

A gerund is a noun made from a verb by adding “ing”. The gerund form of the verb “read” is “reading”.

**Read these examples of gerunds.**

Reading helps you learn English. Her favorite hobby is reading. I enjoy reading.

Infinitives are the “to” form of the verb. The infinitive form of “learn” is “to learn”.

**Read these examples of infinitives.**

To learn is important. The most important thing is to learn. He wants to learn.

1. To admit something is to confess. EX: I admit I took the money.
2. To advise someone is to offer suggestions to them. EX: I advised her to finish school.
3. To allow something is to permit it. I allow my children to stay up late on the weekends.
4. To avoid something is to keep away from someone or something. EX: I tell my children to avoid trouble.
5. To tolerate something is to accept it. EX: I can't tolerate a barking dog.
6. To delay something is to postpone it. EX: I delayed going to college until I had enough money to pay for it.
7. To deny something is to refuse to admit it. EX: She denies knowing the men.
8. To recommend something is to suggest something. EX: She suggested an idea for the project.

**All of these verbs are frequently followed by gerunds. Underline the gerunds in the sentences below.**

1. I admit taking the money, but I didn't know it was yours.
2. The teacher advised studying the vocabulary.
3. The restaurant doesn't allow smoking.
4. You should avoid spending too much time in front of the TV.
5. I don't tolerate whining.
6. We delayed going to the airport because the traffic was bad.
7. She denied asking for the test answers.
8. Dentists recommend brushing after every meal.

**In these sentences, circle the verb and underline the gerund.**

1. She admitted stealing the necklace.
2. The doctor advised drinking lots of water with the medicine.
3. The teacher hates making calls to parents.
4. They avoided paying their taxes.
5. We began studying immediately.
6. The teacher doesn't tolerate talking in class.

These verbs are frequently followed by infinitives. Make sentences with these verbs followed by an infinitive. EX: She agreed to take me to school. I arranged to have a tutor. It is OK to change the verb tense.

aagree	like	arrange	ask	begin	want
--------	------	---------	-----	-------	------

choose	continue	decide	demand	deserve	expect
forget	get	hate	like	prepare	pretend
promise	remember	start	threaten	wait	

**Change these infinitives to gerunds. You may have to rearrange the word order.**

Example:

To help the poor people of the world is a noble goal.

Helping the poor people of the world is a noble goal.

1. To tease the dog is rude.
2. It is hard to remember my anniversary date.
3. To run regularly insures good health.
4. She hates to work late.
5. I prefer to go to the mall.
6. You are not allowed to play in the park.
7. Do you like to dance?
8. To be on time is important in a new job.
9. To swim is good exercise.
10. Doctors advise to reduce fats in your diet.
11. To worry about it is pointless.

**In these sentences, the student has filled in the blank with either an infinitive or a gerund. Decide if he has completed the sentence correctly. If he has made an error, correct his mistake.**

1. Would you mind to help me with my project?
2. I enjoyed to tour the sites today.
3. She considered to cycle up the mountain.
4. I want helping you.
5. She decided flying instead of driving.
6. My mother asked her to tell that funny story.
7. She reminded the customer to call the store.
8. She wanted driving her own car.
9. She deserves having a reward.

**Discuss:**

- A. What is something you try to avoid?
- B. What do you recommend to people new to Austin?
- C. List some gerunds of activities you enjoy.
- D. What is something that is hard to remember?