

# Infinitives

Infinitives have a number of forms. These are the most common:

SIMPLE: Eva wants **to become** a lawyer.

PROGRESSIVE: They seem **to be telling** the truth.

PERFECT: He hopes **to have finished** his work by next Friday.

PASSIVE: Anna deserves **to be promoted**.

PASSIVE PERFECT: We pretended **to have been surprised**.

The following verbs can be followed by infinitives but cannot be followed by gerunds:

agree	choose	decide	deserve
expect	fail	hope	intend
manage	need	offer	plan
pretend	promise	seem	want

## exercise

## 22-1

Complete each sentence with the form of the infinitive indicated in parentheses.

EXAMPLE: Janine managed *to find* (find, simple) an apartment on the first day of her search.

- I plan \_\_\_\_\_ (work, progressive) full-time next year.
- He agreed \_\_\_\_\_ (pay, simple) me for the photographs.
- She hopes \_\_\_\_\_ (earn, perfect) a raise by the end of this year.
- The child pretended \_\_\_\_\_ (faint, perfect).

5. Shoba deserves \_\_\_\_\_ (hire, passive) for the new position.
6. Everyone offered \_\_\_\_\_ (help, simple) us.
7. The announcement seems \_\_\_\_\_ (leak, passive perfect) to the press.
8. In order to get that job, he needs \_\_\_\_\_ (network, progressive).
9. The director expected \_\_\_\_\_ (receive, perfect) the report by now.
10. The reporter had wanted \_\_\_\_\_ (give, passive) a different assignment.
11. I promise \_\_\_\_\_ (meet, simple) you there at 5:00.
12. My parents decided \_\_\_\_\_ (stay, simple) an extra week.
13. He failed \_\_\_\_\_ (turn in, simple) the work on time.
14. Our neighbors intend \_\_\_\_\_ (move, simple) next year.
15. The company chose \_\_\_\_\_ (close, simple) one of the plants.

**exercise****22-2**

Use infinitives to answer the following questions.

EXAMPLE: What did you expect to learn in this book?  
*I expected to learn about English verbs.*

1. Where do you plan to go this weekend?

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2. Where do you intend to be next year at this time?

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3. What do you need to buy this week?

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4. What do you want to have for dinner?

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5. What do you expect to study next term?

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## Verbs Followed by a Noun Phrase and an Infinitive

Some verbs are followed by both a noun phrase (a pronoun or a noun and any of its modifiers) and an infinitive:

advise	allow	cause	encourage
invite	order	permit	persuade
require	teach	tell	urge

### exercise

**22-3**

Complete each of the following sentences using the noun phrase provided and the simple form of the infinitive.

EXAMPLE: us, go

The teacher encouraged *us to go* to the lecture.

1. him, exercise

Dr. Olson advised \_\_\_\_\_ more frequently.

2. us, attend

Carl invited \_\_\_\_\_ his piano recital.

3. my sister, ride

My brother taught \_\_\_\_\_ a bike.

4. me, turn

He told \_\_\_\_\_ left at the corner.

5. people, touch

The museum guide permitted \_\_\_\_\_ some of the exhibits.

6. Brent and me, be

The accident caused \_\_\_\_\_ more careful the next time.

7. local artists, hang

Laura Adams allowed \_\_\_\_\_ their paintings in her restaurant.

8. the protesters, leave

The police ordered \_\_\_\_\_.

9. me, rethink

My parents persuaded \_\_\_\_\_ my plan.

10. employers, provide

The new law required \_\_\_\_\_ safety training.

11. Robyn, major

Mr. Pruett encouraged \_\_\_\_\_ in biology.

12. everyone, conserve

The president urged \_\_\_\_\_ energy.