

# Infinitive and gerund

## Infinitive

### Definition

An infinitive is the basic form of a verb not associated with a subject or tense.

### Construction

**Affirmative:** 'to' + bare infinitive

to go

**Negative:** 'not to' + bare infinitive

not to go

'to don't go' ❌

**Note that** the bare infinitive is the infinitive without 'to': (not) go

### Uses

As a subject	As a complement	As an object
To be on time is important.	The important thing is to be on time.	We need to be on time.
Not to be on time is impolite.	The important thing is not to be late.	We promised not to be late.

**Note that** as a subject, the gerund is more common than the infinitive.

# Gerund

## Definition

A gerund is a noun formed from a verb - it is the name of an activity or a state.

## Construction

**Affirmative:** bare infinitive + 'ing'

**going**

**Negative:** 'not' + bare infinitive + 'ing'

**not going**

**Note that** we sometimes have to double the last letter of the verb or remove the 'e' at the end. Here are some examples:

swimming  
travelling  
shopping

hiking  
dancing  
filing

## Uses

As a subject	As a complement	As an object
<b>Being</b> in this team has lots of advantages.	What I like about this job is <b>being</b> in a small team.	I love <b>being</b> in this team.
<b>Cycling</b> is good exercise.	My favourite sport is <b>cycling</b> .	I enjoy <b>cycling</b> .
<b>Not having</b> any free time is terrible.	The best thing about my job is <b>not having</b> a long journey to work.	I hate <b>not having</b> enough free time.



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