

## 31

## GERUNDS AND INFINITIVES

## GRAMMAR IN CONTEXT

**BEFORE YOU READ** Look at the cartoon. What is the man trying to do? What are your strategies for remembering names?

Read this excerpt from a magazine article.

STOP

## FORGETTING



Marta wanted to go to the party. She's friendly and enjoys meeting people. But as Marta looked at the invitation, part of her kept saying, "I won't know anyone there! How will I remember all those new names?" Marta's problem is not unusual. Remembering names is a problem for many people. For international travelers like Marta (she's a Mexican student studying in the United States), it is even harder to recall unfamiliar foreign names. What can Marta and others like her do? Here are some tips from memory experts:

- ☞ **Decide to remember.** Making an effort can really help.
- ☞ Listen carefully when you hear someone's name for the first time. It's important to pay attention.
- ☞ **Keep repeating** the name. Calling the person by name more than once will help fix the name in your mind.



"Hi. I'm, I'm, I'm . . . You'll have to forgive me, I'm terrible with names."

- ☞ Write the name down. Putting things in writing is the most common memory aid.
- ☞ **Don't hesitate to ask** the person to repeat the name. Most people don't mind doing this.

And last, but not least,

- ☞ **Stop worrying.** Anxiety only makes the problem worse.



# GRAMMAR PRESENTATION

## GERUNDS AND INFINITIVES

### GERUNDS

Marta **enjoys going** to parties.

She **loves meeting** new people.

She **stopped buying** ice cream.

She's worried **about forgetting** people's names.

**Meeting** new people is fun.

### INFINITIVES

Marta **wants to go** to parties.

She **loves to meet** new people.

She **stopped to buy** ice cream

**It's fun to meet** new people.

### NOTES

1. Some verbs are followed by the gerund.

To the right is a list of verbs that can be followed by the gerund.

(See Appendix 9, page A-5, for a more complete list of these verbs.)

### EXAMPLES

- Marta **enjoys meeting** people.
- She **misses going** to parties.

appreciate	prohibit
can't stand	recall
mind	resist

2. Some verbs are followed by the infinitive.

To the right is a list of verbs that can be followed by the infinitive.

(See Appendix 10, page A-5, for a more complete list of these verbs.)

- Marta **wants to meet** people.
- She'd **like to go** to parties.

afford	need
agree	offer
expect	want

3. Some verbs can be followed by either the gerund or the infinitive.

To the right is a list of verbs that can be followed by the gerund or the infinitive.

(See Appendix 11, page A-5, for a more complete list of these verbs.)

- Marta **loves meeting** new people.
- OR
- Marta **loves to meet** new people.

begin	like
continue	love
hate	prefer

(continued on next page)



**4. BE CAREFUL!** A few verbs (for example, *stop*, *remember*, and *forget*) can be followed by either the gerund or the infinitive, but the **meanings are very different**.

- Marta **stopped eating** ice cream.  
(*She doesn't eat ice cream anymore.*)
- Marta **stopped to eat** ice cream.  
(*She stopped another activity in order to eat some ice cream.*)
- Richard **remembered mailing** the invitation.  
(*First he mailed the invitation. Then he remembered that he did it.*)
- Richard **remembered to mail** the invitation.  
(*First he remembered. Then he mailed the invitation. He didn't forget.*)
- Marta **forgot meeting** Richard.  
(*Marta met Richard, but afterwards she didn't remember the event.*)
- Marta **forgot to meet** Richard.  
(*Marta had plans to meet Richard, but she didn't meet him because she forgot about the plans.*)

**5. The gerund is the only verb form that can follow a preposition.**

(See page 279 in Unit 27.)

- Marta's worried <sup>preposition</sup> **about forgetting** people's names.
- She apologized <sup>preposition</sup> **for not remembering** his name.

**6. To make general statements, you can use:**

**gerund as subject**

OR

**it + infinitive**

- **Meeting** new people is fun.
- OR
- **It's fun to meet** new people.



## FOCUSED PRACTICE

### 1 DISCOVER THE GRAMMAR

Read the first sentence. Then decide if the second sentence is **True (T)** or **False (F)**.

1. Marta remembered meeting Mr. Jackson.  
☒ T Marta has already met Mr. Jackson.
2. Richard stopped smoking.  
☐ Richard doesn't smoke anymore.
3. She didn't remember to buy a cake for the party.  
☐ She bought a cake.
4. She stopped eating desserts.  
☐ She used to eat desserts.
5. Richard forgot to invite his boss to the party.  
☐ Richard invited his boss.
6. Richard forgot inviting his neighbor to the party.  
☐ Richard invited his neighbor.
7. Richard thinks giving a party is fun.  
☐ Richard thinks it's fun to give a party.
8. Marta likes going to parties.  
☐ Marta likes to go to parties.

### 2 SUPER MEMORY

Grammar Notes 1-2, 4-6

Circle the correct words to complete these ideas from a book called *Super Memory*.\*

1. Get in the habit of repeating / to repeat things aloud.
2. Never rely on someone else's memory. Learn trusting / to trust your own.
3. It's easy forgetting / to forget what you don't want remembering / to remember.
4. Study immediately before going / to go to sleep. You'll remember a lot more the next day.
5. Our memories are filled with things we never even meant remembering / to remember.
6. Make it a habit to pass in front of your car every time you get out, and you'll never forget turning off / to turn off your headlights.
7. Playing / To play games is a fun way of improving / to improve your memory skills.

\*Douglas J. Hermann, *Super Memory: A Quick Action Program for Memory Improvement* (Avenel, NJ: Wings Books, 1991).



### 3 PARTY TALK

Grammar Notes 1–2 and 4

Read these conversations that took place at Richard's party. Complete the summary statements. Use the gerund or the infinitive.

1. **RICHARD:** Hi, Roger. Did you bring the soda?

**ROGER:** Yes. Here it is.

SUMMARY: Roger remembered \_\_\_\_\_ to bring the soda.

2. **FRANK:** Marta, do you remember Natalya and Viktor?

**MARTA:** Oh, yes. We met last year.

SUMMARY: Marta remembers \_\_\_\_\_

3. **NATALYA:** Oh, no. Someone spilled grape juice all over the couch.

**ROGER:** Don't look at me! I didn't do it!

SUMMARY: Roger denied \_\_\_\_\_

4. **MARTA:** What do you do in your free time, Natalya?

**NATALYA:** I listen to music a lot.

SUMMARY: Natalya enjoys \_\_\_\_\_

5. **LEV:** Would you like to go dancing some time?

**MARTA:** Sure. I'd like that very much.

SUMMARY: Lev suggested \_\_\_\_\_

Marta agreed \_\_\_\_\_ with Lev.

6. **VIKTOR:** I'm tired. Let's go home.

**NATALYA:** OK. Just five minutes more.

SUMMARY: Viktor wants \_\_\_\_\_

7. **NATALYA:** Marta, can we give you a ride home?

**MARTA:** Thanks, but I think I'll stay a little longer.

SUMMARY: Natalya offered \_\_\_\_\_

Marta decided \_\_\_\_\_

8. **RICHARD:** Good night. Please drive carefully.

**VIKTOR:** Don't worry. I will.

SUMMARY: Viktor promised \_\_\_\_\_



## 4 REMEMBER TO STUDY

### Grammar Notes 1-6

Complete this advice. Use the gerund or infinitive form of the verb in parentheses.

Studying \_\_\_\_\_ for an exam is different from \_\_\_\_\_  
1. (Study) 2. (try) 3. (remember)

someone's name. Here are some tips:

- Group information by dates, people, or places. It may help \_\_\_\_\_ a chart.  
4. (make)
- Color code. \_\_\_\_\_ colored pens helps many people retain new information.  
5. (Use)
- Use different senses. Try \_\_\_\_\_ new information by \_\_\_\_\_,  
6. (learn) 7. (read)  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_. Some people need  
8. (write) 9. (speak) 10. (listen)  
\_\_\_\_\_ two or more senses.  
11. (use)
- Remember \_\_\_\_\_ frequently. It's important \_\_\_\_\_  
12. (review) 13. (go over)  
information again and again.

## 5 IN OTHER WORDS

### Grammar Note 6

Marta and Lev are on their first date. They agree on everything. Read one person's opinion and write the other's. If the first person used the gerund, use the infinitive. If the first person used the infinitive, use the gerund.

1. MARTA: It's fun to meet new people

LEV: I agree. Meeting new people is fun.

2. MARTA: Remembering names is hard, though.

LEV: I know. It's hard to remember names.

3. MARTA: It's difficult to make new friends.

LEV: That's true. \_\_\_\_\_

4. MARTA: It's important to relax.

LEV: You're right. \_\_\_\_\_

5. MARTA: Dancing is fun.

LEV: I agree. \_\_\_\_\_

6. MARTA: It's nice to get to know someone like you.

LEV: I feel the same way. \_\_\_\_\_

7. LEV: Being with you is wonderful.

MARTA: Thanks. \_\_\_\_\_, too.



**6 EDITING**

Read Marta's letter about Richard's party. Find and correct six mistakes in the use of the gerund and infinitive. The first mistake is already corrected.

Dear Lisa,

I expected <sup>to hear</sup> ~~hearing~~ from you by now. I hope you're OK. I'm busy but happy. Last night I went to a party at one of my classmate's homes. I was really nervous. You know how I usually avoid to go to parties because I have trouble remembering people's names. Well, last night things were different. Before the party I read a book about improving your memory, and I practiced doing some of the memory exercises. They really helped. As a result, I stopped to worry about what people would think of me, and I tried to pay attention to what people were saying. And guess what? I had a good time! I'm even planning going dancing with this guy from my class.

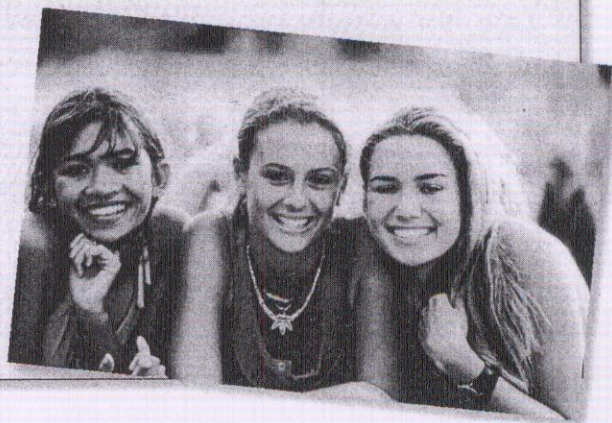
I have an English test tomorrow, so I should stop writing now and start studying! That book I told you about had some pretty good tips, too.

Why don't you consider to visit me? I really miss seeing you.

Please write. I always enjoy to hear from you.

Marta

P.S. I'm sending a photo of  
two classmates and me.





# Gerunds and Infinitives + Focus on Grammar (intermediate).

## REVIEW OR SELFTEST



- I. Complete the conversation. Use the prepositions in the box and the gerund form of the verbs in parentheses.

for to in without ~~by~~ about

A: Carla, your English is just great. How did you learn so quickly?

B: By using some special strategies.  
1. (use)

A: Like what?

B: Well, first I got used                      my time. I scheduled time  
2. (plan)  
                     television and writing letters in English to my pen pal.  
3. (watch)

A: How did you practice speaking?

B: At first I was very nervous                      English. I had to learn to talk  
4. (speak)  
                     about mistakes. I used deep breathing exercises and  
5. (worry)  
music to calm myself down.

A: What else helped you relax?

B: Jokes. I got interested                      jokes in English. That way I always  
6. (learn)  
had something to say, and I also learned a lot about American culture.

- II. Complete each conversation with the correct phrase in parentheses.

1. A: Let's go jogging.

B: I don't know. You always run                     too fast                     for me to  
(too fast / fast enough)  
keep up with you.

A: OK. Let's go swimming, then.

2. A: Why did I get an F on this paper?

B: Your handwriting was                     messy enough / too messy                     for me to read.

A: Then how did you know the answers were wrong?

(continued on next page)



3. A: Have you tried the coffee?

B: I will in a minute. It's \_\_\_\_\_ to drink yet.  
(too cool / not cool enough)

4. A: This steak is \_\_\_\_\_ to eat.  
(too tough / tough enough)

B: Send it back and ask for something else.

5. A: John didn't make the soccer team.

B: Why not? He's a good player.

A: But he doesn't play \_\_\_\_\_ to win.  
(too aggressively / aggressively enough)

6. A: What did the forecaster say about thunderstorms?

B: I'm not sure. The radio wasn't \_\_\_\_\_ for me to hear.  
(loud enough / too loud)

III. Complete the paragraph with the correct form of the verbs in the box. Choose between the gerund or the infinitive of purpose.

drink	eat	feel	follow	give up	<del>quit</del>	read
reward	save	shop	smoke	take	tell	

**Cigarettes.** They're bad for your health. Your doctor recommends quitting <sup>1.</sup> Your friends keep \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>2.</sup> you to stop. Even your dry cleaner suggests that you stop \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>3.</sup> (He says you burned holes in your suit jacket.) You want to stop, but \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>4.</sup> an old habit is difficult. \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>5.</sup> these suggestions can help.

• List your reasons for quitting. Are you quitting \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>6.</sup> better?

\_\_\_\_\_ <sup>7.</sup> money? Keep your list nearby \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>8.</sup> when you want a cigarette.

• Stop \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>9.</sup> coffee and tea. Caffeine causes people to want a cigarette.

• When you feel the desire to light up, put it off for five minutes. Use the time \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>10.</sup> some deep breaths. The urge will pass quickly.

• Avoid \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>11.</sup> big meals for a few weeks.

• Save the money that you aren't spending on cigarettes. Go \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>12.</sup> for something special \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>13.</sup> yourself for your success.

If you follow these suggestions, it shouldn't be too hard to give up this unhealthy habit.



**IV.** Complete the conversation by writing the words and phrases in parentheses in the correct order.

**A:** Why are so many people starting home-based businesses?

**B:** In offices, work hours are often too long for people to spend time with their families.  
1. (people / to spend / too long / for)

**A:** What are some keys to home business success?

**B:** Networking is one. \_\_\_\_\_ organizations. After you join, you must \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of people. But don't get \_\_\_\_\_ people who sound interested in your product.  
2. (necessary / to / It's / join)  
3. (enough / get to know / participate / to)  
4. (too / to / busy / call)

**A:** Do business owners really work fewer hours?

**B:** No, they work more. But they can arrange their time. Their hours \_\_\_\_\_ family time, too.  
5. (to have / enough / for them / are flexible)

**A:** What do you warn new business owners about?

**B:** I \_\_\_\_\_ their privacy. Remember, the business phone is always going to ring in the middle of the family dinner. Also, \_\_\_\_\_ the loneliness of working alone, especially when you're used to a big office.  
6. (them / to think about / advise)  
7. (important / It's / to know about)

**A:** Anything else?

**B:** Home business owners often find that they don't get paid \_\_\_\_\_ their own bills. In my seminars, I teach strategies for getting paid on time.  
8. (for / enough / to pay / soon / them)

**A:** What kind of home businesses are people starting?

**B:** Well, as I said, a lot of working people are \_\_\_\_\_ care of certain family responsibilities anymore. Many home-based businesses supply services like shopping and planning parties.  
9. (take / to / too / busy)

**A:** You mean, someone will pay me for shopping?

**B:** Sure. In fact, I \_\_\_\_\_ planning your own shopping business. My class for new business owners starts next week.  
10. (you / to start / encourage)



V. Circle the letter of the correct answer to complete each sentence.

A B C (D)

1. Tom is late because he stopped \_\_\_\_\_ dinner.

- (A) buying (C) and buy  
(B) buy (D) to buy

2. My keys were in my pocket, but I don't remember \_\_\_\_\_ them there.

- (A) to put (C) I put  
(B) putting (D) to put

3. Bob's seventeen years old, so he's still \_\_\_\_\_ vote.

- (A) too young to (C) too old to  
(B) young enough to (D) too young for

4. I bought a Datalator \_\_\_\_\_ my appointments.

- (A) by organizing (C) to organize  
(B) I organized (D) organize

5. \_\_\_\_\_ everything in advance, Sandra finished the project quickly.

- (A) To plan (C) She plans  
(B) By planning (D) Planned

6. Chris \_\_\_\_\_, so her grades are low this semester.

- (A) stopped studying (C) stopped to study  
(B) stopping to study (D) was stopping to study

7. As military officers, women work \_\_\_\_\_ the job done.

- (A) hardly get (C) not enough to get  
(B) too hard to get (D) hard enough to get

8. He's used \_\_\_\_\_ a big breakfast.

- (A) ate (C) to eating  
(B) to eat (D) eats

9. I used to be very nervous \_\_\_\_\_, but I'm not anymore.

- (A) to drive (C) to driving  
(B) for driving (D) about driving

10. I forgot \_\_\_\_\_ my check, so I paid the rent twice this month.

- (A) mailed (C) mailing  
(B) to mail (D) I mail

11. Sal enjoyed \_\_\_\_\_ in Texas.

- (A) live (C) living  
(B) to live (D) lived

A B C D

A B C D

A B C D

A B C D

A B C D

A B C D

A B C D

A B C D

A B C D

A B C D



**VI.** Complete the interview with the gerund or infinitive forms of the verbs in parentheses.

**INTERVIEWER:** You're one of the best baseball players today, Cliff. Who taught you

\_\_\_\_\_ to play \_\_\_\_\_?  
1. (play)

**CLIFF:** I learned \_\_\_\_\_ a ball with my dad. We used to play together for  
2. (hit) hours on weekends.

**INTERVIEWER:** What was the most important thing he taught you?

**CLIFF:** Dad believed in \_\_\_\_\_ fun. He always forgot about  
3. (have) \_\_\_\_\_ when he played. By \_\_\_\_\_ with him,  
4. (win) 5. (play) I developed the same attitude.

**INTERVIEWER:** When did you decide \_\_\_\_\_ a professional?  
6. (become)

**CLIFF:** Too early—in elementary school. That was a mistake. I was too young  
\_\_\_\_\_ that decision.  
7. (make)

**INTERVIEWER:** Why?

**CLIFF:** My schoolwork suffered. I thought a lot about \_\_\_\_\_ a pro ball  
8. (become) player, and I didn't think much about \_\_\_\_\_ homework.  
9. (do)

**INTERVIEWER:** Did anything happen to change your mind about school?

**CLIFF:** Yes, I planned \_\_\_\_\_ to City High School, which had a great  
10. (go) team. Then I found out that my grades were probably too low for the school  
\_\_\_\_\_ me.  
11. (accept)

**INTERVIEWER:** But you did graduate from City High School.

**CLIFF:** Yes, I did. My parents urged me \_\_\_\_\_ harder. I followed their  
12. (study) advice and I've never stopped \_\_\_\_\_.  
13. (study)

**INTERVIEWER:** Well, thank you for \_\_\_\_\_ to this interview.  
14. (agree)

**CLIFF:** You're welcome. I enjoyed \_\_\_\_\_ your questions. I hope my  
15. (answer) experience encourages other young athletes \_\_\_\_\_ their education.  
16. (continue)



VII. Each sentence has four underlined words or phrases. The four underlined parts of the sentence are marked A, B, C, or D. Circle the letter of the one underlined word or phrase that is NOT CORRECT.

1. It's difficult study in a foreign country, so students need to prepare  
A B C D  
for the experience.

A B C D

2. Students look forward to traveling, but they worry about don't make  
A B C D  
a good impression.

A B C D

3. They're afraid of not understanding the culture, and they don't want  
A B C  
making mistakes.  
D

A B C D

4. Advisors can advise them against wear the wrong clothing and  
A B C  
making the wrong gestures.  
D

A B C D

5. It's natural to have some problems because no one can get used to  
A B C  
live in a new culture immediately.  
D

A B C D

6. No one escapes from feeling some culture shock, and it's important  
A B C  
realizing this fact.  
D

A B C D

7. Jan stopped to feel uncomfortable after she started to make  
A B C D  
new friends.

A B C D

8. Now she is looking forward to stay here and getting a job.  
A B C D

A B C D

► To check your answers, go to the Answer Key on page 325.



# REVIEW OR SELFTEST ANSWER KEY



## I. (Unit 27)

2. to planning
3. for watching
4. about speaking
5. without worrying
6. in learning

## II. (Unit 30)

2. too messy
3. not cool enough
4. too tough
5. aggressively enough
6. loud enough

## III. (Units 26 and 29)

2. telling
3. smoking
4. giving up
5. Following
6. to feel
7. To save
8. to read
9. drinking
10. to take
11. eating
12. shopping
13. to reward

## IV. (Unit 28)

2. It's necessary to join
3. participate enough to get to know
4. too busy to call
5. are flexible enough for them to have
6. advise them to think about
7. It's important to know about
8. soon enough for them to pay
9. too busy to take
10. encourage you to start

## V. (Units 26-31)

2. B
3. A
4. C
5. B
6. A
7. D
8. C
9. D
10. C
11. C

## VI. (Units 26-31)

2. to hit
3. having
4. winning
5. playing
6. to become
7. to make
8. becoming
9. doing
10. to go
11. to accept
12. to study
13. studying
14. agreeing
15. answering
16. to continue

## VII. (Units 26-31)

2. D
3. D
4. B
5. D
6. D
7. B
8. C



**ADJECTIVE**

pleasant  
polite  
quiet  
shallow  
sincere  
stupid  
true

**COMPARATIVE**

pleasanter / more pleasant  
politer / more polite  
quieter / more quiet  
shallower / more shallow  
sincerer / more sincere  
stupider / more stupid  
truer / more true

**SUPERLATIVE**

pleasantest / most pleasant  
politest / most polite  
quietest / most quiet  
shallowest / most shallow  
sincerest / most sincere  
stupidest / most stupid  
truest / most true

**9 Common Verbs Followed by the Gerund (Base Form of Verb + -ing)**

acknowledge	delay	endure	give up ( <i>stop</i> )	postpone	regret
admit	deny	enjoy	imagine	practice	report
appreciate	detest	escape	justify	prevent	resent
avoid	discontinue	explain	keep ( <i>continue</i> )	prohibit	resist
can't help	discuss	feel like	mention	quit	risk
celebrate	dislike	finish	mind ( <i>object to</i> )	recall	suggest
consider	dispute	forgive	miss	recommend	understand

**10 Common Verbs Followed by the Infinitive (To + Base Form of Verb)**

afford	can't afford	expect	learn	plan	request
agree	can't wait	fail	manage	prepare	seem
appear	choose	help	mean	pretend	want
ask	consent	hope	need	promise	wish
arrange	decide	hurry	offer	refuse	would like / 'd like
attempt	deserve	intend	pay		

**11 Common Verbs Followed by the Gerund or the Infinitive**

begin	forget*	love	start
can't stand	hate	prefer	stop*
continue	like	remember*	try

\*These verbs can be followed by either the gerund or the infinitive, but there is a big difference in meaning (see Unit 31).

**12 Verbs Followed by Objects and the Infinitive**

advise	convince	help*	pay*	remind	urge
allow	encourage	hire	permit	require	want*
ask*	expect*	invite	persuade	teach	warn
cause	forbid	need*	promise*	tell	would like*
choose*	force	order			

\*These verbs can also be followed by the infinitive without an object (example: *ask to leave* or *ask someone to leave*).

**13 Common Adjective + Preposition Expressions**

be accustomed to	be bored with/by	be fond of	be pleased about	be slow at
be afraid of	be capable of	be glad about	be ready for	be sorry for/about
be amazed at/by	be careful of	be good at	be responsible for	be surprised at/about/by
be angry at	be concerned about	be happy about	be sad about	be terrible at
be ashamed of	be content with	be interested in	be safe from	be tired of
be aware of	be curious about	be nervous about	be satisfied with	be used to
be awful at	be excited about	be opposed to	be sick of	be worried about
be bad at	be famous for			