

FUMC ESL 5-11-2026 Lesson

Introduce yourself. Yesterday was Mother's Day. Did you do anything special for your mother? Do you celebrate Mother's Day in your country? What is one thing that is special about your mother?

Thursday we practiced using infinitives. We learned that sometimes we use a noun or pronoun between the verb and the infinitive. It sometimes changes the meaning of the sentence.

Explain the difference in these two sentences.

He asked **us** to babysit the children. . He asked to babysit the children.

Some verbs must always be followed by an infinitive and others must always be followed by a gerund. A gerund is the ING form of the verb. Some verbs can be followed by an infinitive OR a gerund.

Read these sentences and tell if both of them are correct or if only one is correct.

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|---|---|
| 1-I regret leaving early. | I regret to leave early. |
| 2-I enjoy swimming. | I enjoy to swim. |
| 3-He admitted stealing my purse. | He admitted to steal my purse. |
| 4-She suggested studying together. | She suggested to study together. |
| 5-I can't imagine living here. | I can't imagine to live here. |
| 6-They finished reading the report. | They finished to read the report. |
| 7-My husband refused wearing a suit. | My husband refused to wear a suit. |
| 8-She decided keeping the dog. | She decided to keep the dog. |
| 9-It started raining. | It started to rain. |
| 10-We tried opening the window. | We tried to open the window. |
| 11-I don't want you bothering your teacher. | I don't want you to bother the teacher. |
| 12-She remembered locking the door. | She remembered to lock the door. |

Verbs usually followed by a gerund

admit	avoid	consider	imagine	stop	suggest
finish	keep	allow	dislike	fear	recommend

Verbs usually followed by an infinitive

afford	agree	arrange	decide	deserve	fail
forget	ask	plan	demand	choose	learn

There are many more examples online. Just Google, "infinitives or gerunds".

Finish these sentences by putting an infinitive or gerund in the sentence after the verb.

1. (cheating) They admitted _____ on the test.
2. (turn out). You forgot _____ the light.
3. (stop) She agreed _____ smoking.

4. (play) He learned _____ the guitar.
5. (arrive) We plan _____ on Sunday.
6. (win) We deserve _____ the award.
7. (answer) You failed _____ the questions on the back of the test.
8. (keep) The residents are not allowed _____ animals.
9. (fly) We dread _____ for ten hours.
10. (hire) I recommend _____ a guide when you are in Athens.
11. (sweep) They finally finished _____ the floor.
12. (exercise) Mother dislikes _____.
13. (buy) She intends _____ a house.
14. (keep) I was so sleepy. I tried _____ my eyes open, but I couldn't.
15. (put out) We tried _____ the fire, but we didn't have enough water.
16. (smiling) The baby is so cute. I can't help _____ when I see him.
17. (study) I need _____ for my English test.
18. (concentrate) Please be quiet. I am trying _____.
19. (cut) Your hair is too long. It needs _____.
20. (cook) I don't mind _____.

IDIOMS: Read the conversations. Discuss the words and phrases in bold. Explain what is happening in the conversations in your own words.

Sara: Did you see the email Sherry sent out to everyone in the department? It is probably going to make a lot of people angry.

Linda: You can **count on** Sherry to **stir things up**. She asked me if she should send the email and I suggested it would be better to **let sleeping dogs lie**. But Sherry can be very **hard-headed**. She insisted on sending it.

Susan: Welcome to Austin, Dr. Jonas. I know your flight was long and you must be tired, but we need to **head straight to** the hospital. The staff surgeons are excited to meet you, and they insisted on me scheduling **a meet and greet** for as soon as you arrived.

Dr. Jonas: I'd really like to **freshen up a bit** if there is a restroom or lounge I could use.

Susan: **By all means**. There is a women's lounge just **down the hall** from the meeting.

Dr. Jonas: What do you see my **role** being tonight? I obviously just arrived, so I'm not sure what the surgeons are expecting me to say or do.

Susan: There is no **agenda**. I thought I'd introduce you to everyone. Then we'll have a reception where you can **mingle** with the other surgeons. Maybe you can **get a feel** for the people you will be working with.