

GERUNDS & INFINITIVES

B1 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Practice | 35-45 minutes

Learn and practise | Use common verb patterns after verbs and prepositions.

1. READ: Joining an evening class

Read the conversation. Notice the bold grammar and how the speakers use it.

Rae: Have you chosen an evening class yet?

Sol: I'm **thinking about joining** the photography course.

Rae: I **enjoy taking** photos, but I **need to learn** how the settings work.

Sol: Me too. I've **decided to sign up**. Want to come?

Rae: Yes, if we can **avoid spending** too much on equipment.

Sol: The school lends cameras. I've already checked.

2. GRAMMAR: Verb + -ing or to + base verb

Some verbs take -ing; others take to + base verb. After a preposition, usually use -ing.

Use / form	Pattern	Example
Verb + -ing	enjoy / avoid / finish + -ing	I enjoy taking photos.
Verb + to-infinitive	want / decide / hope + to	I decided to sign up.
Preposition + -ing	about / in / at + -ing	I am interested in learning.

More patterns: mind + -ing; need / plan / promise + to-infinitive.

Learn each verb with its pattern, not as an isolated word.

Meaning-changing patterns such as stop doing / stop to do are reserved for B2.

A. CHOOSE

Circle the correct option in each sentence.

1. I enjoy cook / cooking.

2. She hopes pass / to pass.

3. We decided joining / to join.

4. He avoids drive / driving at night.

5. I'm interested in learn / learning.

6. They finished to paint / painting.

7. Do you mind wait / waiting?

8. I promised helping / to help.

Read each answer aloud. Explain which meaning or time clue helped you.

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Use it | Complete a context, write sentences and speak with a partner.

B. COMPLETE: Learning photography

Write the -ing form or to-infinitive of each verb.

1. I want _____ (learn) to use my camera.
2. I enjoy _____ (take) photos outdoors.
3. Jo has decided _____ (join) the class too.
4. We're interested in _____ (try) something new.
5. The teacher suggested _____ (bring) a notebook.
6. I hope _____ (improve) before my holiday.

C. CHANGE THE SENTENCES

1-2: Rewrite with the verb in brackets.

Example: Cooking is fun for me. (enjoy) **I enjoy cooking.**

1. My plan is to study tonight. (plan)
2. Travelling makes me happy. (enjoy)

3-4: Correct the verb pattern. Example: I want learning. **I want to learn.**

3. She decided going home.
4. He is good at to cook.

D. WRITE ABOUT YOU

Write three true sentences. Use enjoy + -ing, hope + to-infinitive and a preposition + -ing.

Example: **I enjoy swimming. I hope to travel. I'm interested in learning Italian.**

E. SPEAK WITH A PARTNER

Discuss a course or hobby you would like to try.

Explain what you **enjoy doing**, **hope to learn** and are **interested in trying**.

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Answer key | Keep this page separate during student practice.

1. READ: Joining an evening class

Sample target language from the conversation:

Sol: I'm **thinking about joining** the photography course.

Rae: I **enjoy taking** photos, but I **need to learn** how the settings work.

Sol: Me too. I've **decided to sign up**. Want to come?

Rae: Yes, if we can **avoid spending** too much on equipment.

A. CHOOSE

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1. cooking | 2. to pass |
| 3. to join | 4. driving |
| 5. learning | 6. painting |
| 7. waiting | 8. to help |

B. COMPLETE: Learning photography

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1. to learn | 2. taking |
| 3. to join | 4. trying |
| 5. bringing | 6. to improve |

C. CHANGE THE SENTENCES

1. I plan to study tonight.
2. I enjoy travelling.
3. She decided to go home.
4. He is good at cooking.

D. WRITE ABOUT YOU / E. SPEAK

Personal answers will vary. Check the target grammar.

Sample: I enjoy drawing. I hope to join an art class. I'm interested in learning to paint.

Teacher note: Suggested in B5 takes -ing. Accept correct spelling variants such as travelling/traveling.