

The burglar **denied** **stealing** the diamond necklace. He claimed that he **was planning** **to return** it.

Gerunds and *to*-infinitives



Grammar in Context

Theme: Crimes

Words by Theme



Read the following web page and answer the questions.

HOME > ANTI-DECEPTION CAMPAIGN > LATEST SCAM ALERTS

Beware¹ of Deception²—Fight Scams³ Now



[1] Recently, there have been a lot of scams. It is worth **paying** more attention to unidentified callers.

Be Careful of Telephone Deception

[2] Some citizens have received calls from scammers who pretend **to be** officers from the Immigration Department, the Independent Commission Against Corruption or the Department of Health. These scammers intend **to deceive** you by **accusing**⁴ you of some illegal activities. They then urge you **to provide** personal data such as bank account details.

How to protect yourself?

[3] When the callers claim that they are government officials, we recommend **asking** them **to tell** you their names and job titles. Then you can verify⁵ their identities by **contacting** the corresponding departments. If the callers refuse **to tell** you more or fail **to prove** their identities, you should begin **doubting**⁶ if these calls are scam calls. **Not disclosing**⁷ your personal data to strangers is the most effective way **to protect** yourself from scams.

- Circle the words that are followed by gerunds and underline the words that are followed by *to*-infinitives in the last paragraph. See the examples in paragraphs 1–2.
- Complete the following statements by underlining the correct answers. Then determine if each of the statements is true (T) or false (F).
 - The police remind citizens (staying / to stay) alert to calls from strangers.
 - People should consider (paying / to pay) money to prove their innocence.

PART 1A Using gerunds before or after verbs

Gerunds are verbs in the *-ing* form that function as nouns. They appear before verbs as subjects or after certain verbs as objects. Tenses are indicated in the main verbs.

Swimming is one of Jessica's hobbies.

subject

Some people enjoy swimming in the winter.

object

We use gerunds after certain verbs. We form the negative by adding *not* before gerunds.

Verb + Gerund	admit	avoid	consider	deny
	enjoy	finish	imagine	keep
	mind	miss	practise	suggest

- She **considered not moving** to Auckland. She **admitted feeling** anxious about leaving Hong Kong.
- He always **imagines retiring** at 30. He **enjoys not doing** anything.

We can use gerunds to talk about sports, leisure activities or housework.

Usages	Examples
go + gerund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I often go hiking in autumn. I will go sightseeing this weekend.
do + the / some + gerund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I did the washing and Mum did the ironing. Let's do some cooking. I've had enough takeaway food.



PART 1B Using gerunds after prepositions or adjective-preposition phrases

Adjective-preposition phrase + Gerund					
<i>afraid of</i>	<i>bad / good at</i>	<i>bored with</i>	<i>fond of</i>	<i>famous for</i>	<i>happy about</i>
<i>interested in</i>	<i>keen on</i>	<i>proud of</i>	<i>sorry for</i>	<i>tired of</i>	<i>worried about</i>

- They went home **instead of staying** behind.
- Thanks **for calling**. We are **sorry for causing** you any inconvenience.
- I'm **fond of drawing**. I'm **interested in becoming** an illustrator in the future.

PART 1C Using gerunds in other situations

Usages	Examples
after certain adjectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The attraction is worth visiting. Mum was busy preparing the dinner.
after certain expressions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can't help laughing out loud. We look forward to meeting you.

Error Diagnosis

The gerund as a subject takes a singular verb.

Collecting stamps were a rewarding hobby of my grandparents'. ❌

Collecting stamps was a rewarding hobby of my grandparents'. ✅

Selecting the right players for the team take time. ❌

Selecting the right players for the team takes time. ✅



**Exercise 1.1**

Rearrange the words and write the sentences using the given tenses.

1. imagine / Mr Gibson / always / around the world / travel / .
Mr Gibson always imagines travelling around the world. _____ (simple present)
2. be / there / can't help / that / I / feel / wrong / something / .
_____ (simple present)
3. grocery shopping / your family / every Sunday / do / ?
_____ (simple present)
4. do / be / Sarah / tired of / clean / the / by herself / .
_____ (simple past)
5. to / my favourite activity / be / the cinema / go / .
_____ (simple past)
6. the company / consider / next year / the director / expand / ?
_____ (present perfect)
7. admit / plagiarise / the student / as his own / other people's works / .
_____ (present perfect)

**Exercise 1.2**

A young pilot is writing a blog entry. Complete the entry using the correct form of the given verbs.

avoid listen do build imagine keep fly show prepare suggest

www.matilda.iwanttofly.com

I fly around the world solo!

Published: 7:46 pm, 12 Sept 20XX

I (1) imagined flying around the world solo when I was small. I used to be starry-eyed about (2) _____ so, not noticing how complex the task is. Luckily, both of my parents are pilots. They were happy that I was keen on (3) _____ my career in the sky like they did. They (4) _____ supporting me to pursue my goal.

Today, I'm turning 20. It's been a year since I earned my private pilot's licence. In the past year, I made stops in Ireland, Greenland and Canada. I am always busy (5) _____ for the next flight. Everything is going well so far. I'm now in New York catching up with my sister, who resides near Central Park. She enjoys (6) _____ me around the city and she (7) _____ taking me to One World Trade Centre several times.

Every day, I fly for about five hours. I (8) _____ drinking too much water before (9) _____ as I can't leave for the bathroom while I'm in the air. I get lonely on the plane at times, but (10) _____ to podcasts helps me get through the long flights.



PART 2A Using to-infinitives before or after verbs

To-infinitives are the base form of verbs after *to*. They appear before verbs as subjects or after certain verbs as objects. Tenses are indicated in the main verbs.

To learn from failures is my key to success.

subject

The surgeon **prepared** *to operate* on the patient.

object

We use **to-infinitives** after certain verbs. We form the negative by adding *not* before **to-infinitives**.

Verb + to-infinitive				
<i>agree</i>	<i>decide</i>	<i>hope</i>	<i>manage</i>	<i>need</i>
<i>plan</i>	<i>prepare</i>	<i>seem</i>	<i>want</i>	<i>wish</i>

- Mavis **hopes** *to take* a long break from work. She **wishes** *to resign* by the end of this month.
- The teacher **agreed** *not to punish* the boy for his misbehaviour. She **wanted** *to give* him a chance.

PART 2B Using to-infinitives in other situations

Some verbs are usually followed by an object and a **to-infinitive**.

Verb + Object + to-infinitive				
<i>advise</i>	<i>allow</i>	<i>ask</i>	<i>enable</i>	<i>encourage</i>
<i>invite</i>	<i>persuade</i>	<i>remind</i>	<i>teach</i>	<i>tell</i>

- The salesperson **persuaded** *me* *to purchase* the more expensive bag.
- The government **has advised** *the citizens* *to get* vaccinated.

To-infinitives are also used in the following situations:

Usages	Examples
adjective + to-infinitive	<p>To express people's feelings or opinions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The company was proud <i>to give back</i> to our community. ▪ The authorities said it was inevitable <i>to put down</i> the wild boars for public safety.
abstract noun + to-infinitive	<p>To give additional information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The fans grasped the opportunity <i>to take</i> photos with their idols. ▪ Those managers appreciated her attempt <i>to work things out</i>.
after a clause	<p>To talk about purposes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Leo came over <i>to celebrate</i> my birthday. ▪ He hid the engagement ring <i>to keep</i> his proposal plan a surprise.



Reminder

We often use gerunds and **to-infinitives** after verbs to indicate preferences.

<i>dislike</i> <i>enjoy</i>	+ gerund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Everyone dislikes <i>working</i> with a slacker. ▪ Ella enjoys <i>getting</i> a massage after a workout.
<i>like / love</i> <i>hate</i> <i>prefer</i>	+ gerund / to-infinitive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Penguins like <i>eating</i> / <i>to eat</i> squids and fishes. ▪ Introverts hate <i>interacting</i> / <i>to interact</i> with strangers. ▪ We prefer <i>finishing</i> / <i>to finish</i> exams before holidays.

We use a **to-infinitive** after **would + like / love / prefer**.

I **would like / love / prefer** *to have* a cup of coffee.



Exercise 2.1

Look at the pictures and complete the sentences with the help of the given words.



1. Brian hopes to find the treasure one day



2. Sophie _____



3. Ella _____



4. Mr Chan _____



5. The mother monkey _____



6. Bobby _____



7. Mrs Cheung _____



8. There _____

Exercise 2.2

Level Up

Complete Zoe's blog entry about studying abroad using the given phrases. Fill in the blanks using the correct form of the given verbs and write the letters (A–L) in the spaces provided.

Settling in the US

posted by Zoe Lee at 11:35 on 14 March 20XX

Last year, when I turned 15, I was sent to a boarding school in the US. As soon as I arrived in Boston that night, I started crying. My roommate, Jeannie, was the first friend I made in the US. That night, Jeannie asked me if I **(1)** _____ ^J _____. Of course I was, especially since my siblings **(2)** _____! I knew no one in the US at that time. Jeannie said it was the same for her but at least we had each other. I remember **(3)** _____ together. I **(4)** _____ about her.

Leaving home at the age of 15 was not easy for me. At the beginning, although I **(5)** _____, I worried about not fitting in. I also **(6)** _____. Sometimes I felt so lonely that I hoped to return to Hong Kong. I **(7)** _____ to life abroad.

Fortunately, Jeannie turned out to be an outgoing person. She **(8)** _____ my comfort zone. With Jeannie's help, I **(9)** _____ with strangers. I was **(10)** _____ to make new friends.

Recently, I have met a boy who always has nice desserts in a bakery box. When I asked him where he got them, he told me I was **(11)** _____. It was surprising to know that he made the desserts by himself. He said that he is fond of making pastries and he **(12)** _____. I've come to like living in Boston ...

- A. encouraged me _____ (get) out of
- B. would like _____ (know) more
- C. surprised _____ (realise) how easy it could be
- D. the first person _____ (show) interest in what he made
- E. is now teaching me _____ (make) pies, tarts and cakes
- F. was happy _____ (learn) to be independent
- G. disliked _____ (have) meals by myself
- H. decided _____ (not leave) Hong Kong for studies
- I. was disappointed _____ (find) that it was so hard to adapt
- J. was afraid _____ to leave _____ (leave) my parents
- K. managed _____ (strike up) a conversation
- L. I invited Jeannie _____ (walk) around the campus




Grammar Wrap-up

Teddy is reading an online advertisement. Are the underlined words correct? If yes, put a tick (✓). If no, write the correct answers in the spaces provided.

TrimUp 2.0: Probably The Best Exercise Ball Ever

Planning (1) keep fit or preparing (2) getting into great shape for summer? TrimUp 2.0 would be the best choice for you. We are proud (3) presenting the improvements in our TrimUp exercise ball and we have decided (4) launch the enhanced version next month.




TrimUp 2.0 is made of sturdy yet flexible plastic. Even if the ball reaches its limit (5) support your body weight, it will deflate slowly instead of (6) bursting right away. (7) Exercise with TrimUp 2.0 enables you (8) improving your posture, strengthen your lower back and tense up your muscles. It is also the best way to say goodbye to belly fat.

TrimUp 2.0 comes in three different sizes and a variety of colours: blue, pink, orange and silver. Are you ready (9) getting one for yourself? It comes with a foot pump that requires little effort (10) to use. If you prefer (11) not to inflate TrimUp 2.0 by yourself, it's worth (12) to buy an electric air pump, which is now on sale in our stores.

Are you ready (13) take TrimUp 2.0 home? Our online stores are currently offering a 10% discount. Click [here](#) (14) redeem the discount code and go (15) to shop now!

GET MY REDEMPTION CODE for 10% off

BUY TrimUp 2.0

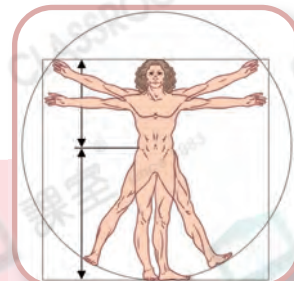


1. _____ to keep _____
3. _____
5. _____
7. _____
9. _____
11. _____
13. _____
15. _____

2. _____
4. _____
6. _____
8. _____
10. _____
12. _____
14. _____

Brain Breaks

Have you ever heard about the golden ratio? A person's body proportion is perfect if the ratio of the lower body length to the upper body length is 1.618.



Grammar in Pre-DSE Text Type

Theme: Crimes

Anna is reading a witness statement. Complete the statement using the correct form of the given words.

bored with—stay	tell—me—not move	hope—figure out
want—ignore	seem—skip	cannot help—trace
sad—know	suggest—venture	keep—creep
afraid of—see	decide—call	expectation—spot

Words by Theme



Witness¹ Statement

I, Samuel Wong (30 years old) of 14 Sui Wan Road, Fanling, am the chef of Full Moon Restaurant. I am a witness of the incident² below.

- On 20 November 20XX at about 1:30 am, my colleague Daniel Cheung and I were tidying things up in the storeroom when I heard an unusual noise from the kitchen. I (1) suggested venturing outside to have a look. Daniel (2) _____ the noise. He is superstitious and was (3) _____ ghosts. I laughed at him.
- I tiptoed³ into the kitchen with an (4) _____ some rats, but I did not see any. I (5) _____ along the aisle stealthily⁴. Daniel was (6) _____ inside the storeroom, so he went out of it despite his panic⁵.
- Then, we both heard a gunshot⁶. We were frozen in shock. My heart (7) _____ a beat. Daniel (8) _____ in a low voice. He made a hand gesture of making a call and returned to the storeroom. He (9) _____ the police.
- I knew that I should have followed Daniel, but I (10) _____ the source of the gunshot. I (11) _____ where the gunshot was from. Surprisingly, on the floor of the dining area, I found a body with a shot in the head. I was (12) _____ that it was our manager ...

I believe that the facts in this witness statement are true.

Signature: Samuel WongDate: 21 November 20XX

More to take away

aisle (n). = a long, narrow passage

We may use gerunds and to-infinitives to indicate actions, express feelings or opinions, give additional information and talk about purposes.

- The couple **have considered** taking wedding photos in Okinawa. (verb + gerund)
- That lady is **keen on** volunteering at elderly centres. (adjective-preposition phrase + gerund)
- The girl's parents **agreed** not to overprotect her. (verb + to-infinitive)
- The CEO was **proud** to announce the launch of their new product. (adjective + to-infinitive)
- Joe **hates** cooking / to cook. He **prefers** dining out / to dine out. (verb + gerund / to-infinitive)

Version 1

David is drafting a news report. Read the news report and pay attention to the underlined parts.

HONG KONG NEWS

Wednesday 19 September 20XX

Men Rob Jewellery Shop before Using Hostages as Human Shields | David Cheung

Seven men were involved in an armed robbery at a jewellery shop in Tsim Sha Tsui. They used hostages as human shields **(1)** when they tried to flee.

How the robbery unfolded

The group of robbers targeted Smith & Jones, the biggest jewellery shop in Yau Tsim Mong district, in the afternoon yesterday. **(2)** A salesperson opened the safe because of the robbers' demand. The salesperson was shot dead in the head **(3)** as he insisted on not doing so. Feeling terrified, the customers hid behind the display cabinets. **(4)** The heavily armed robbers were able to break into the safe but with difficulty. **(5)** They might be familiar with the layout of the shop and **(6)** made away with watches and jewellery that are worth HKD300,000. Then they took five people as hostages. **(7)** At that time, a salesperson acted as if he was unlocking the display cabinets. In fact, he was calling the police.

Hostages were tied to getaway cars

The robbers forced the hostages to lie on top of their getaway cars and **(8)** said that they had better hold on firmly. One of the hostages said after the incident, '**(9)** I was so afraid that I would fall off. My brain went blank. I gripped the bars and did not let go as the car was driving over speed bumps. I almost fell to my death.'

Mr X, who **(10)** did not want to disclose his name, said, 'All of the hostages were released in Yuen Long. We were in such a shock that **(11)** we kept crying.'

'**(12)** We will continue to investigate this horrible crime. **(13)** Our most important duty is to ensure the safety of our citizens,' said the police.



Version 2

Rewrite the underlined parts in Version 1 based on the instructions.

HONG KONG NEWS

Wednesday 19 September 20XX



Men Rob Jewellery Shop before Using Hostages as Human Shields | David Cheung

Seven men were involved in an armed robbery at a jewellery shop in Tsim Sha Tsui. They used hostages as human shields (1) when they made an attempt to flee (*make-attempt-flee*).

How the robbery unfolded

The group of robbers targeted Smith & Jones, the biggest jewellery shop in Yau Tsim Mong district, in the afternoon yesterday. (2) _____

_____ (*tell + to*-infinitive) The salesperson was shot dead in the head (3) _____

(*unwilling + to*-infinitive). Feeling terrified, the customers hid behind the display cabinets. (4) _____

_____ (*manage + to*-infinitive) (5) _____

(*seem + to*-infinitive) and (6) _____

(*come up with-way-snatch*). Then they took five people as hostages. (7) _____

(*pretend + to*-infinitive) In fact, he was calling the police.

Hostages were tied to getaway cars

The robbers forced the hostages to lie on top of their getaway cars and (8) _____
_____ (*order + to*-infinitive). One of

the hostages said after the incident, '(9) _____

(*afraid of + gerund*) My brain went blank. I gripped the bars and did not let go as the car was driving over speed bumps. I almost fell to my death.'

Mr X, who (10) _____

(*request + not + to*-infinitive), said, 'All of the hostages were released in Yuen Long. We were in such a

shock that (11) _____ (*could not help + gerund*).'

'(12) _____

(*keep + gerund*) (13) _____

_____ (*gerund as a subject*), said the police.



More to take away

hostage (n.) = a person taken by force to secure the taker's demands