

PART 8

Verbals

INTRODUCTION TO PART 8

In English a verb form may sometimes function in a sentence as another part of speech. Verb forms that are used as other parts of speech are called "verbals." The infinitive and gerund forms of a verb are two examples of verbals. Look at these sentences.

- A **To exercise** is good for your health.
- B **Exercising** is good for your health.
- C Some people really like **to exercise**.
- D Some people really enjoy **exercising**.

In the sentences, the infinitive and gerund forms are used as nouns. In sentence A, the infinitive is the subject of the sentence. In sentence B, the gerund is the subject of the sentence. In sentences C and D, the infinitive and gerund forms are used as the direct objects of the statements. In addition to functioning as a noun, the infinitive may also be used as an adjective or an adverb.

In this part, you will study infinitive and gerund constructions and the ways they are used in English sentences.

LESSON FOURTEEN

14-1 SIMPLE INFINITIVES AND INFINITIVE PHRASES

Simple Infinitives

- A *Most people want to work.*
- B *We stopped our work to rest.*
- C *To succeed is difficult.*

Infinitive Phrase

- D *My father wants me to succeed.*
- E *I have always liked to study business.*
- F *He advised my brother to take economics.*
- G *Many people like to live dangerously.*
- H *Professor Jeffers is the person to see about scholarships.*

1. A simple infinitive is formed with *to* + the simple form of a verb (sentences A–C).

2. The makeup of an infinitive phrase varies. In sentence D, *me* is the subject of the infinitive. In sentence E, *business* is the object of the infinitive. In sentence F, *my brother* is the subject of the infinitive, and *economics* is the object of the infinitive. In sentence G, *dangerously* modifies the infinitive. In sentence H, *about scholarships* modifies the infinitive.

3. In a negative infinitive, *not* immediately precedes the infinitive. Compare:

Natalie agreed not to help me.

Natalie did not agree to help me.

In the first sentence, the infinitive phrase is negative. In the second sentence, the verb *did not agree* is negative. In some sentences, however, the meaning is the same. Compare:

I didn't want to take the test.

I wanted not to take the test.

Not all verbs can be made negative. It depends on the meaning of the verb that precedes the infinitive.

4. The verbs *help*, *have*, *let*, *make* and verbs of sense such as *feel*, *see*, and *hear* are followed by nouns or object pronouns and the simple form of the verb without *to*.

The instructor helped us organize our outlines.

He had the students write the composition in class.

He let us use our dictionaries.

He saw me open my dictionary several times.

I made myself write as neatly as I could.

Exercise 1 ■ ■ Read the letter and underline all the infinitives and infinitive phrases.

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to complain about your customer service department. When I received an incorrect bill last week, I decided to call a representative from your customer service department rather than write to you. This turned out to be a mistake. I tried to get through all day, but the line was constantly busy. Clearly, the phone had been taken off the hook—or else many other customers were also calling to complain.

It's hard to believe, but it wasn't until 9:30 at night that I finally got through, and the conversation turned out to be a complete waste of time. I spoke to your customer service representative for about ten minutes, but she refused to do anything about the problem. She insisted that the computer never makes mistakes. After I explained the mistake and told her that I could prove it, she said that I would have to go to the main office and see one of the supervisors. When I mentioned that the lines at the main office are always long, she told me that that was my problem, not hers. Is this the way you train your representatives to speak to customers?

It is unfortunate that I never got the name of this representative, but I hope you will look into the matter and remind all your representatives that "customer service" means it is their job to serve the customer. I look forward to receiving a response from you regarding this matter.

Sincerely yours,

G. Gomez

G. Gomez

Exercise 2 ■ ■ With another student, practice asking and answering questions, using negative infinitive phrases.

Example: A: Did your roommate agree not to keep the TV on all the time?

B: Yes, she agreed not to keep it on all the time.

1. Because of the bad weather a few days ago, did you decide _____?
2. After your last argument with a friend, did you promise yourself _____?
3. After spending so much time studying English, have you finally learned _____?

4. In the face of danger, do you usually pretend _____?
5. In class, do you try _____?
6. Since the grades on the last test were so low, has the teacher agreed _____?
7. Has anybody today told you _____?
8. If a friend isn't doing well in school, do you persuade _____?
9. Do you think the teacher is going to continue _____?
10. Since nobody in the class likes to do a lot of homework, has the teacher been persuaded _____?

14-2 INFINITIVE/INFINITIVE PHRASE FUNCTIONING AS SUBJECT AND SUBJECT COMPLEMENT

Subject of the Sentence

- A *To study takes a lot of time.*
 B *To learn another language is not easy.*
 C *To be a student is a difficult job.*

Subject Complement

- D *My goal is to get good grades.*
 E *His desire has been to enter graduate school.*
 F *Her job last summer was to answer the phone.*

1. An infinitive or infinitive phrase functions as a noun when it is the subject of the sentence or is the subject complement. (A subject complement renames or refers to the subject of the sentence, as in sentences D–F.)
2. An infinitive or infinitive phrase can be used as the subject of the sentence (A – C, above). Nevertheless, speakers of English usually use the word *it* as the “false” subject of the sentence and place the “true” subject after the verb. In these sentences, the true subjects are underlined and the infinitive subjects follow adjectives.

It is not easy to save. (To save is not easy.)

It is fun to read. (To read is fun.)

It is fun to read a good mystery story. (To read a good mystery story is fun.)

In these sentences, the infinitive structures follow nouns.

It takes a lot of money to buy a house. (To buy a house takes a lot of money.)

It took a lot of time to furnish our new home. (To furnish our new home took a lot of time.)

3. Sometimes the false subject *it* is followed by *for* + noun/pronoun + infinitive construction. In these sentences, the true subjects are underlined.

It is difficult for me to learn a second language. (For me to learn a second language is difficult.)

It will be easy for Ana to pass this class. (For Ana to pass this class will be easy.)

4. In sentences where *it* is used as the false subject, certain adjectives may be followed by the preposition *of* + noun/pronoun + infinitive construction.

It was nice of you to visit me in the hospital.

It was foolish of me to ski without any lessons.

It was considerate of the class to send me flowers.

With some adjectives *for* is also possible.

It was foolish for me to ski without any lessons.

Exercise 3

Answer the questions, using *it* as the false subject of the sentence.

Example: When someone is studying for a driver's license, what usually takes a lot of time?

It usually takes a lot of time to learn the rules in the driver's manual.

- When a person is taking the road test, what is sometimes difficult?
- After you had been driving for a while, what was easy?
- When you drive, what is against the law?
- Before you take a long trip by car, what is important to do?
- If you were on a long trip by yourself, what would be necessary?
- When you take a long trip by car, what is enjoyable?
- If a traffic light is yellow, what can be dangerous?
- If you are behind an inexperienced driver, what is very frustrating?
- Before you turn a corner, what is necessary?
- When you drive in an unfamiliar city, what takes a lot of time?
- Concerning the care of a car, what is essential?
- Before you buy a new car, what is advisable?

Exercise 4 ■ ■ Complete each sentence, using an infinitive phrase as subject complement.

Example: My goal is to be a lawyer.

1. When I graduated from high school, my ambition was _____.
2. Before I return to my country, my plan is _____.
3. A medical doctor's highest purpose should be _____.
4. In every country in the world, the police officer's main job is _____.
5. My father believes that his responsibility has always been _____.
6. Before I can pass this level, my problem will be _____.
7. Our grammar teacher's main goals is _____.
8. Before many people get married their one desire is _____.
9. In the library, the information clerk's duty is _____.
10. When I was a child, my dream was _____.
11. The teacher said that the assignment for tomorrow was _____.
12. The purpose of this exercise has been _____.

Exercise 5 ■ ■ With another student, take turns asking and answering questions using for + noun/pronoun + infinitive/infinitive phrase.

Example: A: When you first came to the States, was it difficult for you to make new friends?

B: Yes, it was difficult for me to make new friends when I first came here. OR

No, it wasn't difficult for me to make new friends when I first came here.

1. When you were at home in your country, was it fun _____?
2. When you were in high school, did it take much time _____?
3. On the weekends, is it relaxing _____?

4. Before the next test, will it be necessary _____?
5. Concerning learning to speak English fluently, is it taking a lot of time _____?
6. I would like to visit your country one day. Would it cost much money _____?
7. Since you've been living in a foreign country, has it been exciting _____?
8. When you go to a restaurant for the first time, is it difficult _____?
9. When you are watching American television, is it sometimes hard _____?
10. Since you've been living away from your family, has it been almost impossible _____?

Exercise 6 ■ ■ ■ Complete the sentences with *of*.

Example: It was considerate *of her to help me.*

1. It was really foolish _____.
2. It was very smart _____.
3. It is generous _____.
4. It was very kind _____.
5. It was extremely disrespectful _____.
6. It is rude _____.
7. Actually, it was stupid _____.
8. It is very impolite _____.
9. It was friendly _____.
10. It is wise _____.
11. It was intelligent _____.
12. It is very nice _____.
13. It was wrong _____.
14. It is inconsiderate _____.

14-3 INFINITIVE/INFINITIVE PHRASE FUNCTIONING AS DIRECT OBJECT

GROUP 1: Verb + Infinitive/Infinitive Phrase

afford ¹	come	happen	offer	remember
agree	consent	hesitate	plan ³	seem
appear	decide	hope	prepare	struggle
arrange	demand	intend	pretend	swear
be	deserve	learn	proceed	tend
care	endeavor	manage	prove	threaten
choose ²	fail	mean	refuse	volunteer
claim	forget	neglect	regret	wait

¹The verb *afford* is always used with a form of *can* or *be able to*. (*They can afford to buy a house, but they aren't able to afford a new car, too.*)

²The verb *choose* is followed by an infinitive when it means *prefer*. (*I chose to buy that car because it is more fuel-efficient.*)

³The verb *plan* indicates future time when used in the simple present tense. (*We plan to leave soon.*)

1. An infinitive or infinitive phrase functions as a noun when it is the object of the verb.

She refused to tell me what happened.

I chose not to do anything about it.

2. Additional information may appear between the main verb and the infinitive or infinitive phrase.

I did not come to this country as a student to waste time.

Several words may separate the main verb and the infinitive, as in the sentence above, but the infinitive is never separated.

Correct: *You need to work carefully.*

Incorrect: *You need to carefully work.*

Exercise 7

Check (✓) the sentences in which the infinitive phrase is the object of the verb. Then identify the tense of the main verb in each checked sentence.

1. I must get a roommate; otherwise, I can't afford to rent an apartment.
2. My cousin has agreed to live with me.
3. She seems to be happy about our decision.
4. We have arranged to share the cooking and the cleaning.
5. It will be my job to cook.
6. I don't mind cooking, but I don't care to clean.
7. It is also my responsibility to do the grocery shopping.
8. My cousin and I are hoping to have a really nice apartment.
9. Our landlord has finally consented to paint the apartment.
10. To live with a roommate is not easy, but it is not too difficult to live with my cousin.

Exercise 8

Complete each item, using appropriate infinitives or infinitive phrases. In some sentences there may be more than one correct answer.

1. Although the hitchhiker seemed _____ cold and tired, we hesitated _____, so we pretended not _____ him. Before we began our trip, we had decided not _____ any strangers along the road.
2. There are good universities in every part of the world; however, many students choose _____ in another country because they hope _____ another language in addition to studying in their particular major. After I complete my studies, I am preparing _____ to my country where I intend _____.
3. My roommate, Ana, and I had forgotten _____ our door before we left our apartment, so when we returned, the door was open and we heard noises inside. Ana, who is afraid of everything, hesitated _____ the apartment first, and I agreed _____. I was pretending not _____ afraid, but I was very nervous. Finally, I volunteered _____ the apartment. Turning on the hall light, I looked around but

saw no one. Whoever was there refused _____, so I quickly returned outside into the hall where Ana was waiting _____ what had happened. We heard a loud noise, which came from the living room, and both of us proceeded _____ down the hall as quickly as we could to the manager's office. We endeavored _____ to him why we were knocking so loudly on his door, but we weren't speaking very calmly. Finally he consented _____ to our apartment with us. As we entered the apartment, the lights came on, and twenty of our friends shouted, "HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ANA!"

4. **Advisor:** You were an excellent undergraduate student. Do you intend _____ graduate school?

Student: I hope to, but because of the expense, I don't think I will be able to this year.

Advisor: I have been aware of your financial troubles, so I managed _____ you a scholarship for the entire four years of study.

Student: I don't know how to thank you.

Advisor: Don't worry about it. You have proven yourself _____ a serious young man, so you deserve _____ some help.

Student: I don't mean _____ a problem, but how will I pay for books and other supplies?

Advisor: Don't worry about that either. The department has arranged for you _____ as a lab assistant three days a week.

Student: Thank you, but will I make enough to pay for an apartment?

Advisor: I failed _____ you that my wife and I would like you to live with us. We have plenty of room.

Student: I can't thank you enough for your kindness.

GROUP 2: Verb + Object + Infinitive/Infinitive Phrase

advise	compel	get	oblige	show ... how
allow	convince	help ¹	order	teach
appoint	direct	hire	permit	tell
cause	enable	implore	persuade	tempt
caution	encourage	instruct	remind	urge
challenge	forbid	invite	request	warn
command	force	motivate	require	

¹The verb *help* is followed by nouns or object pronouns and the simple form of the verb without *to*. (*Can you help me find my jacket?*)

1. These verbs must be followed first by an object, then by the infinitive.

The doctor advised me to take a long vacation.

The doctor advised Bill to take a long vacation.

My friend encouraged me to take some time off.

I invited my friend to spend a few days at a ski resort with me.

2. These verbs can be used with an infinitive alone only when the main verb is in the passive voice.

Bill and I were advised to take a long vacation.

Exercise 9 Put the words in order so that they make logical sentences.

- smoking / me / The / doctor / stop / to / advised
- smoke / rooms / allow / This / their / patients / hospital / in / not / to / does
- the / smoker / head nurse / hospital director / to / appointed / report / The / any
- cough / Smoke / sister / to / my / causes
- smoking / Anticigarette ads / anyone / stop / cannot / to / compel
- The / ordered / cigarettes / its / hospital / staff / give up / to
- this / protest / people / smoke / order / encouraged / The / who / each other / to

8. regulation / director / anyone / ignore / forbids / this / The / to
 9. dangers / to / smoking / doctor / finally / me / the / of / about / got / think / My

Exercise 10

Complete the sentences, using an appropriate noun or pronoun object + infinitive/infinitive phrase. In some sentences there may be more than one correct answer.

- On the airplane, the hijacker forced _____ (object) _____ (infinitive) in their seats.
- The man beside John helped _____ (object) _____ (infinitive) calm.
- The flight attendant instructed _____ (object) _____ (infinitive) the hijacker's commands.
- A little boy was crying, so John invited _____ (object) _____ (infinitive) with him.
- The hijacker commanded _____ (object) _____ (infinitive) talking.
- His accomplice ordered _____ (object) _____ (infinitive phrase).
- They didn't permit _____ (object) _____ (infinitive phrase).
- The captain finally persuaded _____ (object) _____ (infinitive) the women and children.
- The captain warned _____ (object) _____ (infinitive) all the passengers with care.
- The airlines should hire _____ (object) _____ (infinitive) every flight.

Exercise 11

In a group of three or four, answer the questions in complete sentences.

1. What did your parents advise you to do before you left home for the first time?
2. When you were a child, what were some of the things your father did not allow you to do?
3. What did your father show you how to do when you were a child?
4. What have your parents always encouraged you to be?
5. What are some of the adjustments a new culture has forced you to make?
6. Have you been able to help another student adjust to a new culture?
7. What was the last thing a friend tried to get you to do?
8. If you were the director, what would you require the teachers to do?
9. On an airplane, what won't the stewardesses permit the passengers to do?
10. If a burglar broke into your apartment, what would you persuade him to do?
11. What do you frequently have to be reminded to do?
12. Has a friend ever challenged you to do anything risky? What?
13. Have you ever urged anyone to do anything silly, just for fun? What?
14. What would a million dollars tempt you to do?

GROUP 3: Verb + Infinitive/Infinitive Phrase or Verb + Object + Infinitive/Infinitive Phrase

ask	dare ¹	need	want
beg	expect	prefer	wish
choose	like	promise	

¹In negative and interrogative statements, the verb *dare* is used without *to* if no object follows the verb. (*Don't you dare jump off that building! Do you dare me to jump off that building?*)

1. These verbs have two patterns. They may be followed by an object and infinitive, or they may be followed by an infinitive only. The meaning of each pattern is different.

I want you to help him.

I want to help him.

Only the verb *promise* keeps the same meaning in both patterns.

She promised us to be on time.

She promised to be on time.

2. The verbs *expect*, *hope*, *need*, *promise*, *want*, and *wish* may indicate future time even when they are in the simple present or past tense.

My neighbor needed someone to help him.

I didn't expect him to pay me.

Exercise 12 ■ ■ ■ *With another student, discuss the difference in meaning between the sentences.*

1. a. I have asked to see the doctor.
b. I have asked my husband to see the doctor.
2. a. The little girl begged to go home.
b. The little girl begged her friend to go home.
3. a. The committee chose to investigate the hospital.
b. The committee chose Jim Hopkinton to investigate the hospital.
4. a. I expected to be in the hospital for a couple of days.
b. I expected my friend to be in the hospital for a couple of days.
5. a. I promised to take better care of myself in the future.
b. I promised my mother to take better care of myself in the future.
6. a. Most people don't like to be in the hospital.
b. Most people don't like their relatives to be in the hospital.
7. a. My sister dared to leave the hospital without the doctor's permission.
b. My sister dared me to leave the hospital without the doctor's permission.
8. a. I prefer to have an older doctor.
b. I prefer you to have an older doctor.
9. a. I want to get a checkup next week.
b. I want you to get a checkup next week.

Exercise 13

Complete the sentences, using either an infinitive/infinitive phrase or an object + infinitive/infinitive phrase, as indicated in parentheses.

Example: Yesterday I spent three hours in the ladies department of the store. I was trying to find a birthday present for my mother. Finally I asked the clerk to give me some suggestions. (object + infinitive phrase)

- Our grammar teacher puts a check by our incorrect answers, but she never gives the correction. She expects _____. (object + infinitive) I completed yesterday's grammar assignment very carefully, so I expect _____. (infinitive phrase)
- When Jackie took her two nephews to the zoo, the older brother dared _____ (object + infinitive) the lion's cage. The younger boy, however, didn't dare _____ (infinitive without *to*) it.
- When the dentist entered the room, Linda's son begged _____ (infinitive) home. The dentist begged _____ (object + negative infinitive) while he was trying to pull his tooth.
- My father has always worked hard to save money so that I could study at a university. Because of his hard work, I promised _____. (infinitive phrase) I promised _____. (object + infinitive)
- I missed the last week of classes because I was sick. Before the next test, I really need _____ (object + infinitive) with me. I especially need _____ (infinitive) the chapters I missed.
- I'll help Mary review the material because I would like _____ (object + infinitive) a good grade. Besides, I like _____ (infinitive) with Mary.
- Paul expects _____ (infinitive) well on the next test. The teacher expects _____ (object + infinitive) all sections of the test carefully.
- Louisa met with the director last week because she wanted _____ (object + infinitive) her permission to take her finals one week early. Her parents are coming to the States, and Louisa wants _____ (infinitive) around America with them.

9. Louisa prefers _____ (infinitive) by train. Her mother prefers _____ (object + infinitive) by car so that they can stop whenever they wish.
10. Excuse me, I wish _____ (infinitive) with the manager.

14-4 INFINITIVE/INFINITIVE PHRASE FUNCTIONING AS ADJECTIVE AND ADJECTIVE COMPLEMENT

Adjective

- A *I have a lot of work to do.*
- B *Dr. Soto gave us five problems to solve.*
- C *The assignment to do for tonight is on page 83.*
- D *I won't have time to go anywhere tonight.*

Adjective Complement

- E *This problem is difficult to do.*
- F *I'm glad to see you in class today.*
- G *We were eager to hear about his trip.*

1. An infinitive or infinitive phrase functions as an adjective when it modifies the noun before it. In sentence A, *to do* modifies the noun *work*; in sentence B, *to solve* modifies *problems*; in sentence C, *to do for tonight* modifies *assignment*; in sentence D, *to go anywhere tonight* modifies *time*.
2. As an adjective complement, the infinitive/infinitive phrase completes the meaning started by the adjective. In sentence E, *to do* complements *difficult*; in sentence F, *to see you in class today* complements *glad*; in sentence G, *to hear about his trip* complements *eager*.
3. As complement, the infinitive/infinitive phrase is usually used after adjectives expressing emotion, such as these:

amazed	delighted	glad	relieved	upset
angry	disappointed	happy	sad	
anxious	disgusted	horrified	sorry	
ashamed	disturbed	pleased	shocked	
astonished	eager	proud	surprised	

Exercise 14 ■ ■ Complete the sentences, using a simple infinitive (to + verb) that will modify the underlined nouns and complete the meaning of each sentence.

Example: The best place _____ is Wilson's Lake.

The best place to fish is Wilson's Lake.

1. In 1995, the top children's movie _____ was *Pocohantas*.
2. When we entered the theater, the only places _____ were in the front row.
3. The first ten people _____ the theater received free *Pocohantas* T-shirts.
4. The first time we went to see *Pocohantas*, the line _____ tickets was all the way around the block.
5. Because of the long line, we made the decision _____ and see it on a weekday.
6. The best time _____ to a movie is during the week when there aren't large crowds.
7. My husband couldn't go to the movies with us because he had a report _____ for the following day.
8. Our son's desire _____ every *Pocohantas* record, book, poster, and toy was unbelievable.
9. He tried to learn the words in every book, but he had a lot of words _____.
10. He was so interested in learning the words that he didn't have time _____ with his friends.

Exercise 15 ■ ■ Restate each sentence, using an infinitive or infinitive phrase.

Example: I was surprised when I got an A on my last composition.

I was surprised to get an A on my last composition.

1. The students in the Section 1 grammar class were glad when they learned they would not have a grammar final.
2. The students had done so well all quarter that their instructor was happy that he did not have to give the class a final.
3. The director, however, was disturbed when he heard about this decision.
4. The students in Section 2 were angry when they found out about this.
5. In fact, they were shocked when they discovered it.

6. Don't be surprised if you see them protest this decision.
7. The grammar teacher for Section 1 said that he would be delighted if he had a class like Section 1 every quarter.
8. I really don't blame the students in Section 2 for getting angry. I'd be happy if I could forget about taking a final, too.

Exercise 16 ■ ■ ■ Complete the sentences, using an infinitive phrase. When you finish, compare sentences with another student.

1. When my mother called last night, I was happy _____.
2. When I finished talking to her, I was sad _____.
3. When I got a letter from my friend the other day, I was surprised _____.
4. While watching the news on television, I am often disgusted _____.
5. When I read the newspaper the other day, I was shocked _____.
6. Although our last test was difficult, our teacher said that she was pleased _____.
7. When I looked at my test, however, I was disappointed _____.
8. Even though I was disappointed with my grade, I was relieved _____.

14-5 INFINITIVE/INFINITIVE PHRASE FUNCTIONING AS ADVERB

- A We came here to work.
- B I'm leaving now to get to class on time.
- C To keep warm at night, you should buy an electric blanket.

D *To be honest, I hate the cold weather.*

E *To tell the truth, I miss the beautiful weather in my country.*

F *To be frank, snow has never excited me.*

1. An infinitive or infinitive phrase functions as an adverb when it modifies a verb or an entire sentence. In sentence **A**, *to work* modifies the verb *came*; in sentence **B**, *to get to class on time* modifies *am leaving*; in sentence **C**, *to keep warm at night* modifies *should buy*. In sentences **D**, **E**, and **F**, the infinitive phrases modify the entire sentence.

2. As an adverb modifying a verb, the infinitive or infinitive phrase expresses purpose. It answers the question "Why?"

Why is he going to Spain? He's going there to study.

Why did she quit her job? She quit it to get a better one.

3. When an infinitive or infinitive phrase is used as an adverbial to modify a verb, it is usually a substitution for a prepositional phrase beginning with *in order*.

He's going to Spain to study. (He's going to Spain in order to study.)

She stopped to talk to me. (She stopped in order to talk to me.)

Exercise 17

Answer each question, using an infinitive or infinitive phrase.

1. Why did Mr. Turner make an appointment with his banker?

2. Why is he planning to borrow five thousand dollars?

3. Why does he want to open his own business?

4. Why has he been talking to real estate brokers?

5. Why do many people keep their money in savings accounts?

6. Why do other people invest in the stock market?

7. Why did you decide to learn English?

8. Why did you choose to study in another country?

9. Why are you returning home next quarter?

10. Why did you call your parents the other day?

14-6 REDUCTION WITH INFINITIVE PHRASES

Adverb Clauses

Infinitive Phrases

We arrived at the ticket office early so that we could be sure to get tickets.

Basketball fans must often stand in line for long hours if they want to get good seats.

I took my camera to the game because I wanted to take pictures of my favorite players.

We arrived at the ticket office early to be sure to get tickets.

Basketball fans must often stand in line for long hours to get good seats.

I took my camera to the game to take pictures of my favorite players.

1. Infinitive phrases are commonly used in place of adverb clauses beginning with *so that*, *if*, and *because*.
2. An adverb clause cannot be changed to an infinitive phrase if the subjects of the dependent and independent clauses are different, as in this sentence:

You have to sign this paper so that the lawyer can take care of the problem.

Exercise 18 ■ ■ ■ Change the underlined adverb clause in each sentence to an infinitive phrase.

1. In the United States, candidates for the presidency campaign so that they can present their views to the public.
2. Most candidates buy T.V. time because they can reach a large number of people at one time.
3. All candidates ask for money so that they can pay for campaign expenses.
4. Many private citizens must make financial contributions to their favorite candidate if they want to keep their candidate in the race.
5. A candidate has to study national and international issues if he wants to address the voters knowledgeably.
6. All presidential hopefuls hire campaign workers in each state because they want to have good publicity on the local level.
7. These workers have to hold many meetings if they expect to establish a good local organization.
8. Campaign volunteers often go from door to door in their cities so that they can tell voters about their candidates.
9. These people must work hard if they want to get the people to vote for the candidate.

10. Voters should listen to all the individuals running for office if they want to be able to make intelligent decisions.
11. One year, I read three different newspapers every day so that I could learn the candidates' views on various issues.
12. During an election, T.V. stations cancel their regular shows because they present the election results to the public.
13. At this time, many people listen to the radio because they can get relief from the many hours of election reporting.
14. Most people would be surprised if they knew how much money many presidential hopefuls spent to get elected.

Noun Clauses

Infinitive Phrases

Sue asked me which store she should shop in for inexpensive but good clothes.

Sue asked me which store to shop in for inexpensive but good clothes.

She was thinking about how much she ought to spend on a new coat.

She was thinking about how much to spend on a new coat.

I finally decided where I would take him.

I finally decided where to take him.

In the store, a friendly clerk explained where we should look for certain clothing items.

In the store, a friendly clerk explained where to look for certain clothing items.

Infinitive phrases are often used to replace noun clauses beginning with the words *who, what, where, when, which, how, how often, how much, and how long.*

Exercise 19

Change the underlined noun clause in each sentence to an infinitive phrase.

1. While my friend and I were talking with the clerk in the department store, we discovered how we could find good bargains.
2. During our discussion, we also learned when we should check the newspapers for sales.
3. The clerk also told us how anyone can tell good shoes from poorly made ones.
4. Now I know what I have to do before I make a purchase.
5. I am wondering whom I can talk to about getting a part-time job in the department store.

6. I'm going to ask my doctor what I can take for my cold.
7. It's difficult to know which cough syrup I should buy.
8. I can never remember when I have to take medicine.
9. Everyone would love to discover how he could avoid catching a cold.
10. Most people don't really know how long they should stay in bed.

Exercise 20 ■■

With another student, take turns asking and answering the questions. In the questions, use the words in parentheses and an infinitive phrase.

Example: A: You look very worried. What are you thinking about? (how)

B: I'm thinking about how to earn some extra money.

1. The next vacation begins in two weeks. What are many students considering? (where)
2. Most students know all the tenses in English. What don't they often understand about tenses? (when)
3. Ana will complete her English studies this semester. Concerning next semester, what must she decide? (which)
4. Some professors in university classes speak very quickly. What must students learn? (how)
5. While Dave was making spaghetti sauce last night, what was he wondering? (how much)
6. After the counselor's lecture on visa information, what do you know? (who)
7. When people buy a new car, they receive an operating manual. What is one of the things it tells the driver? (how often)
8. We will soon have final exams. What are most of us worrying about? (how many)
9. Penny's going away for two weeks, and she doesn't want to leave her dog alone. What is she wondering? (what)
10. Since Chris has been taking a course in public speaking, what has she learned? (how)
11. Ricardo wants to have a party. His apartment is small, but he has a lot of friends. What must he decide? (whom)
12. His friend Monica is responsible for the refreshments for the party. What has she been trying to figure out? (how much)

Adjective Clauses

Infinitive Phrases

I have a lot of dirty clothes that I must wash.

Carla is the person whom you can trust.

Can you lend me a good book which I can read on the plane?

I have a lot of dirty clothes to wash.

Carla is the person to trust.

Can you lend me a good book to read on the plane?

1. An infinitive or infinitive phrase is often used in place of an adjective clause.
2. The infinitive or infinitive phrase is also used after *the first*, *the second*, *the last*, and *the only* to replace an adjective clause.

The first student who finished the exam was Rina.

The first student to finish the exam was Rina. OR

The first student to finish was Rina. OR

The first to finish was Rina.

The only person who didn't finish was Marc.

The only person not to finish was Marc.

Of course, the last person who left the room was the teacher.

Of course, the last person to leave the room was the teacher. OR

Of course, the last person to leave was the teacher. OR

Of course, the last to leave was the teacher.

Exercise 21

First, underline the adjective clauses in the dialog. Then, with another student, repeat the dialog, replacing the adjective clauses with infinitives or infinitive phrases.

Student: Does this store have a manager whom I can complain to about my problem?

Clerk: On Saturdays there is usually no one here who can help you with a complaint.

Student: I have a defective typewriter that I must replace.

Clerk: Just a minute. Perhaps I can find someone from that department who can talk to you.

Student: I must talk to someone. I have a lot of work that I must complete this weekend.

Clerk: Have a seat over there. I shouldn't be too long. There are some magazines that you can read while you're waiting.

Student: Am I the first person who has had trouble with this brand?

Clerk: No. But you're the only one who has an immediate need for repair.

Exercise 22 ■ ■ *Change the underlined adjective clause in each sentence to an infinitive phrase.*

1. Before Maria returns to Venezuela, she has a lot of presents that she must buy.
2. Can anyone suggest a nice gift that she could get for her father?
3. She wants to get him something that he can put in his office.
4. Her father is a businessman whom you have to admire.
5. He was the first businessman in his country who established a successful exporting business.
6. He is a good person whom you can consult if you have any questions about trade.
7. Maria doesn't have a lot of money that she can spend on a present.
8. She is from Caracas, and there are many beautiful places that you can visit there.
9. She hasn't taken final exams yet, so she has a lot of work that she must do before she goes shopping.
10. Before she returns to Caracas, she is going to Mexico where she will spend two weeks with her aunt Carla, who is her mother's sister.
11. Her aunt has a beautiful ranch and plenty of horses that she can ride.
12. The ranch is a good place where she can relax after finals.
13. Because she will have two entire weeks, she will have plenty of time in which to enjoy herself.
14. Maria's aunt is the only member of her family who has a ranch.

14-7 INFINITIVE/INFINITIVE PHRASE WITH *Enough* AND *Too*

■ Infinitive with *Enough* ■

adjective + *enough* + infinitive/infinitive phrase

The map we had wasn't excellent, but it was good enough to get us to our destination.

Sam's car isn't very big, but it is big enough to hold five people comfortably.

adverb + *enough* + infinitive/infinitive phrase

We were driving slowly enough to enjoy the beautiful scenery.

At times, the kids played the radio loudly enough to burst our eardrums.

enough + noun + infinitive/infinitive phrase

We only went on a short trip because we didn't have enough money to take a long one.

What's more, we didn't have enough time to stay away for more than four days.

1. *Enough* comes after an adjective or adverb and before a noun.
2. *For* + noun/pronoun may appear before the infinitive or infinitive phrase.

Sam drove slowly enough for all of us to see the beautiful scenery.

Exercise 23 ■ ■ ■ Combine each pair of sentences, using *enough*.

Example: The bicycle isn't strong. It can't hold two people.

The bicycle isn't strong enough to hold two people.

1. The candidate for president of the foreign student association doesn't have many friends. She can't get the majority of the votes.
2. She doesn't have much time. She won't make many speeches.
3. She hasn't been on campus a long time. She doesn't know many people.
4. Most of the students don't know her well. They won't give her their support.
5. She really isn't very interested in the position. She won't campaign very hard.
6. For her, winning isn't important. It won't make her lose time from her studies.
7. Ahmed's embassy didn't give him very much time. He couldn't finish his English studies.
8. Six months was not long. He couldn't complete all the levels.
9. He didn't realize the problem early. He didn't get permission to study longer.
10. This problem is not serious. It won't make him forget about beginning academic work.
11. His English is good. He can at least start part-time academic work.
12. Besides, he learns quickly. He will do well during his first semester.

■ Infinitive with Too ■

too + adjective + infinitive/infinitive phrase

When we returned from our trip Sunday night, we were too tired to attend classes on Monday morning.

When I got home, my apartment was too cold to sleep in.

too + adverb + infinitive/infinitive phrase

I woke up too late to eat breakfast with her the next morning.

She left too early for me to say goodbye.

1. Too has the meaning of a negative result. In this sentence, the speaker didn't catch the 5:30 train.

I arrived at the train station too late to catch the 5:30 train.

2. For + noun/pronoun can be used before the infinitive construction.

I'm too tired for you to come over tonight.

Exercise 24 ■■ Combine each pair of sentences, using too (and for, where necessary).

Example: Many big cities have become dangerous. Citizens cannot walk alone at night.

Many big cities have become too dangerous for citizens to walk alone at night.

1. When I lived in Paris a few years ago, I was afraid. I didn't go out alone after dark.
2. Some people in large urban areas have become very suspicious. They don't trust anyone except their close friends.
3. In a big city, the pace of life is very fast. I would not enjoy it.
4. Many people are busy. They don't speak to their neighbors.
5. In most large cities, the cost of living is very high. The average citizen cannot have a comfortable life.

6. I am very happy in my small town. I would not move to a big city.
7. My brother, on the other hand, is restless. He will not stay here forever.
8. He says that our town is small. It is not interesting.
9. He says he's young. He will not die of boredom.
10. At the moment, however, he is broke. He cannot leave until he has saved some money.
11. I am very satisfied here. I don't worry about money.
12. Life is very short. I do not want to spend it living in fear.

Exercise 25 ■■

Complete each sentence, using an infinitive phrase that is true for you. Then compare sentences with another student.

1. I'm too old _____.
2. It's not warm enough _____.
3. I don't have enough money _____.
4. Sometimes I don't wake up early enough _____.
5. I never seem to have enough time _____.
6. I was too busy the other day _____.
7. My place doesn't have enough space _____.
8. Sometimes Americans speak too fast _____.
9. My English is good enough _____.
10. I might be too tired tonight _____.
11. My place is too small _____.
12. This exercise has been easy enough _____.

Practice Exam

SECTION 1

Identify each underlined infinitive phrase according to its function in the sentence. The functions are listed below. Be careful of the false subject it.

Subject = S Adjective = A Object = O
 Subject complement = SC Adjective complement = AC Adverb = AV

- _____ 1. Because of the complexity of the world's problems today, to find proper solutions is a difficult task.
- _____ 2. Today's world leaders have an extremely difficult job to do.
- _____ 3. Indeed, it is not easy for any leader to govern his or her country wisely.
- _____ 4. Every head of state needs to have well-informed advisors.
- _____ 5. The president of one country recently fired his defense minister to get someone more knowledgeable.
- _____ 6. He was anxious to have someone who could look at the subject of defense rationally.
- _____ 7. His chief concern was to have a strong yet rational policy of defense.
- _____ 8. It is disturbing to think about the effects of war today.
- _____ 9. Few individuals want to see their country engaged in war.
- _____ 10. Every sane person's desire is to live in peace.

SECTION 2

Use each verb in a short sentence. Remember that some verbs require an object before the infinitive.

Examples: afford I cannot afford to buy a new car.
 advise My friend advised me to get a used car.

1. allow _____
2. command _____

3. decide _____
4. demand _____
5. direct _____
6. encourage _____
7. forget _____
8. hesitate _____
9. intend _____
10. neglect _____
11. offer _____
12. order _____
13. persuade _____
14. refuse _____
15. seem _____

SECTION 3

Change the underlined adjective, noun, and adverb clauses in each sentence to an infinitive phrase.

Example: Rosa registered for the TOEFL exam early so that she would be sure to have a seat.

Rosa registered for the TOEFL exam early to be sure to have a seat.

1. Before the test, she asked her grammar teacher which points of grammar she should review.

2. Her teacher gave her the lesson that she should study.

3. As she was reviewing, she realized there were many rules that she had to remember.

4. After she had talked with her teacher again, she discovered how she could review quickly yet thoroughly.

5. Most students have to review a little if they want to get a high score.

6. Next quarter, the director is giving a special class once a week because he wants to help the students review before the test.

7. In this class, he will explain how the students should prepare for the test.

8. Last quarter, Mirko was the only person who received a score above 550.

9. Mirko had spent a lot of time preparing for the test so that he would get a high score.

10. Since he had taken the practice tests in the TOEFL book, he knew what kind of questions he should expect on the test.
