

FUMC ESL 5-13-2021 High Beginning and Low Intermediate lesson

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now. Finish this sentence: I enjoy playing _____.

What's a Gerund?

A gerund is a verb ending in -ing that is used as a noun, either as a subject or object.

In this sentence: Running is my favorite hobby. Running is a gerund. It is the subject of the sentence.

In this sentence: I love running. Running is a gerund. It is the object of the sentence.

What is an Infinitive?

An infinitive is a verb preceded by to (to run, to walk, to go).

In this sentence: To travel is my dream. To travel is an infinitive. It is the subject of the sentence.

In this sentence: I love to travel. To travel is an infinitive. It is the object of the sentence.

Gerunds sound better than infinitives used as the **subject** of the sentence.

EX: Running is my favorite sport. sounds much better than To run is my favorite sport.

So, MOST of the time, we will use a gerund in the subject, not an infinitive. Objects follow the verb. It is sometimes difficult to decide whether to use a gerund or an infinitive as an object. Sometimes, we use both.

In these examples, both are correct.

I love traveling. I love to travel.

Gerunds: Here is a list of verbs that are frequently followed by a gerund.

enjoy	avoid	consider	dislike	miss	finish
feel like	practice	put off	recommend	suggest	stop

Read these sentences. Tell what the sentence means.

I enjoy playing tennis.	I avoid eating junk food.
I dislike cleaning the house.	I miss seeing my friends.
I finished washing the dishes.	I feel like having some ice cream.
I practice playing the piano every day.	I put off calling the principal.
I recommend reading the lesson in advance.	I suggest getting a vaccination.

She stopped crying.

I considered moving to Canada.

Finish these sentences:

1. I can't stop crying when ...
2. I avoid eating ...
3. I dislike cleaning...
4. I practice playing...
5. I recommend reading...
6. I miss seeing...
7. I feel like having ...
8. I suggest getting...

Don't get gerunds confused with the present or past continuous tense (is/am/are/was/were plus ING verb).

For example: We are studying vocabulary today. "Studying" is not a gerund in this sentence. It is part of the present continuous verb. Tell if the underlined word in these sentences is a gerund or a verb.

We are going to Dallas tomorrow.

We love going to Dallas.

I love shopping.

I am shopping at Nordstroms.

This job requires traveling several times a month.

I am traveling several times a month.

Elena is getting a Visa to Russia.

Getting a Visa to Russia is difficult.

She regretted asking for help.

She was asking for help.

They were stealing the money from the drawer.

We caught them stealing money.

She is worrying about flying to New York by herself.

She quit worrying about flying to New York by herself.

Jeff prefers sitting at the back of the plane.

Jeff was sitting at the back of the plane.

Infinitives: Here is a list of verbs that are frequently followed by an infinitive.

agree	fail	prove	ask	can't afford	can't wait
choose	decide	get	hope	learn	manage
need	offer	plan	promise	refuse	struggle
tend	threaten	volunteer	want	would like	demand

Read these sentences. Underline the infinitive. Tell what the sentence means.

- I agreed to watch the football game with my husband. I failed to pass the exam.
- It proved to be harder than we thought. She always asks to help us.
- We can't afford to buy a house. I can't wait to see my boyfriend.
- You can choose to stay here. We decided to go.
- We get to ride the roller coaster for free. I hope to travel to Ireland soon.
- Children learn to avoid mean dogs. We managed to find our hotel after an hour.
- They need to study more. We offered to buy their house.
- I plan to attend school next year. She promised to be home early.
- We refused to pay the bill. I struggle to understand her.
- Dogs tend to chase squirrels. The policeman threatened to shoot.
- I volunteered to clean the tables. I want to introduce you to my friend.
- I would like to get something to eat. He demanded to know the answer.

Some verbs can be followed by a gerund or an infinitive. Read these examples. In these sentences, the meaning does not change, whether you use an infinitive or gerund.

- It started to rain. It started raining.
- I love to dance. I love dancing.
- He continued to sing after the music stopped. He continued singing after the music stopped.
- I hate to study. I hate studying.
- We like to eat dessert first. We like eating dessert first.
- I prefer to eat out. I prefer eating out.
- We learned to paint in first grade. We learned painting in first grade.

There is no rule for when you can or can't use both an infinitive and gerund. For example, we use "started" this way, but not "finished". These words are opposites, and you would think you can use them in the same way. But you can't use "finished" with both. EX: Correct---We finished vacuuming the floors. Incorrect---We finished to vacuum the floors.

In some sentences, using an infinitive or gerund changes the meaning. Read these examples.

1. She quit working here. Means-She was working here, but she quit. She is not working here now.
2. She quit to work here. Means-She quit her job with another company so that she could work here.
3. Jerry stopped smoking. Means-Jerry used to smoke but doesn't any more.
4. Jerry stopped to smoke. Means-Jerry stopped doing something so he could smoke.
5. Jack didn't remember to buy eggs. Means-Jack was supposed to buy eggs, but forgot.
6. Jack didn't remember buying eggs. Means-Jack might have bought eggs, but he doesn't remember doing it. He might have bought eggs or he might have forgotten to buy eggs.

Choose an **infinitive** or **gerund** in these sentences. If **both** would work, underline both.

1. I want (to buy / buying) a car this summer.
2. We tend(to think / thinking) boys are smarter at math than girls.
3. I would like (to thank / thanking) the teachers.
4. I avoid (to drink / drinking) alcohol.
5. We finished (to wash / washing) the dishes.
6. We get (to go / going) to the park tomorrow.
7. They struggled (to open / opening) the heavy door.
8. I love (to meet / meeting) celebrities.
9. He completed (to paint / painting) the house.
10. The teachers encourage (to read / reading) English novels.
11. Did you decide (to study / studying) accounting in college?
12. She asked (to come / coming) with us.
13. Mother promised (to help / helping) us with the decorations.
14. She agreed (to bring / bringing) cookies to the party.
15. Mom suggested (to put / putting) whipped cream on top of the cake.

Sometimes gerunds are used as the **object of the preposition**. EX: We talked about painting for hours. They asked about taking English lesson. My interest in cooking started early. Turn on the oven before buttering the bread. Jason got good grades by studying the textbook. We thanked Jan for making the cupcakes.

READ AND DISCUSS: Life Goes On Lesson 1: Not Ambitious

Jimmy isn't an ambitious person. He is twenty-one years old. He doesn't go to college. He has a low paying job. He only works part-time. He lives in his parent's basement. He sleeps late and spends a lot of time watching TV.

Jimmy's lack of ambition bothers his father, Zeke. Zeke is a very hard worker and has accomplished a lot in his life. He immigrated to this country when he was fourteen. He studied hard and learned English. Zeke went to night school to learn to be an electrician. He got a good job. He bought a house. He supported his family. He sent Jimmy's older sister to college. Zeke

wanted Jimmy to go to college. But Jimmy didn't want to go. He said, "Dad, college is not for me." Zeke hates to see Jimmy waste his time.

One night after work, Zeke walked down to the basement. Jimmy was sitting on the couch watching TV.

Zeke: Jimmy, we need to talk.

Jimmy: What is it, Dad?

Zeke: You aren't doing anything with your life. It isn't good for you to sit around watching TV. You don't work but four hours every day. You should use your time wisely. You should enroll in college or vocational school. I will pay for you to go to electrician school. You can work with me at Atlas Electric.

Jimmy: Dad, I told you. I'm not interested in going to school. Can we talk about this later? I'm watching a funny TV show right now.

Zeke: No, Jimmy, we need to talk now. You are being foolish. You must get a full-time job. You live here for free. We pay for everything. You need to contribute. You are not a child any more. You need to start paying rent. If you don't want to do that, you will need to move out.

Jimmy: Sure, Dad. I will look into that.

Zeke: Jimmy, you make promises. But you don't keep your promises. I asked you six months ago to apply for a full-time job. But you did not do it. I am out of patience. I will give you thirty days to find a job and start paying rent. That is your only option. If you don't like my rules, you will have to move out.

Jimmy: Dad, you remind me of one of the Dads on my TV show. He's always yelling at his son. I think you should try to relax. You might have a heart attack.

Questions:

1. Is Jimmy ambitious? What does ambitious mean?
2. Describe Jimmy's life.
3. What bothers Jimmy's father?
4. Describe Zeke's life.
5. What did Jimmy say about college?
6. How many hours does Jimmy work?
7. What does Zeke want Jimmy to do in his free time?
8. Why does Jimmy want to talk later?
9. What does Zeke tell Jimmy he must do?
10. How long does Zeke have to find a job?
11. What does Jimmy say Zeke reminds him of?
12. What does Jimmy think Zeke should do?
13. What does Jimmy say might happen to Zeke?
14. Do you think Zeke is right about Jimmy?
15. Would you ever tell your grown child they had to move out?
16. Do you think Zeke is frustrated with Jimmy?