

UNIT 4 Gerunds and Infinitives

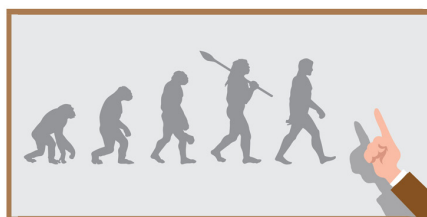
WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

A Circle the correct answer.

1. Most people would rather **living** / **live** / **to live** in a city than a rural area.
2. It's no use **sitting** / **to sit** / **sit** around all day if you want to get fit.
3. College students have volunteered **cleaning** / **to be cleaned** / **to clean up** the local park.
4. The firefighters tried **to put** / **put** / **putting** out the blaze, but failed.
5. When I got home, I found my friend Jill **waiting** / **to wait** / **be waiting** in front of my house.
6. The new recruits were made **run** / **running** / **to run** 10 km in the pouring rain.
7. The children haven't had anything **eating** / **to have eaten** / **to eat** this morning.
8. Oliver convinced me **take** / **to take** / **taking** part in the chess tournament.
9. The staff in this company are motivated **working** / **to be working** / **to work** hard.
10. Do you remember **to play** / **playing** / **to be playing** on the beach when you were a child?
11. Only one of the players on the team has the talent **become** / **to become** / **be becoming** a professional.
12. Local people are opposed to the airport **being built** / **be building** / **be built** so close to their town.
13. Taking up a hobby like photography can mean **to have** / **have** / **having** to buy a lot of expensive equipment.
14. You'd better not **hand** / **handing** / **to hand** in your assignment without reading it over one more time.

B Choose the sentence which is closest in meaning to the one in bold.

1. **Jake would sooner go by taxi than walk.**
 - a. It would be quicker for Jake to go by taxi.
 - b. Jake would prefer to take a taxi.**
2. **Ellie stopped to read the report.**
 - a. Ellie stopped what she was doing to read the report.**
 - b. Ellie finished reading the report.
3. **Would you mind my opening the window?**
 - a. Is it OK if I open the window?**
 - b. Could you open the window for me?
4. **Simon has forgotten meeting that film producer.**
 - a. Simon didn't meet that film producer.
 - b. Simon met the film producer but can't remember.**
5. **I regret telling you that I want to quit my job.**
 - a. I am sorry to tell you that I want to quit my job.
 - b. I'm sorry that I told you I want to quit my job.**
6. **Professor Smith went on talking about evolutionary theory.**
 - a. Professor Smith changed the subject and began talking about evolutionary theory.
 - b. Professor Smith continued to talk about evolutionary theory.**



THE GERUND (For verbs and expressions followed by the gerund, see Grammar Appendix, page 115.)

	Active voice	Passive voice
Present	(not) doing	(not) being done
Perfect	(not) having done	(not) having been done

The gerund is used as a noun in the following cases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> as subject or object of a verb 	Walking is good exercise, and I enjoy exercising . Being fired must be a horrible experience.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> after certain verbs and expressions; and after the verbs <i>go / come</i> (usually recreational activities) 	I postponed taking the course for another year. It's no use complaining about your salary. Will you come shopping with us?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> after prepositions 	I paid him for servicing the car.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> after <i>sit / stand / lie</i> + expression of place + verb-<i>ing</i> 	I stood there wondering what to do.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> with <i>no</i> to show prohibition or that something is impossible 	The rule is: No smoking . There's no arguing with the rule.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> after a verb + object pronoun / possessive determiner (more formal) 	James appreciates me / my helping him with essays. I hope you don't mind my having phoned Liam.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> after a verb + noun / possessive noun (more formal) 	I objected to Noah / Noah's joining our team.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to emphasize that one action happened before another (with gerund / perfect gerund there is little difference in meaning) 	I enjoyed meeting the staff before the term started. I enjoyed having met the staff before the term started.

THE INFINITIVE (For words and expressions followed by the infinitive, see Grammar Appendix, 116.)

	Active voice	Passive voice
Present	(not) to do	(not) to be done
Present Continuous	(not) to be doing	---
Perfect	(not) to have done	(not) to have been done
Perfect Continuous	(not) to have been doing	---

The infinitive is used in the following cases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> as the subject of a sentence 	To resign now would be a mistake.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> after certain verbs, phrasal verbs and expressions; and after verb + object 	The whole trip turned out to be a disappointment. It is up to you to decide . She told me (not) to send that email.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> after certain adjectives describing character, feelings, attitudes and senses; and after <i>It + be</i> + adjective / noun 	I'm delighted to have been nominated for an award. It would be silly / a mistake to resign now.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> after certain nouns 	She has the ability to learn .
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> with certain structures <i>too</i> + adverb / adjective + infinitive <i>so</i> + adverb / adjective + <i>as</i> + infinitive adjective / adverb + <i>enough</i> + infinitive <i>enough</i> + noun + infinitive 	She's too young to drive . Would you be so kind as to wait here, please? She spoke clearly enough to be heard . He earns enough money to live on .
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> after <i>be to</i> for instructions, plans (see Unit 1, page 6) 	No one is to leave the building.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> in a phrase that begins a sentence (<i>To be honest, To tell you the truth, ...</i>) 	To be honest , I don't like him at all.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> after verbs such as <i>know, decide, discover, find out, see, show, understand, want to know</i> + question word 	I didn't know what to do . I wondered where to go for lunch.

• after <i>something, anything, nothing</i> , etc.	I'm bored because there is nothing to do here.
• after <i>only</i> to show a surprising or disappointing result	Sarah searched her bag only to find her purse was gone.
• to express purpose (= <i>in order to</i>)	Dan contacted me to set up a meeting.
• After some verbs e.g. <i>be, mean, would like to</i> refer to unreal situations	He was to have been team captain, but he got injured. I would like to have seen that film when it was released.

Gerund or Infinitive?

- Some verbs can be followed by a gerund or infinitive with little or no difference in meaning. (See Grammar Appendix, pages 115-116.) *They have **started working** / **to work** on the new airport.*
- Some verbs can be followed by a gerund or infinitive with a difference in meaning.

remember + infinitive (= <i>intention; remember to perform a duty, task or responsibility; remember is the earlier action</i>) remember + gerund (= <i>remember a past action</i>)	Judy always remembers to lock the door. Judy remembers visiting Paris.
forget + infinitive (= <i>forget to fulfil a duty or responsibility</i>) forget + gerund (= <i>forget an earlier action</i>)	Jill forgot to lock the door. Jill will never forget visiting Paris.
regret + infinitive (= <i>announce bad news</i>) regret + gerund (= <i>feel sorrow about the past</i>)	I regret to tell you that we cannot offer you a job. I regret telling her about the accident.
stop + infinitive (= <i>finish one action in order to do another</i>) stop + gerund (= <i>stop a habit / an activity</i>)	John stopped to drink some coffee. John stopped drinking coffee last year.
try + infinitive (= <i>make an effort to do something difficult</i>) try + gerund (= <i>experiment with a new or different approach</i>)	I must try to improve my spoken English. I tried using an app to improve my vocabulary.
mean + infinitive (= <i>intend</i>) mean + gerund (= <i>involves or will result in</i>)	I didn't mean to interrupt you. Going by plane means paying a lot more to get there.
need + infinitive (= <i>it is necessary</i>) need + gerund (= <i>passive meaning – it needs to be done</i>)	I need to borrow a pen. The car needs servicing .
go on + infinitive (= <i>change to another action</i>) go on + gerund (= <i>continue the same action</i>)	He talked about the project and went on to answer questions. He went on lecturing after the bell rang.
allow, advise, permit, recommend + infinitive + object allow, advise, permit, recommend + gerund (no object)	Ava allowed me to stay at her place. Ava recommended staying at a hotel.

FULL OR BARE INFINITIVE? *let, help, make, dare, would rather, had better, would sooner*

let + pronoun / noun + bare infinitive	I let the employees leave early.
help + pronoun + bare or full infinitive (same meaning)	Will you help me do / to do an update?
make + pronoun / noun + bare infinitive pronoun / noun + be made (passive) + full infinitive	He made us work late. We were made to work late.
dare + bare or full infinitive (expressing courage) dare + bare infinitive (a warning)	I don't dare tell / to tell her about the accident. Don't you dare take my phone again!
had better / would rather / would sooner + bare infinitive had better / would rather / would sooner + continuous or perfect infinitive	I'd sooner stay home than go out tonight. You'd better not be chatting when the boss walks in. We went to Spain although I'd sooner have gone to Paris.

VERBS OF PERCEPTION / SENSORY VERBS *see, notice, watch, look at, observe, hear, listen to, feel, smell*

verb + noun / pronoun + gerund for actions that are in progress or incomplete	I saw Helen running in the park. (<i>while she was running</i>)
verb + noun / pronoun + bare infinitive for single or complete actions	I saw Helen sing in a concert last night.

A Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs below.

buy • break • create • meet • have • read • offend • ~~discover~~ • lend • speak

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B Choose the correct answer.

- I regretted more time preparing for that interview.
☒ a. not having spent b. not to spend c. not to be spent
- Harper didn't expect for the Olympic team trials.
a. being chosen ☒ b. to be chosen c. to have chosen
- That student is rumoured on his college application.
a. to be lying b. to have been lying ☒ c. to have lied
- I always appreciated to museums as a child.
a. to be taken ☒ b. being taken c. to be taking
- Sophie is lucky an internship at such a prestigious law firm.
a. to be giving b. having given ☒ c. to have been given

C Complete the pairs of sentences below, so that they have a similar meaning to the sentence given. Use a gerund in one and an infinitive in the other.

1. How about we take a break now?
 - a. Do you feel like **taking a break now**?
 - b. Would you like **to take a break now**?
 2. You should put on sunscreen at the beach.
 - a. Remember **to put on sunscreen at the beach**.
 - b. I recommend **putting on sunscreen at the beach**.
 3. I can organize a barbecue easily.
 - a. **Organizing a barbecue** is easy.
 - b. It's not difficult **to organize a barbecue**.
 4. We don't have to go out if you're tired.
 - a. I don't expect **to go out** if you're tired.
 - b. I don't mind not **going out** if you're tired.
 5. Could we possibly meet tonight?
 - a. Is there any chance of **us / our meeting tonight**?
 - b. Could you perhaps manage **to meet me tonight**?
 6. Don't waste paper, but recycle it.
 - a. I'm asking you not **to waste paper**, but consider **recycling it**.
 - b. Stop **wasting paper** and make an effort **to recycle it**.

D Complete the sentences with one suitable word.

1. My parents didn't expect me to be working at age 13, but I sell video games online.
2. There's no getting out of it. You'll have to apologize.
3. The archaeologists carefully opened up the tomb, only to find that its contents had been stolen.
4. The play is thought to have been written by Shakespeare.
5. Lily hates being kept waiting – we'd better hurry up.
6. I am at a loss to explain Tom's resignation.
7. Charlotte may not want to come, but there's no harm in inviting her.
8. How much do you earn, if you don't mind my asking?

E Complete the text using the gerund or infinitive form of the following verbs.say • welcome • attend • fill out • give • ~~offer~~ • join • learn • consult • pay

Congratulations! The committee has reviewed your application and we are pleased (1) to offer you admission in the fall.

You are invited (2) to join us on 20th-22nd April for our Spring Hosting programme, where we offer you the opportunity (3) to learn more about the university. You will also find enclosed a letter from our Financial Aid office. (4) Paying for a college education is a major commitment; therefore, we recommend (5) consulting with our financial aid staff who will advise you.

If you wish to accept this offer, please do so by (6) filling out the response card.

You should return it to us by 1st May.

Should you change your mind about (7) attending the university, please let us know so as to allow another candidate (8) to be given the place. We regret (9) to say that once an offer has been refused, the decision is final.

Once again, congratulations. We look forward to (10) welcoming you as a new student in the fall.

Yours sincerely,

Matthew K. Taylor

Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid

EXAM FOCUS

- Multiple choice grammar questions may test the word order of a phrasal verb. Phrasal verbs are made up of a verb + particle. Some phrasal verbs do not take an object:
That colour really stands out.
- Others take an object and the particle can go before or after the noun object.
Can you switch the light off? Can you switch off the light?
- However, when the object is a pronoun, the particle can only go after it.
She switched it off. (not: She switched off it. X)

Look at the following example. What is the correct word order? What else does this question test?

Jack was out of the office but I finally managed before he flew to Chicago.

**the verb *manage* is followed by the infinitive;
word order: the object pronoun *him* comes
before the particle *down***

- (A) to track him down
B. his tracking down
C. tracking him down
D. to track down him

Choose the word or phrase that best completes the conversation or sentence.

- Would you mind briefly to tell me if I've made any glaring errors?
A. to look at my essay
B. looking my essay up
(C) looking over my essay
D. look on my essay
- Unfortunately, heavy rain of the stadium by at least three weeks.
(A) has set back construction
B. was set construction back
C. had set off construction
D. is setting construction out
- Why don't you just of your diet altogether and take more exercise?
A. have cut sugar
(B) cut sugar out
C. cutting sugar from
D. to cut out sugar
- When Madison didn't return the jacket she borrowed, I told her as soon as possible.
A. give me back it
B. to give back
C. give it back me
(D) to give me it back

COHESION AND COHERENCE: **determiners** (*the, this, these, that, those*) and **quantifiers** (*some, all, both, etc.*)

- **Determiners** help us to identify exactly what is being talked about. *This* can refer back to a whole situation or idea, not just one object.

Currently, violent films can be shown at any time of day. **This** is unacceptable.

- **The definite article** can show that the writer is referring back to something that has already been mentioned.

The studio **marketed** the **Annie** remake heavily but **the** film did not live up to **the** hype.

- **Quantifiers** can refer back to a previous number or group.

Over **300 people** were surveyed. **Just over half** were dissatisfied with the service. (*Half refers back to the 300 people who were surveyed.*)

1. Read the first paragraph of a newspaper article. What do the words in bold refer to?



OLD DOGS CAN LEARN NEW TRICKS

Scientists have found that **they** can halt the mental decline of elderly dogs by putting them on a vegetable-rich diet. As with humans, canine behaviour changes with old age. **This** can involve symptoms from reduced mobility due to arthritis to losing interest in favourite toys. **In some cases**, diet can not only reverse **these** effects of ageing, but make dogs more intelligent than they were before. **The findings** are the result of a research project aimed at extending the working lives of military dogs. **In the project**, dogs were given a special diet and then put through a series of tests to assess their ability to learn new tasks and solve problems.

2. Now read the next paragraph of the article. Complete the gaps using the words and phrases given.

the others • the dogs • this research • in this case • two • half • one • this

One experiment involved 48 beagles, who were divided into two groups. (1) **Half** were fed on dried food and the rest were given regular dog food. Some of the dogs in both groups were given more walks and stimulation than (2) **the others**. Then they were all put through the same tests. Professor Bill Milgram, a neuroscientist, said that one of the tasks was called an oddity test. He went on to explain that (3) **the dogs** were shown three objects. (4) **Two** were identical and one was clearly different. Food was hidden under the odd (5) **one** and the researchers gauged how long it took the dogs to learn (6) **this**.

Professor Milgram has been studying the mental ability of older dogs since 1990 as part of a wider study on the brain. He said that food containing antioxidants combined with vitamins could help to sustain mental sharpness which, (7) **in this case**, indicated that you can teach old dogs new tricks! He believes (8) **this research** has applications for humans because like us, dogs can eat all sorts of food and have similar nutritional needs.



EXAM PRACTICE

A KEY WORD TRANSFORMATIONS Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between three and eight words, including the word given.

- If you need any advice, you can always ask me. **HESITATE**
If you need any advice, **please don't hesitate to ask** me.
- Kindly wait please and I'll call the manager. **KIND**
Would **you be so kind as to wait while** I call the manager.
- An argument about the referee's decision would be a waste of time. **POINT**
There's **no point (in) arguing / having an argument about** the referee's decision.
- James doesn't have the ability to memorize long poems. **CAPABLE**
James is **not capable of memorizing** long poems.
- He doesn't have the qualifications for the job of manager. **ENOUGH**
He **is not qualified enough to be / doesn't have enough qualifications to be** a manager.
- I hope you didn't take my new sweatshirt! **BETTER**
You **had better not have taken** my new sweatshirt.

B Choose the word or phrase that best completes the conversation or sentence.

- I will always regret the chance to travel.
A. not to have
B. to not have
☒ C. not having had
D. having not
- Would the plan involve a great deal of money?
A. to be investing
☒ B. our investing
C. us to invest
D. we investing
- Weren't you supposed your assignment with you to yesterday's seminar?
☒ A. to have brought
B. to be brought
C. to have been brought
D. have brought
- Shelly is abroad on her own, so her dreams of visiting Paris will have to wait a year or two.
A. young enough for to travel
B. enough young to have travelled
C. too young by far for travel
☒ D. far too young to be travelling
- Emma and Mia were careful while they were chatting about promotions.
A. to be not overheard
B. to not overhear
☒ C. not to be overheard
D. not to be overhearing
- We had no idea with us on the trip.
A. to take how much money
B. taking how much money
☒ C. how much money to take
D. how much money taking
- I thanked him for so generous with his time.
A. him being
☒ B. having been
C. to have been
D. him to be
- I wish I didn't have to attend that staff meeting. I here and continue our conversation.
A. had better stay
B. prefer to have stayed
C. would rather staying
☒ D. would sooner stay
- I could check the figures again for accuracy, but I don't think
☒ A. it's worth doing
B. it would be worth
C. is worth to do
D. is worth doing it
- Today many senior citizens are concerned about their old age, so the demand for places in gated communities is rising.
A. caring during
B. to care for
C. having cared for by
☒ D. being cared for in



REVIEW 2

A Choose the word or phrase that best completes the conversation or sentence.

1. I didn't hear so I was late arriving at my math class this morning.
A. the alarm to ring
☒ B. the alarm ring
C. the alarm having rung
D. ringing the alarm
2. My doctor says he's not sure what to do about my asthma. So, I'm going to try a specialist.
☒ A. consulting
B. to be consulting
C. having consulted
D. and consulting
3. "Do you know if Paul is attending the reception?"
"Oh, I there."
☒ A. should think he'll be
B. think he should have been
C. should have thought he be
D. should be thinking he'll be
4. You playing that video game when I get home.
A. still better to not be
B. still aren't better being
☒ C. had better not still be
D. hadn't better still
5. William thought sense to take extra medication on vacation with him.
☒ A. it would make
B. there was some
C. it was making a
D. has made
6. "How come Lucy didn't audition for the show?"
"I guess she the notice."
A. didn't have to see
B. needn't have seen
☒ C. must not have seen
D. should not have seen
7. "I wish we weren't taking a test tomorrow."
"Well, out of it, I'm afraid."
☒ A. it isn't getting
☒ B. there's no getting
C. there isn't to get
D. you don't get
8. I wonder if I some questions for our survey.
☒ A. might ask you
B. would ask you
C. am able to ask
D. shall I ask you
9. The hotel manager more helpful during our stay at that luxury resort.
A. mustn't have been
B. will have been
C. had to be
☒ D. couldn't have been
10. I'd a friend than talk to a college counselor about my problems.
A. better to confide with
B. rather confiding in
C. better confiding on
☒ D. sooner confide in
11. "I've checked all the sales figures for you."
"Oh, you ! I did that already."
A. couldn't have
B. shouldn't have to
☒ C. needn't have
D. might not have
12. Kim's paper wasn't researched a higher grade.
A. too well to get
☒ B. well enough to get
C. so well for getting
D. very well for getting
13. Children under 12 travel in the front seat of a car.
A. could not have
B. don't let
C. ought not to be
☒ D. are not supposed to
14. the conference would allow us to familiarize ourselves with the latest techniques.
A. To be attending
B. To have attended
C. Having attended
☒ D. Attending
15. By the time the bridge is complete, over \$20 million on the project.
☒ A. will have been spent
B. is to be spent
C. will be spending
D. is going to spend
16. "You could have called us to say you'd be late!"
"I'm sorry you like that."
A. about having been worried
B. to be worried
C. your being worried
☒ D. for having worried

B Complete the statements with the correct form of the verb given, then circle the correct words to complete the responses.

- "I bet you had great fun learning (learn) to ski!" "Of course! You **must** / should have come with us."
- "It'll be impossible to get (get) tickets at this late date." "I'm afraid so. The concert **must** / could be sold out by now."
- "I don't recommend driving (drive) in this weather." "Don't worry. My car **couldn't** / wouldn't start yesterday so I'm staying at home anyway."
- "Wasn't Ben supposed to check / to have checked (check) these figures?" "Yes, but he **can** / could be careless at times."
- "I'm not convinced it's worth buying (buy) a tablet, after all." "If you have a laptop, then you **needn't** / mustn't get a tablet because they have less storage and don't support many apps."
- "What's that noise? The children had better not be watching (not watch) TV!" "How **can** / may they be? I moved the TV set out of their room!"

C OPEN CLOZE Read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap.

School sports days



School sports days are a controversial issue. Some students have memories of triumph as they crossed the finishing line first. (1) Others remember the acute embarrassment of (2) being made to run a race they had no chance of winning. Typically, sports days consist of a series of races. Students spend most of the day standing around on the sidelines with (3) nothing to do except sit patiently until their event begins. There are those who would (4) rather / sooner not be there at all, but generally speaking, students understand that competitiveness in sports encourages respect for others, teamwork, and learning how to win fairly or lose with grace. Realizing something had to (5) be done to include the less athletic students, schools have been trying to make sports day more about (6) taking part than winning. By holding events such as the tug of war, which requires cooperation among teammates, (7) those less keen on sports can contribute to the overall success of their team. And to increase participation, schools could also (8) have students organize the events themselves and record the results. Participation in sports has benefits for physical and mental health, therefore sports days will probably continue to play an important role in schools.



D KEY WORD TRANSFORMATIONS Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between three and eight words, including the word given.

- It's possible Charlotte will go scuba diving while she's in the Bahamas. **ABLE**
Charlotte may / might be able to go scuba diving while she's in the Bahamas.
- Ellie didn't want me to invite Adam to the wedding. **OBJECTED**
Ellie objected to my / me inviting Adam to the wedding.
- The actor wore dark glasses as he didn't want to be recognized by anyone. **SHOULD**
The actor wore dark glasses for fear that someone should recognize him.
- They won't promote Cameron at this time as he lacks motivation. **ENOUGH**
Cameron is not motivated enough to be promoted at this time.
- I can't believe we still haven't found a solution to the problem. **OUGHT**
The problem ought to have been solved now.
- It wasn't at all easy for Natalie to persuade her mum to lend her the car. **HARD**
Natalie had a hard time persuading her mum to lend her the car.