest in a family of ten, but I knew I really wanted
..... *to have* a large living space all to myself when I got older.

- 1 I'm supposed studying today, but I'm too tired from not slept at all last night.
- 2 You wouldn't like been living here during the war, with bombs falling and people killed every day.
- 3 The original tower is believed been constructed in 1810. It has always had structural problems from not been built on more solid ground.
- 4 The cleaners want finished their work in this room before they leave today because there are another two rooms on the second floor that have done tomorrow.

5 Infinitives and gerunds. Complete this table with appropriate examples of verbs from the completed sentences in 4 at the bottom of page 140.

Simple infinitive: *to* + base form of the verb – *to play*: *to have*

1 Perfect infinitive: *to have* + past participle – *to have played*:
.....

2 Continuous infinitive: *to be* + present participle – *to be playing*:
.....

3 Perfect continuous infinitive: *to have been* + present participle – *to have been playing*:
.....

4 Passive infinitive: *to be* + past participle – *to be played*:
.....

5 Perfect passive infinitive: *to have been* + past participle – *to have been played*:
.....

Simple gerund: base form of the verb + *-ing* – *playing*: *being*

6 Perfect gerund: *having* + past participle – *having played*:
.....

7 Passive gerund: *being* + past participle – *being played*:
.....

8 Perfect passive gerund: *having been* + past participle – *having been played*:
.....

6 Complete each sentence, using an infinitive or a gerund, in such a way that it is as similar as possible in meaning to the sentence above it.

1 You were supposed to do your homework before you went out.

Your homework

2 She had taken the time to help me and I wanted to thank her for that.

I wanted

3 They hadn't been told about the changes and complained about it.

They complained about

7 Complete this text with these infinitives and gerunds.

<i>to be burning</i>	<i>being held</i>	<i>to have visited</i>	<i>to have been based</i>
<i>to be using</i>	<i>meeting</i>	<i>not to have seen</i>	<i>to have been built</i>
	<i>travelling</i>		<i>to have been doing</i>

Did Marco Polo tell the truth when he wrote about (1) to China and (2) the emperor Kublai Khan? Or did the 13th-century Italian explorer just make up stories about places he would like (3) and things he would like (4) instead of (5) captive in prison? According to some experts, his stories appear (6) on things he had heard about rather than things he had seen himself. In his account, the Chinese were said (7) paper money and (8) 'large black stones' (coal) for heat long before Europeans. However, the Great Wall is known (9) before his travels, yet he appears (10) it.

Verbs with infinitives and gerunds

Verbs used with infinitives only

We use infinitives, not gerunds, after verbs such as *hope* and *offer* (1). After verbs such as *invite* and *tell*, we must include a noun or object pronoun to identify the subject before the infinitive (2). After verbs such as *ask* and *want*, we can include the subject of the infinitive or leave it out if it's the same as the subject of the verb (3).

- 1 I'm **hoping to get** a day off soon. • We **offered to pay** for the damage. (NOT ~~offered paying~~)
- 2 They **told me not to wait** for them. • David **invited us to go** with him. (NOT ~~invited to go~~)
- 3 I **asked Sam to stay**. I **wanted him to wait**, but he **wanted to leave** right away.

Verbs used with gerunds only

After verbs such as *avoid* and *enjoy*, we use gerunds, not infinitives (4). After verbs such as *imagine* and *mind*, we can include a noun or object pronoun before the gerund (5). We put gerunds after verbs with prepositions such as *concentrate on* and after phrasal verbs such as *give up* (6).

- 4 **Avoid eating** cakes and sweets. • We **enjoy travelling** by train. (NOT ~~enjoy to travel~~)
- 5 I **imagined Jenny walking** on a sunny beach. • Would you **mind us waiting** outside?
- 6 He should **concentrate on studying**, not **singing**. • Have you **given up exercising** already?

Verbs used with infinitives or gerunds

After *begin*, *continue*, *intend* and *start*, we can usually use either infinitives or gerunds with little difference in meaning.

- 7 Josh **started to drink/drinking** the soup, but it was very spicy. He **began to cough/coughing**.

We use infinitives after present participles: *Is it starting to rain?* (NOT ~~Is it starting raining?~~)

After *hate*, *like*, *love* and *prefer*, we can usually use infinitives or gerunds with little difference in meaning (8). When we are talking about an activity in general (not performed by the subject), we use a gerund (9). After *would hate/like/love/prefer* we use infinitives (10).

- 8 Katy **loves to play/playing** the piano. • Don't you **prefer to study/studying** at home?
- 9 I **hate wrestling** because it's so violent. It shouldn't be on TV. I don't **like boxing** either.
- 10 **Would you like to come** with us? • I'd **love to see** you tonight. (NOT ~~I'd love seeing you tonight.~~)

Note the use of *would rather* + bare infinitive: *I'd rather stay here.* (NOT ~~I'd rather to stay here.~~)

After *advise*, *allow*, *encourage* and *permit*, we can use a noun or object pronoun as subject of the infinitive. When there is no subject, we use the gerund for an activity in general.

- 11 They don't **allow us to smoke**. • They don't **allow smoking**. (NOT ~~They don't allow us smoking.~~)

After *feel*, *hear*, *see* and *watch*, we can use a noun or object pronoun as subject with a bare infinitive for a single or completed action and with a gerund for a repeated or continuous action.

- 12 When I rang the doorbell, I **heard a dog bark**. • Did you **hear that dog barking** last night?

When there is no subject, we use a gerund: *I also heard shouting.* (NOT ~~I also heard shout.~~)

After *forget*, *regret*, *remember* and *stop*, we use infinitives for actions which will happen later (13) and gerunds for actions which have already happened (14).

- 13 **Remember to take** an umbrella. (when you go out later) • I **regret to say** this. (I'm going to say it)
- 14 Don't you **remember taking** it? (when you left earlier) • I **regret saying** that. (I said it earlier)

After *need*, we often use an infinitive, but we can use a gerund with the same meaning as the passive infinitive (15). We can use *mean* with an infinitive (= intend) or *mean* with a gerund (= result in) (16). We can use *try* with an infinitive (= make an effort) or *try* with a gerund (= experiment with) (17).

- 15 I **need to do** some laundry. • These towels **need washing**. (= These towels **need to be washed**.)
- 16 I **meant to ask** you about your new job. Will it **mean spending** more time away from home?
- 17 I **must try to get** to work on time tomorrow. I think I'll **try setting** my alarm a bit earlier.

8 Add one pair of verbs to each sentence in this table, with the first verb in an appropriate form and the second verb as an infinitive or a gerund.

enjoy / take hope / visit imagine / make invite / stay love / be want / spend

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Verb + infinitive. I Japan next summer.
Others include: agree, aim, apply, decide, demand, fail, offer, plan, refuse, vote |
| 2 | Verb + noun/object pronoun + infinitive. My friend Ryoko has me with her.
Others include: command, convince, force, instruct, order, persuade, remind, tell, tempt, urge |
| 3 | Verb (+ noun/object pronoun) + infinitive. She me a whole month there.
Others include: ask, beg, expect, wish |
| 4 | Verb + gerund. She says she'll me to all her favourite places.
Others include: admit, avoid, consider, deny, finish, give up, mention, practise, recommend, suggest |
| 5 | Verb (+ noun/object pronoun) + gerund. I can her plans already.
Others include: celebrate, detest, dislike, involve, keep, mind, miss, prevent, recall, resent |
| 6 | Verb + infinitive or gerund. I would able to go sooner.
Others include: begin, continue, forget, hate, like, learn, mean, regret, remember, try |

9 Add appropriate forms of the verbs from each set to each sentence.

allow / take avoid / try / drive force / stop / play forget / send mean / tidy prefer / not talk

- My teachers would never students the exams home.
- Don't me a postcard when you go to Japan.
- I'm sorry about the mess. I up before you came back.
- Most people about how much money they have or earn.
- We usually through the centre of town during rush hour.
- Bad weather us tennis earlier today.

10 Editing. Correct the mistakes in the use of infinitives and gerunds in this text.

I have never forgotten ^{working} ~~work~~ as a hotel maid one summer when I was a teenager. My aunt was an assistant manager at the hotel and she encouraged me take the summer job. She had been a maid at one time and she advised me remember clean the bathrooms really well. Nobody likes clean bathrooms, but I didn't mind do it as part of my summer job. That's when I was first starting learn English. Some of the visitors were really nice and I could practise speak English with them. I enjoyed try improve my English and it helped me when I went to college later. I also learned that I didn't want work as a hotel maid forever, but I don't regret do it for one summer. I decided study harder at school so I could go to college and try get a better job.

Adjectives with infinitives and gerunds

Adjectives used with infinitives only

We can use infinitives, not gerunds, after some adjectives when we talk about being certain (*sure*) or willing (*eager*) to do something (1) and about our feelings or reactions (*glad*, *delighted*) (2).

1 *The children are **sure to get up** early tomorrow. They're **eager to go** to the beach.*

2 *I'm **glad to meet** you. • I was **delighted to hear** the good news about your scholarship.*

Other adjectives used like this include: disappointed, happy, pleased, sad, sorry, surprised

After some adjectives, we can use *for* with a noun phrase or pronoun to identify the subject of the infinitive (3). We can use *of* (not *for*) when we are evaluating someone's action (4).

3 *It was **good for the children to visit** their grandparents. (The children had a good experience.)*

4 *It was **good of the children to visit** their grandparents. (The children acted in a good way.)*

Other adjectives used like this include: bad, nice, silly, stupid, wrong

We often use infinitives after *too* + an adjective, or an adjective + *enough*.

5 *Is the tea still **too hot** (for you) **to drink**? • The small bags are **light enough** (for us) **to carry**.*

Adjectives used with infinitives or gerunds

After empty subject *it* + *be* and adjectives such as *nice* and *difficult*, we can use an infinitive (6) or a gerund (7), with little difference in meaning. When we make the object of the infinitive our topic as the subject of the sentence, we use an infinitive after these adjectives (8).

6 *It was really **nice to talk** to Mrs Anderson. • Was it very **difficult to learn** Arabic?*

7 *It was really **nice talking** to Mrs Anderson. • Was it very **difficult learning** Arabic?*

8 *Mrs Anderson was really **nice to talk to**. • Was Arabic very **difficult to learn**?*

Other adjectives used like this include: easy, exciting, great, hard, impossible, interesting

We can use gerunds as subjects before *be* plus adjectives such as *important* and *necessary* (9).

After empty subject *it* + *be* and these adjectives, we use infinitives (10).

9 ***Listening carefully is important**, but **writing everything down isn't necessary**.*

10 *It's **important to listen** carefully, but it isn't **necessary to write** everything down.*

Other adjectives used like this include: crucial, essential, unnecessary, vital

After an adjective such as *anxious*, we can use an infinitive or a preposition plus a gerund with different meanings (11). After many adjectives, we can only use a preposition and gerund (12).

11 *I was **anxious to leave**. (I was eager) • I was **anxious about leaving**. (I was worried)*

12 *Bill is **famous for inventing** microwave popcorn. (NOT ~~He's famous to invent it.~~) • Isn't Lucia **capable of doing** it by herself? (NOT ~~Isn't Lucia capable to do it by herself?~~)*

11 Complete each sentence, using an infinitive or gerund, in such a way that it is as similar as possible in meaning to the sentence above it.

1 Planning ahead is essential in my kind of job.

It's

2 Jessica didn't see any of her friends at the shopping centre and she was disappointed.

Jessica was disappointed

3 Christopher was so good to come to our rescue when our car broke down.

It was so good

4 It isn't easy driving those huge buses along narrow winding roads.

Those huge buses

Nouns and pronouns with infinitives and gerunds

Nouns and pronouns used with infinitives only

We can use infinitives after nouns with meanings similar to those verbs taking infinitives listed in Exercise 8 on page 143 (e.g. *agree – agreement*) (1). We can use these nouns as subjects with *be* before an infinitive, or after empty subject *it + be* before an infinitive (2). In these structures we can also use nouns such as *ambition* and *goal* with infinitives to talk about future actions (3).

- 1 *We **agreed to share** the cost. • We had an **agreement to share** the cost.*
- 2 *The **agreement was to share** the cost. • It was our **agreement to share** the cost.*
- 3 *Our **goal is to save** £500 by next summer. • It's his **ambition to become** an astronomer.*

Other nouns used like this include: aim, decision, desire, expectation, hope, offer, plan, wish

We can use infinitives after general nouns for people and things such as *person* or *place* (4), or after indefinite pronouns and adverbs such as *someone* and *nowhere* (5). We do this when we talk about what we can or want to do with those people and things. After nouns and indefinite pronouns, we can use *for* with a noun phrase or object pronoun to identify the subject of the infinitive (6).

- 4 *Bob's the **person to ask** about graphics. • Iceland is a great **place to visit**. • I brought a **book to read**.*
- 5 *He needs **someone to love**. • Is there **anything to eat**? • They have **nowhere to go** at night.*
- 6 *It's **time for the kids to go** to bed. • There's **nothing for us to do**. • I brought a **book for you to read**.*

Nouns and pronouns used with infinitives or gerunds

We don't usually use gerunds directly after nouns, except after a few phrases such as *have a problem* and *it's no use* (7). After nouns such as *interest* and *talent*, we can use a preposition plus a gerund (8). We often use a structure with *the + noun (the cost)* and *of + gerund (of living)* (9).

- 7 *Did you have a **problem finding** the place? • It was **no use complaining** because no one cared.*
- 8 *Julia had a **talent for acting**. • I had no **interest in studying**. (NOT ~~I had no interest to study.~~)*
- 9 *The **cost of living** in London is very high. • The **thought of eating** eggs makes me feel queasy. • He stressed the **importance of being** on time. • I don't like the **idea of (you) going** alone.*

After nouns such as *attempt* and *intention* we can use infinitives or prepositions plus gerunds with little difference in meaning (10). When we talk about the use or purpose of something, we can use a noun or indefinite pronoun with an infinitive (11) or *for* with a gerund (12). There's no difference in meaning.

- 10 *His **attempt to break/at breaking** the record failed. • I have **no intention to leave/of leaving**.*
- 11 *They have a **machine to clean** carpets. • I need to find **something to remove** stains.*
- 12 *They have a **machine for cleaning** carpets. • I need to find **something for removing** stains.*

12 Add one combination of noun/pronoun plus a verb as an infinitive or gerund in each space.

cost / rent information / reserve plan / take someone / ask
idea / study place / stay problem / keep task / call

Leila was both excited and nervous about the (1) of in Edinburgh during the summer. Her (2) was only two courses at the university because she didn't want to have a (3) up with the lectures and assignments. She had heard that the most convenient (4) was in the student halls of residence, but they hadn't sent her any (5) about a room there. So, her next (6) was and find (7) about the kind of accommodation they had and the (8) of one of their rooms during the summer months.

Tests

A Choose the word or phrase that best completes each sentence.

- You know they don't allow _____ in here.
a eat and drink b you eat and drink c to eat and drink d eating and drinking
- He never _____ doing that.
a agreed b concentrated c mentioned d persuaded
- Flights kept _____ because of bad weather.
a delaying b being delayed c having delayed d having been delayed
- In my dream, Brad Pitt offered me a ride on his motorbike and I told him I'd rather _____.
a walk b walking c walked d to walk
- Mrs Jacobson reminded us of the importance _____ our passports in a safe place.
a keep b keeping c to keep d of keeping

B Identify the one underlined expression (A, B, C or D) that must be changed in order to correct the sentences.

- I really do regret not to learn to play the piano when I had so many opportunities to learn and practise in school.
A B C D
- When I asked the students to help me move the chairs, some girls volunteered to carry one each for me and some boys offered to take the others, but Mark refused me to help at all.
A B C D
- When we're ready to leave the house, my mother always tells us wait while she checks in the kitchen because she's afraid to go out without making sure everything is turned off.
A B C D
- I will never forget to visit Egypt as a child. It was so exciting to stand beside the pyramids. When it was time for us to go home, my parents say I cried and begged them not to leave.
A B C D
- It really is better to ask for help instead of pretending to know how to do something when you are probably not capable to do it at all.
A B C D

C Add these pairs of verbs to this text, with the first verb in an appropriate tense and the second verb as an infinitive or gerund.

allow / go assume / be hear / sneeze remember / tell smell / burn

I had just arrived at the International Adventure Camp in Florida. They had spent the afternoon assigning us to our cabins and telling us all the rules. The evening meal was pizza. Now it was after ten o'clock and we were all (1) _____ in bed asleep. I was still awake, stretched out on the uncomfortable camp bed, when I (2) _____ someone _____ outside the cabin window. Just once, then silence. I (3) _____ the camp leader _____ us that we weren't (4) _____ outside after dark. Someone was breaking that rule. Then I thought I could (5) _____ a cigarette _____. There was another rule against that.

D Complete each sentence, using an infinitive or gerund, in such a way that it is as similar as possible in meaning to the sentence above it.

- 1 It's sometimes hard finding a place to park.
A place to park _____
- 2 Is keeping all these old files really necessary?
Is it really necessary _____
- 3 He shouldn't buy a new car now.
It would be a mistake for _____
- 4 Amy was bitten by a dog when she was very young and she still remembers it.
Amy still remembers _____
- 5 The boy said that he hadn't done anything wrong.
The boy denied _____

E Add one of these verbs as an infinitive or gerund in each space in this text.

go look put start regain
do keep lose stop try

If it's so hard to lose weight, why do people keep (1) _____? Because they want (2) _____ better is the usual answer. The problem is that going on a diet is likely (3) _____ more harm than good, according to health experts. There is a strong tendency (4) _____ all the weight lost within one year of (5) _____ the diet. Only 3 per cent of those who take off weight have been found (6) _____ it off for at least three years. Moreover, the 'yo-yo' pattern of (7) _____ a diet, (8) _____ some weight and then (9) _____ it back on may be more harmful to an individual than not (10) _____ on a diet in the first place.