Verb + -ing (enjoy doing / stop doing etc.)

Look at these examples:

- I enjoy dancing. (not 'I enjoy to dance')
- Would you mind closing the door? (not 'mind to close')
- Ian suggested going to the cinema. (not 'suggested to go')

After enjoy, mind and suggest, we use -ing (not to...).

Here are some more verbs that are followed by -ing:

stop	delay	fancy	consider	admit	miss	involve
finish	postpone	imagine	avoid	deny	risk	practise

- Suddenly everybody stopped talking. There was silence.
- I'll do the shopping when I've finished cleaning the flat.
- He tried to avoid answering my question.
- I don't fancy going out this evening.
- Have you ever considered going to live in another country?

Note the negative form not -ing:

• When I'm on holiday, I enjoy not having to get up early.

B

We also use -ing after:

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give up (= stop)
put off (= postpone)
carry on / go on (= continue)
keep or keep on (= do something continuously or repeatedly)
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- Paula has given up smoking.
- We must do something. We can't go on living like this! (or ...carry on living...)
- Don't keep interrupting me while I'm speaking. (or Don't keep on interrupting...)

With some verbs you can use the structure verb + somebody + -ing:

- I can't imagine George riding a motorbike.
- You can't stop me doing what I want.
- 'Sorry to keep you waiting so long.' 'That's all right.'

Note the passive form (being done/seen/kept etc.):

• I don't mind being kept waiting. (= I don't mind people keeping me...)

D

C

When you are talking about finished actions, you can say having done/stolen/said etc.:

• She admitted having stolen the money.

But it is not necessary to use having (done). You can also use the simple -ing form for finished actions:

- She admitted stealing the money.
- I now regret saying (or having said) what I said.

For regret, see Unit 55B.

After some of the verbs on this page (especially admit/deny/suggest) you can use that...:

- She denied that she had stolen the money. (or She denied stealing...)
- Ian suggested that we went to the cinema. (or Ian suggested going...)

For suggest, see also Unit 34.

EXERCISES

52.1	Complete each sentence with one of these verbs: answer apply be be listen make see try use	wash	work	write
	1 He tried to avoidanswering my question. 2 Could you please stop so much noise? 3 I enjoy to music. 4 I considered for the job but in the end I decided a 5 Have you finished your hair yet? 6 If you walk into the road without looking, you risk 7 Jim is 65 but he isn't going to retire yet. He wants to carry on 8 I don't mind you the phone as long as you pay for 9 Hello! Fancy you here! What a surprise! 10 I've put off the letter so many times. I really must 11 What a stupid thing to do! Can you imagine anybody	ngainst it knock or all your	ed down. calls.	
	12 Sarah gave up to find a job in this country and do			d.
52.2	Complete the sentences for each situation using -ing.			
	1 What shall we do? We could go to the cinema.		ested99	zing
	2 Do you want to play tennis? No, not really.		't fancy	
	You were driving too fast. Yes, it's true. Sorry!	She adm	itted	
	4 (Why don't we go for a swim?) Good idea!	She sugg	ested	
	You broke into the shop. No, I didn't!	He denie	ed	
	6 (Can you wait a few minutes?) Sure, no problem.	They did	ln't mind	
52.3	Complete the sentences so that they mean the same as the first sentence	e. Use -in	ıg.	
	 1 I can do what I want and you can't stop me. You gan't stop me do 2 It's not a good idea to travel during the rush hour. It's better to avoid gan't stop me. You gan't stop me do 			
	3 Shall we go away tomorrow instead of today?	••••••		
	Shall we postpone	•••••		?
	The driver of the car admitted			.
	5 Could you turn the radio down, please? Would you mind			?
	6 Please don't interrupt me all the time. Would you mind			
52.4	Use your own ideas to complete these sentences. Use -ing.			
	1 She's a very interesting person. I always enjoy talking to her.			
	2 I'm not feeling very well. I don't fancy			
	4 It was a lovely day, so I suggested			
	5 It was very funny. I couldn't stop			
	6 My car isn't very reliable. It keeps			

Verb + to... (decide to do / forget to do etc.)

В

C

D

11

offer	decide	hope	deserve	attempt	promise
agree	plan	aim	afford	manage	threaten
refuse	arrange	learn	forget	fail	

If these verbs are followed by another verb, the structure is usually *verb* + to... (infinitive):

- It was late, so we decided to take a taxi home.
- Simon was in a difficult situation, so I agreed to lend him some money.
- How old were you when you learnt to drive? (or 'learnt how to drive')
- I waved to Karen but failed to attract her attention.

Note these examples with the *negative* **not to**...:

- We decided not to go out because of the weather.
- I promised not to be late.

With many verbs you cannot normally use to.... For example, enjoy/think/suggest:

- I enjoy dancing. (not 'enjoy to dance')
- Ian suggested going to the cinema. (not 'suggested to go')
- Are you thinking of buying a car? (not 'thinking to buy')

For verb + -ing, see Unit 52. For verb + preposition + -ing, see Unit 61.

We also use to... after: seem appear tend pretend claim. For example:

- They seem to have plenty of money.
- I like George but I think he tends to talk too much.
- Ann pretended not to see me as she passed me in the street.

There is also a *continuous* infinitive (to be doing) and a *perfect* infinitive (to have done):

- I pretended to be reading the newspaper. (= I pretended that I was reading)
- You seem to have lost weight. (= it seems that you have lost weight)

We say 'decide to do something', 'promise to do something' etc. In the same way, we say 'a decision to do something', 'a promise to do something' etc. (noun + to...):

- I think his decision to give up his job was stupid.
- George has a tendency to talk too much.

After dare you can use the infinitive with or without to:

• I wouldn't dare to tell him. or I wouldn't dare tell him.

But after daren't (or dare not), you must use the infinitive without to:

• I daren't tell him what happened. (not 'I daren't to tell him')

After the following verbs you can use a question word (what/whether/how etc.) + to...: ask decide know remember forget explain learn understand wonder

Have you decided		to get to go	to the station. for your holidays?
I don't know	whether	to apply	for the job or not.
Do you understand	what	to do?	

Also: show / tell / ask / advise / teach somebody what / how / where to do something:

- Can somebody show me how to change the film in this camera?
- Ask Jack. He'll tell you what to do.

EXERCISES

53.1 Complete the sentences for each situation.

	Shall we get married? Yes	, let's.)	They decided to get married.		
	Please help me. OK	.)	She agreed		
		thanks. I can manage.	He offered		
	4 Let's meet at 8 o'clock. OK	fine.	They arranged		
	What's your name?	not going to tell you.	She refused		
52.2	Complete and the second				
JJ.Z	Complete each sentence with a suitable verb.				
	1 Don't forget to post the letter I gave you.		1		
	2 There was a lot of traffic but we managed 3 Jill has decided not		to the airport in time.		
	4 We've got a new computer in our office. I have		it wat		
	5 I wonder where Sue is. She promised not	II t icariit	late		
	6 We were all too afraid to speak. Nobody dared		anvthing		
- 0 0					
53.3	Put the verb into the correct form, to or -ing. (S	ee Unit 52 for verb +	-ing.)		
	1 When I'm tired, I enjoy watching television	. It's relaxing. (watch)		
	2 It was a nice day, so we decided	for a walk. (§	go)		
	3 It's a nice day. Does anyone fancy	for a walk	(go)		
	4 I'm not in a hurry. I don't mind	(wait)			
	5 They don't have much money. They can't affor	ord	out very often. (go)		
	6 I wish that dog would stop	It's driving me ma	ad. (bark)		
	7 Our neighbour threatened	the police if we did	ln't stop the noise. (call)		
	8 We were hungry, so I suggested	dinner early.	(have)		
	9 Hurry up! I don't want to risk	the train. (miss	;)		
	10 I'm still looking for a job but I hope	somethin	g soon. (find)		
53.4	Make a new sentence using the verb in brackets.				
	1 He has lost weight. (seem)	He seems to have	lost weight.		
	2 Tom is worried about something. (appear)	Tom appears			
	3 You know a lot of people. (seem)	You			
	4 My English is getting better. (seem)				
	5 That car has broken down. (appear)	***************************************			
	6 David forgets things. (tend)				
	7 They have solved the problem. (claim)				
53 .5	Complete each sentence using what/how/whether	. one of these works			
00.0	do get go ride say use	+ one of these veros:			
	,				
	1 Do you know how to get to John's house?	.1 *	1: 5		
	2 Can you show me	this washi	ng machine?		
	3 Would you know	if there was	a tire in the building?		
	4 You'll never forget a bicycle once you have learned.				
	5 I was really astonished. I didn't know				
e B	6 I've been invited to the party but I don't know.		or not.		

51.2

- 2 It's (very) expensive, isn't it?
- 3 The film was great, wasn't it?
- 4 She has / She has got / She's got lovely voice, hasn't she? or has a lovely voice, doesn't she?
- 5 It doesn't look very good, does it?
- 6 You've had your hair cut, haven't you?
- This bridge isn't very safe, is it?

- 2 Jack, you couldn't get me some stamps, could you?
- 3 Kate, you don't know where Ann is, do you? or ...you haven't seen Ann, have you?
- 4 Helen, you haven't got a bicycle pump, have you? or ...you don't have a bicycle pump, do
- 5 Robin, you haven't seen my keys, have you?

UNIT 52

52.1

- 2 making
 - 8 using
- 3 listening 9 seeing
- 4 applying 10 writing
- 5 washing 11 being 6 being
- 12 trying
- 7 working

52.2

- 2 playing tennis
- 3 driving too fast
- 4 going for a swim
- 5 breaking into the shop
- 6 waiting a few minutes

- 2 travelling during the rush hour
- 3 going away (until) tomorrow
- 4 not having a licence
- 5 turning the radio down
- 6 not interrupting me all the time

52.4

Example answers:

- 2 going out
- 3 sitting on the floor
- 4 having a picnic
- 5 laughing
- 6 breaking down

UNIT 53

53.1

- 2 She agreed to help him.
- 3 He offered to carry her bag.
- 4 They arranged to meet at 8 o'clock.
- 5 She refused to tell him her name.

53.2

- 2 to get
- 3 to buy / to have / to drive
- 4 (how) to use / (how) to operate
- 5 to be
- 6 say or to say

53.3

- 2 to go 7 to call
- 8 having 3 going
- 4 waiting 9 missing 5 to go 10 to find
- 6 barking

53.4

- 2 Tom appears to be worried about something.
- 3 You seem to know a lot of people.
- 4 My English seems to be getting better.
- 5 That car appears to have broken down.
- 6 David tends to forget things.
- 7 They claim to have solved the problem.

53.5

- 2 how to use
- 3 what to do
- 4 how to ride
- 5 what to say
- 6 whether to go

UNIT 54

54.1

- 2 do you want me to lend you some
- 3 would you like me to shut it
- 4 would you like me to show you
- 5 do you want me to repeat it
- 6 do you want me to wait

54.2

- 2 to stay (with them) for a few days.
- 3 She wouldn't let him use her phone.
- 4 She warned him to be careful.
- 5 He asked her to give him a hand.

54.3

- 2 I didn't expect it to rain.
- 3 Let him do what he wants.
- 4 Glasses make him look older.
- 5 I want you to know the truth.
- 6 Remind me to phone my sister.
- 7 Sarah persuaded me to apply for the job.
- 8 My lawyer advised me not to say anything to the police.
- 9 I was warned not to believe everything he says.
- 10 Having a car enables you to travel round more easily.