



Gerunds and Infinitives, Part 1

◇ PRACTICE 1. Gerunds as objects of prepositions. (Chart 14-2)

Directions: Complete the sentences with prepositions followed by gerunds. Use the verbs in the given list. Use each verb only once.

<i>ask</i>	<i>have</i>	<i>make</i>	<i>see</i>
<i>break</i>	<i>kill</i>	<i>open</i>	<i>talk</i>
<i>finish</i>	<i>lock</i>	<i>practice</i>	<i>wash</i>

1. Instead of asking for help on each arithmetic problem, you should use your book and try to figure out the answers yourself.
2. I look forward _____ you next time I'm in town. I'll be sure to let you know ahead of time so that we can plan to get together.
3. Alice told us that she was tired _____ the dishes every night.
4. The four-year-old was blamed _____ the glass candy dish.
5. Because of the bomb scare, no one was allowed in the building. People were prevented _____ the front door by a guard who was stationed there.
6. You should listen to other people instead _____ about yourself all the time.
7. What do you feel _____ for dinner? Does chicken and rice sound good?
8. Frank is an environmentalist who believes animals should be protected from hunters. He objects _____ wild animals for sport.
9. Please don't argue _____ your homework. Just do it.
10. Marie is responsible _____ all the doors and windows and _____ sure all the lights are turned off before she leaves work in the evening.
11. Mario spent all month preparing for the tennis match, but in spite _____ for many hours each day, he lost the match to Ivan.

◇ PRACTICE 4. Special expressions followed by -ing. (Chart 14-6)

Directions: Combine the given ideas into one sentence.

1. play soccer . . . spend . . . all yesterday afternoon . . . we
→ *We spent all yesterday afternoon playing soccer.*
2. a really good time . . . all of us . . . have . . . play soccer in the park . . . yesterday
3. find . . . have trouble . . . Omar . . . my house . . . last night
4. my bicycle . . . my mother . . . try to steal . . . catch . . . some neighborhood kids . . . yesterday
5. at the window . . . stand . . . when the boss walked into the office . . . all of the employees . . . watch the parade on the street below
6. my father always said, “. . . read novels . . . your time . . . from other kinds of books . . . when you could be learning something worthwhile . . . don't waste”
7. when Mrs. Smith checked on the children last night . . . play a game . . . find . . . instead of sleeping . . . them . . . she
8. Susan . . . find . . . when I opened the door . . . I . . . on her bed . . . cry . . . lie

◇ PRACTICE 5. Gerund vs. infinitive. (Charts 14-1 → 14-7)

Directions: Select the correct answer for each sentence.

1. Whenever we met, Jack avoided B at me.
A. to look B. looking
2. Most people enjoy _____ to different parts of the world.
A. to travel B. traveling
3. Marjorie needs _____ another job. Her present company is going out of business.
A. to find B. finding
4. May I change the TV channel, or do you want _____ more of this program?
A. to watch B. watching
5. Joan is considering _____ her major from pre-med studies to psychology.
A. to change B. changing
6. Although Joe slammed on his brakes, he couldn't avoid _____ the small dog that suddenly darted out in front of his car.
A. to hit B. hitting
7. I hope _____ my autobiography before I die. Do you think anyone would read it?
A. to write B. writing
8. Joyce thanked us for _____ them to dinner and said that they wanted to have us over for dinner next week.
A. to invite B. inviting
9. If you delay _____ your bills, you will only incur more and more interest charges.
A. to pay B. paying
10. My lawyer advised me not _____ anything further about the accident.
A. to say B. saying

11. A procrastinator is one who habitually postpones _____ things — especially tasks that are unpleasant.
A. to do B. doing
12. You should plan _____ at the stadium early or you won't be able to get good seats.
A. to arrive B. arriving
13. My mom asked me _____ up some eggs at the supermarket on my way home from work.
A. to pick B. picking
14. Nobody has offered _____ the house next door, so I think they're going to lower the price.
A. to buy B. buying
15. The highway patrol advises _____ the old route through the city because the interstate highway is under major repairs.
A. to take B. taking
16. Would you mind _____ that apple for me? My arthritis is acting up in my right hand.
A. to peel B. peeling
17. Stop _____ me! I'll get everything finished before I go to bed.
A. to nag B. nagging
18. When the university suggested _____ the tuition again, the student senate protested vigorously.
A. to raise B. raising
19. Are we permitted _____ guests to the ceremony? I'd like to invite my friend to join us.
A. to bring B. bringing
20. The city council agreed _____ the architect's proposed design for a new parking garage.
A. to accept B. accepting

◇ PRACTICE 6. Verbs followed by infinitives. (Chart 14-7)

Directions: Restate the given sentences. Choose the most appropriate reporting verb in parentheses. Make it active or passive as appropriate. Include an infinitive in the completion and any other necessary words.

1. The teacher said to Jim, "Would you give your book to Mary, please?"
(ask, tell, order)
→ The teacher asked Jim to give his book to Mary.
2. The sign said, "No parking in this area. Violators will be towed away."
(invite, warn, force)
→ Drivers were warned not to park in the area.
3. Before Bobby went to bed, his father said, "Don't forget to brush your teeth."
(invite, allow, remind)
→ Before Bobby went to bed, his father _____ his teeth.
4. Under the law, drivers and all passengers must wear seat belts while in a moving vehicle.
(encourage, require, permit)
→ Drivers and passengers _____ seat belts while in a moving vehicle.

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5. When I asked the nurse about my skin rash, she said, "You should consult a dermatologist."
(ask, permit, advise)
→ The nurse _____ a dermatologist.
6. The fire chief said, "Everyone must leave the building immediately."
(order, remind, allow)
→ Everyone _____ the building immediately.
7. The instructor said to the students, "You will have exactly one hour to complete the exam."
(order, expect, warn)
→ The students _____ the exam in one hour.
8. Because he forgot last year, I told my husband several times that he should buy some flowers for his mother on Mother's Day.
(remind, require, allow)
→ I _____ some flowers for his mother on Mother's Day.
9. My garage mechanic said, "You should get a tune-up every 5,000 miles."
(ask, order, advise)
→ My garage mechanic _____ a tune-up every 5,000 miles.
10. The factory manager said to the employees, "Do not come late. If you do, you will lose your jobs."
(ask, warn, encourage)
→ The employees _____ late.
11. The sign on the side door says, "Do not enter," so we have to use a different door.
(ask, permit, force)
→ Nobody _____ the side door.
12. The little girl said to her father, "Daddy, I really like this tricycle. Can we buy it?"
(require, ask, advise)
→ The little girl _____ the tricycle for her.
13. We often told our grandfather, "Your experiences as a sailor in the navy were fascinating. You should write a book about them."
(remind, encourage, require)
→ We _____ a book about his experiences in the navy.
14. The judge said to the defendant, "You must not shout in the courtroom again."
(ask, order, encourage)
→ The defendant _____ in the courtroom again.

◇ PRACTICE 7. Verbs followed by infinitives. (Chart 14-7)

Directions: Report what the speakers say by using a verb from the following list and an infinitive phrase. Use each verb in the list only once. Make your sentence passive if the speaker is not specifically identified.

advise	ask	invite	remind
allow	encourage	order	warn

1. During the water shortage, someone in authority said to the public, "Curtail your use of water as much as possible."
→ *During the water shortage, the public was asked to curtail its use of water as much as possible.*
2. Laura said to her roommate, "Don't forget to set your alarm clock for 6:00."

3. Mrs. Jones said to the children, "Each of you may have one piece of candy."
4. The doctor said to my father, "It would be best if you limited your sugar consumption."
5. My parents often said to me, "Good for you! It's good to be independent!"
6. Someone said to the children, "Don't swim in the lake without an adult present."
7. The police officer shouted to the reckless driver, "Pull over!"
8. Rose said to Jerry, "I'd like you to come to my house Sunday night to meet my parents."

◇ **PRACTICE 8. Gerund vs. infinitive. (Chart 14-8)**

Directions: Choose the best answer or answers. In some cases, BOTH answers are correct.

1. John was trying B the door with the wrong key.
A. unlocking B. to unlock
2. The audience began A, B before the curtains closed.
A. clapping B. to clap
3. The soccer teams continued _____ even though it began to snow.
A. playing B. to play
4. We like _____ outside when the weather is warm and sunny.
A. eating B. to eat
5. We began _____ to the news when we heard the Olympics mentioned.
A. listening B. to listen
6. I was just beginning _____ asleep when the phone rang.
A. falling B. to fall
7. I really hate _____ late for appointments.
A. being B. to be
8. The cake was starting _____ when I took it out of the oven.
A. burning B. to burn
9. She's so impatient! She can't stand _____ in line for anything.
A. waiting B. to wait
10. I prefer _____ my bicycle to work because the automobile traffic is too heavy.
A. riding B. to ride
11. Lillian prefers _____ to taking the bus.
A. walking B. to walk
12. Tim prefers _____ than to jog for exercise.
A. walking B. to walk
13. The baby loves _____ in the car.
A. riding B. to ride
14. Near the end of the performance, the audience began _____ their feet on the floor.
A. stamping B. to stamp

15. The audience began to clap and _____ their feet on the floor.
A. stamping B. (to) stamp
16. The audience began clapping and _____ their feet on the floor.
A. stamping B. (to) stamp
17. My son sometimes forgets _____ the stove when he is finished cooking.
A. turning off B. to turn off
18. Alex will never forget _____ his first helicopter ride.
A. taking B. to take
19. Would you please remember _____ away all the tapes when you're finished listening to them?
A. putting B. to put
20. I remember _____ them away when I finished with them last night.
A. putting B. to put
21. I remember _____ Bolivia for the first time. It's a beautiful country.
A. visiting B. to visit
22. What am I going to do? I forgot _____ my calculus text, and I need it for the review today.
A. bringing B. to bring
23. My boss regrets _____ his secretary now that she is gone.
A. firing B. to fire
24. The letter said, "I regret _____ you that your application has been denied."
A. informing B. to inform
25. I haven't been able to get in touch with Shannon. I tried _____ her. Then I tried _____ her a letter. I tried _____ a message with her brother when I talked to him. Nothing worked.
A. calling . . . writing . . . leaving B. to call . . . to write . . . to leave
26. I always try _____ my bills on time, but sometimes I'm a little late.
A. paying B. to pay

◇ PRACTICE 9. Gerund vs. infinitive. (Charts 14-9 and 14-10)

Directions: Work with another person. One of you should read the beginning of the sentence, and the other, without looking at the book, should supply the correct response: **to do it** or **doing it**. (If you are studying alone, cover up the answers in parentheses and check yourself as you go.)

Example: A: I enjoy
 B: . . . doing it.

1. I dislike (doing it.)
2. She was ordered (to do it.)
3. I urged my friend (to do it.)
4. Can he afford (to do it?)

5. We all discussed (doing it.)
6. The institute requires us (to do it.)
7. We will eventually complete (doing it.)
8. The whole class practiced (to do it.)
9. I really don't care (doing it.)
10. My friend recommended not (to do it.)
11. She was expected (doing it.)
12. Bill resented his roommate (doing it?)
13. Did the criminal admit (to do it.)
14. Please allow us (doing it.)
15. The whole family anticipated (doing it.)
16. No one recollected (doing it?)
17. Did you risk (doing it?)
18. Did they recall (doing it?)
19. My friend challenged me (to do it.)
20. The teacher postponed (doing it.)
21. Do you mind (doing it?)
22. Why did he pretend (to do it?)
23. The teacher arranged (to do it.)
24. The regulations permit us (to do it.)
25. The dentist wanted to delay (doing it.)
26. Can anyone learn (to do it?)
27. Did your roommate offer (to do it?)
28. He doesn't deny (doing it.)
29. Somehow, the dog managed (to do it.)
30. Everyone avoided (doing it.)
31. The boy dared Al (to do it.)
32. Our teacher threatened (to do it.)
33. The contestant practiced (doing it.)
34. My friend consented (to do it.)
35. I miss (doing it.)

◇ PRACTICE 10. Gerund vs. infinitive. (Charts 14-2 → 14-10)

Directions: Complete the sentences with the correct form, gerund or infinitive, using the words in parentheses.

1. The store offered to refund the money I paid for the book I returned. (*refund*)
2. Don't pretend to be what you aren't. (*be*)
3. I persuaded my brother-in-law not _____ that old car. (*buy*)
4. Annie denied _____ the brick through the window. (*throw*)
5. My father expects me _____ high marks in school. (*get*)
6. According to the sign on the restaurant door, all diners are required _____ shirts and shoes. (*wear*)
7. We are planning _____ several historical sites in Moscow. (*visit*)

8. There appears _____ no way to change our reservation for the play at this late date. (*be*)
9. For some strange reason, I keep _____ today is Saturday. (*think*)
10. All of the members agreed _____ the emergency meeting. (*attend*)
11. I've arranged _____ work early tomorrow. (*leave*)
12. Even though Anna had never cut anyone's hair before, she readily consented _____ her husband's hair. (*cut*)



13. Mary decided _____ her friend's critical remarks. (*ignore*)
14. My roommate says I have a terrible voice, so I stopped _____ in the shower. (*sing*)
15. Did the doctor mention _____ any foods in particular? (*avoid*)
16. The cashier always remembers _____ the money in her cash register each day before she leaves work. (*count*)
17. Let's hurry! We must finish _____ the office before 3:00 today. (*paint*)
18. The student with the highest average deserves _____ an "A." (*get*)
19. I appreciate your _____ for my dinner. I'll buy next time. (*pay*)
20. The physically handicapped child struggled _____ up with the other children on the playground, but she couldn't. (*keep*)
21. Janice misses _____ walks with her father in the evening now that she has moved away from home. (*take*)

22. The customs official demanded _____ what was inside the gift-wrapped box.
(*know*)
23. We've discussed _____ to New York in the fall, but I'm worried about our children having to adjust to a new school system and new friends. (*move*)
24. Children shouldn't be allowed _____ violent programs on TV. (*watch*)
25. In a fit of anger, I ordered my neighbor _____ his mule off my property. (*keep*)

◇ **PRACTICE 11. Gerund vs. infinitive. (Charts 14-2 → 14-10)**

Directions: Complete the sentences with the correct form, gerund or infinitive, using the words in parentheses.

1. The doctor was forced to operate immediately to save the patient's life. (*operate*)
2. The newspaper hired Bill _____ pictures of the championship match between the two boxers. (*shoot*)
3. Most passengers dislike _____ to sit in small, uncomfortable seats on transoceanic flights. (*have*)
4. I choose _____ to Stanford University for my undergraduate studies. (*go*)
5. I must drive more carefully. I can't risk _____ another speeding ticket. (*get*)
6. All of the members agreed _____ the emergency meeting. (*attend*)
7. Jack promised _____ to the meeting. (*come*)
8. The sign warns you not _____ right on a red light. (*turn*)
9. Did Dick mean _____ Sue about the surprise party, or did it slip out accidentally? (*tell*)
10. You must keep _____ on the computer until you understand how to use all of the programs. (*practice*)
11. Our class volunteered _____ the classroom during the maintenance workers' strike. (*clean*)
12. When you get through _____ the newspaper, I could use your help in the kitchen. (*read*)
13. I think we should delay _____ these reports to the main office. (*send*)
14. The judge demanded _____ the original document, not the photocopy. (*see*)
15. After hearing the weather report, I advise you not _____ skiing this afternoon. (*go*)
16. George is interested in _____ an art class. (*take*)
17. I was furious. I threatened never _____ to him again. (*speak*)
18. My parents appreciated _____ the thank-you note you sent them. (*receive*)

19. The committee is planning _____ next Friday. (*meet*)
20. If I don't leave on the 15th, I will miss _____ home in time for my mother's birthday party. (*get*)
21. I know you're anxious to get out of here and get back home, but you should seriously consider _____ in the hospital a few more days. (*stay*)
22. Alex refused _____ for his rude behavior. (*apologize*)
23. When I was in the army, I had to swear _____ my senior officers' orders. (*obey*)
24. I don't recall _____ your dictionary anywhere in the apartment. Maybe you left it in the classroom. (*see*)
25. Mrs. Lind required the children _____ off their muddy boots before they came into the house. (*take*)

◇ PRACTICE 12. Gerund vs. infinitive. (Charts 14-9 and 14-10)

Directions: Choose the correct answer.

1. The groom anticipated A the wedding ceremony.
A. enjoying B. to enjoy
2. The department store agreed _____ back the damaged radio.
A. taking B. to take
3. Would the doctor mind _____ some time talking to me after the examination?
A. spending B. to spend
4. We miss _____ Professor Sanders in Asian history this quarter.
A. having B. to have
5. Dan failed _____ the firefighter's examination and was quite upset.
A. passing B. to pass
6. The travelers anticipated _____ safely at their destination.
A. arriving B. to arrive
7. She expects _____ her baby at the new hospital.
A. delivering B. to deliver
8. The bad weather caused us _____ our connecting flight to Rome.
A. missing B. to miss
9. We dislike _____ dinner at 9:00 P.M.
A. eating B. to eat
10. Most of the students completed _____ their research papers on time.
A. writing B. to write
11. My niece hopes _____ with me to Disneyland next April.
A. traveling B. to travel

12. This note will remind me _____ the chicken for dinner tomorrow night.
 A. defrosting B. to defrost
13. Willy denied _____ a whole bag of chocolate chip cookies before lunch.
 A. eating B. to eat
14. You must swear _____ the truth in a court of law.
 A. telling B. to tell
15. I didn't mean _____ him.
 A. interrupting B. to interrupt

◇ **PRACTICE 13. Gerund vs. infinitive. (Charts 14-9 and 14-10)**

Directions: Create sentences from the following verb combinations. Select any tense for the first verb, but use a gerund or infinitive for the second verb. Include a (PRO)NOUN OBJECT if necessary.

Examples: can't afford + buy → *I can't afford to buy a new car for at least another year.*
 dare + dive → *My friends dared me to dive into the pool.*

1. keep + play
2. direct + save
3. regret + tell
4. manage + get
5. remind + take
6. be used to + stay
7. persuade + not buy
8. mention + give
9. suggest + go
10. can't imagine + travel
11. recommend + take
12. convince + go + swim
13. miss + be
14. not appreciate + hear
15. fail + tell
16. resent + be
17. resist + eat
18. claim + know
19. deserve + get
20. not recall + say
21. look forward to + see
22. beg + give
23. agree + hire + work
24. remember + tell + be
25. urge + practice + speak
26. tell + keep + try + call

◇ PRACTICE 14. Using *It* + Infinitive. (Chart 14-11)

Directions: Restate the sentences by changing a sentence with a gerund as the subject to a sentence with *it* + an infinitive phrase, and vice-versa.

1. Teasing animals is cruel. → *It is cruel to tease animals.*
2. It wasn't difficult to find their house. → *Finding their house wasn't difficult.*
3. Voting in every election is important.
4. It was exciting to meet the king and queen.
5. Hearing the other side of the story would be interesting.
6. It is unusual to see Joan awake early in the morning.
7. If you know how, it is easy to float in the water for a long time.
8. Mastering a second language takes time and patience.
9. Driving to Atlanta will take us ten hours.
10. It takes courage to dive into the sea from a high cliff.

