

## VERBS AND PHRASES FOLLOWED BY A GERUND

He *apologized for* being late.

They *objected to* going hiking.

He *prevented her from* going out.

She *complained about* having a headache.

They *insisted on* talking to the manager.

They *enjoyed watching* Northern Exposure.

She *avoided* going through the Common.

She *didn't mind* writing the letter again.

She *considered* applying for a post at that company.

She *suggested* performing a play at school.

They don't *risk* being late.

They *liked* going to the zoo when they were little.

He *prefers riding to* walking. (but: I prefer to do this now.)

They *hate* getting homework. (but: I hate to do it now.)

They *dislike* getting homework.

She would not even *think of* cheating.

He *succeeded in* becoming a famous physician.

He *isn't interested in* emigrating to the U.S.A.

He *dreams of* becoming a rich man.

We *look forward to* meeting them again.

He *is proud of* being good at English.

She doesn't *feel like* going out tonight.

He *couldn't help* laughing when he saw her in that dress.

I *can't stand* taking exams.

*It's not worth* mentioning.

*It's no use* complaining about that.

They *aim at* becoming rich and famous.

## GERUND

*Swimming* is healthy.

GERUND

*Swimming* in the river, he drowned

VERB

**Verbs that can be followed by both INFINITIVE and GERUND constructions!**  
**MIND THE DIFFERENCES IN MEANING!**

to try to do something

make an effort; attempt to do sth difficult

to try doing sth

make an experience

do sth to see what will happen

to stop to do sth

make a break/pause in order to do sth

to stop doing sth

stop what one is doing/what one does

to like to do something

choose to do sth (for a change)

think it right to

would like *to do*

wish, want *to do*

to like *doing* sth

enjoy *doing* something

to remember to do sth

remember what one has to do

to remember doing sth

remember what one has done

remember what has happened

to go on to do sth

change; move on to do sth new

to go on doing sth

continue what one has been doing

forget to do

forget what one has to do

forget doing

forget what one has done/what has happened

regret to do

be sorry for what one is going to say

regret doing

be sorry for what has happened

interested to do

interested by what one learns

interested in doing

interested by the idea of doing sth

X used to do

refers to past habits and states

to be used to doing

made familiar with; accustomed to

## GERUND or INFINITIVE?

With *remember*, *forget*, *stop*, *go on* and *regret* the difference of meaning, which is the result of the gerund/infinitive, is connected with time. The Gerund refers to things that happen earlier (before the remembering, forgetting, etc take place), the infinitive refers to things that happen after the remembering etc.

If you refer to a particular occasion, you have to use the infinitive after *love*, *hate* and *prefer*. If you refer to habits, you should use the Gerund

*Allow*, *advise*, *forbid* and *permit* are followed by the Gerund if there is no personal object. If we say who is allowed etc, the infinitive is used.

We use the Gerund after *see*, *watch* and *hear* if we suggest that we only observe part of a complete action (i.e. if we start looking or listening it is already going on). However, the infinitive is used if we want to suggest that we observe the whole action from the very beginning to the end.

If we are talking about things which happen to us unexpectedly, without our wanting or choosing them, you have to use the Gerund after *afraid of*.

After *propose*, *attempt*, *intend*, *continue*, *can't bear* and *be accustomed to* both structures are possible with little difference of meaning, but the infinitive is probably more common after *propose*, *attempt* and *intend*.

*Sorry* is used with an infinitive when we apologize for something that we are doing or about to do. However, if we apologize for something that we have done, we use a perfect infinitive, for + Gerund or a that - clause.

*Begin* and *start* can be followed by Gerund or infinitive structures usually with no real difference of meaning. However, it is more common to use the gerund if we are talking about the beginning of a long or habitual activity, but this form is not used after a progressive form of *begin* or *start*. After *begin* and *start* the verbs understand and realize are only used in the infinitive.