

TOEFL Prep 25

Infinitives:

-frequently follow verbs of saying and thinking: agree, choose, decide, expect, hope, intend, learn, mean, offer, plan, promise, refuse

-frequently follow these verbs: fail, manage, pretend, tend, want

-some verbs are followed by object and an infinitive: advised him to, asked her to, got someone else to--- encourage, expect, invite, order, persuade, remind, teach, tell, allow, force, help, want

Note: You can also use help with an object and verb without "to". Ex: I helped him fix it. This is more common than to say "I helped him to fix it."

Note: Do not use "want" with a "that" clause. EX: I want that you call your mother.

Say, "I want you to call your mother."

-these verbs are followed by "for" and an object, then an infinitive: arrange, wait, appeal, ask, long, pay, wish

EX: I arranged for him to collect our mail. They waited for me to speak.

-some verbs are normally used in the passive when they are followed by an infinitive: believe, consider, feel, find, know, report, say, think, understand

EX: He is said to have died a natural death. Eating vegetables is thought to be a good thing.

-some verbs are followed by a "wh" word and an infinitive clause: ask, decide, explain, forget, imagine, know, learn, remember, understand, wonder

EX: I didn't know what to call him. She had forgotten how to ride a bicycle.

Some sentences add an object before the "wh" word. EX: I asked him what to do. Who will show me how to use it?

-these abstract nouns are frequently followed by an infinitive clause: ability, attempt, chance, desire, failure, inability, need, opportunity, unwillingness, willingness

EX: His ability to predict the future is uncanny. It is the opportunity of a lifetime for her.

TO or ING

1. The following verbs can be followed by an infinitive clause or an ing clause with little difference in meaning.

It started to rain. It started raining.

A very cold wind had started to blow. _____

The captain didn't bother to answer. _____

The company began to export tin from England. _____

They continued to make progress despite the rain. _____

I like to fish for Marlin. _____

2. After "remember", "forget", and "regret" you use an ing clause if you are referring to an event after it has happened. EX: I remember discussing it once before. I'll never forget going out with my old aunt. She did not regret accepting his offer.

Use an infinitive clause after "remember" and "forget" if you are referring to an event before it happens.

EX: Don't forget to send in your application. I must remember to send a gift to the child.

After "regret" in formal English, you use an infinitive. EX: I regret to inform you that your application has been denied. I regret to say that your house burned down.

If you try **to do** something, you make an effort to do it. If you try **doing** something, you do it as an experiment to see if you like it or if it is effective. EX: I tried to paint the cabinet, but the paint wouldn't stick. I have tried painting furniture before and it usually works out.

If you "go on doing" something, you continue to do it. If you "go on to do" something, you do it after you have finished doing something else.

EX: I went on writing, even though she said it was long enough.

He went on to write novels after having begun his career writing short stories.

3. You can use an object and verb after "make" or "let" instead of an infinitive.

EX: Mother made me go for the interview. NOT "made me to go"

Jenny let him talk. NOT "let him to talk"

4. You normally use an ing clause after notice, observe, smell and understand.

EX: I could smell meat cooking.

I can understand them wanting to go to Europe.

I noticed her standing there.

The supervisor observed my teaching.

Make a sentence with an infinitive or ing form using the given words. The first two are done for you.

1. (recall/ ask) I don't recall asking for your opinion.

2. (forgot/leave) She forgot to leave me her notes from the English class.

3. (chose/accept) _____

4. (expect/hear) _____

5. (meant/ offer) _____

6. (managed/ pretend) _____

7. (advised/invite) _____

8. (forced/help) _____

9. (needs/cut) _____

10. (heard/shout) _____

11. (deny/feel) _____

12. (anticipate/see) _____