

CLASS- SHASTRI-2nd YEAR

SUBJECT- ENGLISH

**Book Intermediate English Grammar
by Raymond Murphy**

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Lucknow Campus, Lucknow

Have something done

A

Study this example situation:



LISA

The roof of Lisa's house was damaged in a storm. So she called a builder, and yesterday a man came and repaired it.

Lisa **had** the roof **repaired** yesterday.

This means: Lisa arranged for somebody else to repair the roof. She didn't repair it herself.

We use **have something done** to say that we arrange for somebody else to do something for us. Compare:

- Lisa **repaired** the roof. (= she repaired it herself)
- Lisa **had** the roof **repaired**. (= she arranged for somebody else to repair it)
- 'Did you **make** those curtains yourself?' 'Yes, I enjoy making things.'
- 'Did you **have** those curtains **made**?' 'No, I made them myself.'

B

Be careful with word order. The *past participle* (**repaired/cut** etc.) is after the *object*:

	have	object	past participle
	Lisa had	the roof	repaired yesterday.
	Where did you have	your hair	cut ?
	Your hair looks nice. Have you had	it	cut ?
	Our neighbour has just had	a garage	built .
	We are having	the house	painted this week.
	How often do you have	your car	serviced ?
	I think you should have	that coat	cleaned .
	I don't like having	my picture	taken .

C

Get something done

You can also say '**get something done**' instead of '**have something done**':

- When are you going to **get the roof repaired**? (= have the roof repaired)
- I think you should **get your hair cut** really short.

D

Sometimes **have something done** has a different meaning. For example:

- Paul and Karen **had their bags stolen** while they were travelling.

This does not mean that they arranged for somebody to steal their bags. '**They had their bags stolen**' means only: 'Their bags were stolen'.

With this meaning, we use **have something done** to say that something happens to somebody or their belongings. Often what happens is not nice:

- Gary **had** his nose **broken** in a fight. (= his nose was broken)
- Have you ever **had** your bike **stolen**?

Reported speech 1 (He said that ...)

A

Study this example situation:



You want to tell somebody what Paul said. There are two ways of doing this:

You can repeat Paul's words (direct speech): Paul said 'I'm feeling ill.'

Or you can use reported speech: Paul said that he was feeling ill.

Compare:



B

When we use reported speech, the main verb of the sentence is usually past (Paul **said** that ... / I **told** her that ... etc.). The rest of the sentence is usually past too:

- Paul **said** that he **was** feeling ill.
- I **told** Lisa that I **didn't** have any money.

You can leave out **that**. So you can say:

- Paul **said** **that** he was feeling ill. or Paul **said** he was feeling ill.

In general, the *present* form in direct speech changes to the *past* form in reported speech:

am/is → was	do/does → did	will → would
are → were	have/has → had	can → could
want/like/know/go etc. → wanted/liked/knew/went etc.		

Compare direct speech and reported speech:

You met Anna. Here are some of the things she said in *direct* speech:

My parents **are** fine.
I'm going to learn to drive.

I **want** to buy a car.
John **has** a new job.
I **can't** come to the party on Friday.
I **don't** have much free time.
I'm going away for a few days.
I'll phone you when I **get** back.



ANNA

Later you tell somebody what Anna said. You use *reported* speech:

- Anna said that her parents **were** fine.
- She said that she **was** going to learn to drive.
- She said that she **wanted** to buy a car.
- She said that John **had** a new job.
- She said that she **couldn't** come to the party on Friday.
- She said she **didn't** have much free time.
- She said that she **was** going away for a few days and **would** phone me when she **got** back.

C

The *past simple* (**did/saw/knew** etc.) can usually stay the same in reported speech, or you can change it to the *past perfect* (**had done / had seen / had known** etc.):

- direct* Paul said 'I **woke** up feeling ill, so I **didn't** go to work.'
- reported* Paul said (that) he **woke** up feeling ill, so he **didn't** go to work. or Paul said (that) he **had woken** up feeling ill, so he **hadn't** gone to work.

Reported speech 1 (He said that ...)

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You want to tell somebody what Paul said. There are two ways of doing this:

You can repeat Paul's words (direct speech): Paul said 'I'm feeling ill.'

Or you can use reported speech: Paul said that he was feeling ill.

Compare:

<i>direct</i>	Paul said ' I am feeling ill. '	In writing we use these quotation marks to show direct speech.
<i>reported</i>	Paul said that he was feeling ill.	

B

When we use reported speech, the main verb of the sentence is usually past (Paul **said** that ... / I **told** her that ... etc.). The rest of the sentence is usually past too:

- Paul **said** that he **was** feeling ill.
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I'm going away for a few days.
I'll phone you when I **get** back.



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- Anna said that her parents **were** fine.
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The *past simple* (**did/saw/knew** etc.) can usually stay the same in reported speech, or you can change it to the *past perfect* (**had done / had seen / had known** etc.):

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Reported speech 2

A

It is not always necessary to change the verb in reported speech. If the situation *is still the same*, you do not need to change the verb to the past. For example:

- direct* Paul said 'My new job **is** boring.'
- reported* Paul said that his new job **is** boring.
(The situation is still the same. His job **is** still boring now.)

- direct* Helen said 'I **want** to go to Canada next year.'
- reported* Helen told me that **she wants** to go to Canada next year.
(Helen still wants to go to Canada next year.)

You can also change the verb to the past:

- Paul said that his new job **was** boring.
- Helen told me that she **wanted** to go to Canada next year.

But if the situation has changed or finished, you *must* use a past verb:

- Paul left the room suddenly. He said **he had** to go. (*not has to go*)

B

You need to use a past form when there is a difference between what was said and what is really true.

For example:

You met Sonia a few days ago.
She said: **Joe is in hospital.**

Later that day you meet Joe in the street. You say:
Hi, Joe. I didn't expect to see you. Sonia said you **were** in hospital.
(*not* 'Sonia said you are in hospital', because clearly he is not)



C

Say and tell

If you say *who* somebody is talking to, use **tell**:

- Sonia **told me** that you were in hospital. (*not* Sonia said me)
- What did you **tell the police**? (*not* say the police)

Otherwise use **say**:

- Sonia **said** that you were in hospital. (*not* Sonia told that ...)
- What did you **say**?

But you can **'say something to somebody'**:

- Ann **said goodbye to** me and left. (*not* Ann said me goodbye)
- What did you **say to** the police?



D

Tell/ask somebody to do something

We also use the infinitive (**to do / to be** etc.) in reported speech, especially with **tell** and **ask** (for orders and requests):

- direct* 'Drink plenty of water,' the doctor said to me.
- reported* The doctor **told me to drink** plenty of water.

- direct* 'Don't be late,' I said to Joe.
- reported* I **told Joe not to be** late.

- direct* 'Can you help me, please,' Jackie said to me.
- reported* Jackie **asked me to help** her.

You can also say 'Somebody **said (not) to** do something':

- Paul **said not to worry** about him. (*but not* Paul said me)

Questions 2 (Do you know where ... ? /
He asked me where ...)

A

Do you know where ... ? / I don't know why ... / Could you tell me what ... ? etc.

We say: Where **has Tom** gone?*but* Do you know where **Tom has** gone? (not Do you know where has Tom gone?)When the question (**Where has Tom gone?**) is part of a longer sentence (**Do you know ... ? / I don't know ... / Can you tell me ... ?** etc.), the word order changes. We say:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> What time is it ? | <i>but</i> Do you know what time it is? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Who are those people? | I don't know who those people are. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Where can I find Louise? | Can you tell me where I can find Louise? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> How much will it cost? | Do you have any idea how much it will cost? |

Be careful with **do/does/did** questions. We say:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> What time does the film start? | <i>but</i> Do you know what time the film starts? |
| | (not does the film start) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> What do you mean? | Please explain what you mean. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Why did she leave early? | I wonder why she left early. |

Use **if** or **whether** where there is no other question word (**what, why** etc.):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Did anybody see you? | <i>but</i> Do you know if anybody saw you? |
| | or ... whether anybody saw you? |

B

He asked me where ... (reported questions)

The same changes in word order happen in reported questions. Compare:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>direct</i> | The police officer said to us 'Where are you going ?' |
| <i>reported</i> | The police officer asked us where we were going . |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>direct</i> | Clare said 'What time do the banks close ?' |
| <i>reported</i> | Clare wanted to know what time the banks closed . |

In reported speech the verb usually changes to the past (**were, closed** etc.). See Unit 47.

Study these examples. You had an interview for a job and these were some of the questions the interviewer asked you:



Are you willing to travel?

Why did you apply for the job?

What do you do in your spare time?

Can you speak any other languages?

How long have you been working in your present job?

Do you have a driving licence?

Later you tell a friend what the interviewer asked you. You use *reported speech*:

- She asked if (or whether) I **was** willing to travel.
- She wanted to know what I **did** in my spare time.
- She asked how long I **had** been working in my present job.
- She asked why I **had** applied for the job. (or ... why I **applied**)
- She wanted to know if (or whether) I **could** speak any other languages.
- She asked if (or whether) I **had** a driving licence.

Auxiliary verbs (have/do/can etc.)

I think so / I hope so etc.

A

In each of these sentences there is an auxiliary verb and a main verb:

I	have	lost	my keys.
She	can't	come	to the party.
The hotel	was	built	ten years ago.
Where	do you	live?	

In these examples **have/can't/was/do** are auxiliary (= helping) verbs.

You can use an auxiliary verb when you don't want to repeat something:

- 'Have you locked the door?' 'Yes, I **have**.' (= I have *locked the door*)
- Gary wasn't working, but Laura **was**. (= Laura was *working*)
- Jessica could lend me the money, but she **won't**. (= she won't *lend*)

Use **do/does/did** for the present and past simple:

- 'Do you like onions?' 'Yes, I **do**.' (= I *like onions*)
- 'Does Simon live in London?' 'He **did**, but he **doesn't** any more.'

You can use auxiliary verbs to deny what somebody says (= say it is not true):

- 'You're sitting in my place.' 'No, I'm **not**.' (= I'm not *sitting in your place*)
- 'You didn't lock the door before you left.' 'Yes, I **did**.' (= I *locked the door*)

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B

We use **have you? / isn't she? / do they?** etc. to show interest in what somebody has said, or to show surprise:

- 'I've just seen Stephen.' 'Oh, **have you?** How is he?'
- 'Lisa isn't very well today.' 'Oh, **isn't she?** What's wrong with her?'
- 'It rained every day during our holiday.' '**Did it?** What a shame!'
- 'James and Tanya are getting married.' '**Are they?** Really?'

C

We use auxiliary verbs with **so** and **neither**:

- 'I'm tired.' '**So am I.**' (= I'm tired too)
- 'I never read newspapers.' '**Neither do I.**' (= I never read newspapers either)
- Sarah hasn't got a car and **neither has Mark.**

Note the word order after **so** and **neither** (verb before subject):

- I passed the exam and **so did Paul.** (*not so Paul did*)

Instead of **neither**, you can use **nor**. You can also use **not ... either**:

- 'I don't know.' '**Neither do I.**' or '**Nor do I.**' or 'I don't **either**.'

D

I think so / I hope so etc.

After some verbs we use **so** when we don't want to repeat something:

- 'Are those people Korean?' 'I **think so.**' (= I think *they are Korean*)
- 'Will you be at home this evening?' 'I **expect so.**' (= I expect *I'll be at home ...*)
- 'Do you think Kate has been invited to the party?' 'I **suppose so.**'

In the same way we say: **I hope so, I guess so** and **I'm afraid so.**

The usual negative forms are:

- I think so / I expect so → I **don't think so** / I **don't expect so**
- I hope so / I'm afraid so / I guess so → I **hope not** / I'm **afraid not** / I **guess not**
- I suppose so → I **don't suppose so** or I **suppose not**

- 'Is that woman American?' 'I **think so.** / I **don't think so.**'
- 'Do you think it will rain?' 'I **hope so.** / I **hope not.**' (*not I don't hope so*)

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

A

Look at these examples:

- I **enjoy reading**. (not I enjoy to read)
- Would you **mind closing** the door? (not mind to close)
- Chris **suggested going** to the cinema. (not suggested to go)

After **enjoy**, **mind** and **suggest**, we use **-ing** (not to ...).Some more verbs that are followed by **-ing**:

stop	postpone	admit	avoid	imagine
finish	consider	deny	risk	fancy

- 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. (= I'm not enthusiastic about it)
- Have you ever **considered going** to live in another country?
- They said they were innocent. They **denied doing** anything wrong.

The negative form is **not -ing**:

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



B

We also use **-ing** after:

give up (= stop)
put off (= postpone)
go on or carry on (= continue)
keep or keep on (= do something continuously or repeatedly)

- I've **given up reading** newspapers. I think it's a waste of time.
- Catherine doesn't want to retire. She wants to **go on working**. (or ... to **carry on working**)
- You **keep interrupting** when I'm talking! or You **keep on interrupting** ...

C

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.
- Did you really say that? I don't **remember you saying** that.
- '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

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

- They admitted **having stolen** the money.

But it is not necessary to use **having** (done). You can also say:

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

E

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

- They **denied that** they had stolen the money. (or They **denied stealing** ...)
- Chris **suggested that** we went to the cinema. (or Sam **suggested going** ...)

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

A

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

After these verbs you can use **to ... (infinitive)**:

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

The negative is **not to ...**:

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

After some verbs **to ...** is not possible. For example, **enjoy/think/suggest**:

- I **enjoy reading** (not enjoy to read)
- Andy **suggested meeting** for coffee. (not suggested to meet)
- Are you **thinking of buying** a car? (not thinking to buy)

For verb + **-ing**, see Unit 53. For verb + preposition + **-ing**, see Unit 62.

B

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

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

C

We also use **to ...** after:

seem appear tend pretend claim

For example:

- They **seem to have** plenty of money.
- I like Dan, but I think he **tends to talk** too much.
- Ann **pretended not to see** me when 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 paper. (= I pretended that I **was reading**)
- You **seem to have lost** weight. (= it seems that you **have lost** weight)
- Joe **seems to be enjoying** his new job. (= it seems that he **is enjoying** it)

D

After some verbs you can use a question word (**what/whether/how** etc.) + **to ...**

We use this structure especially after:

ask decide know remember forget explain learn understand wonder

We asked	how	to get	to the station.
Have you decided	where	to go	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 use** this camera?
- Ask Jack. He'll **tell you what to do**.

Verb (+ object) + to ... (I want you to ... etc.)

A

want	ask	help	would like
expect	beg	mean (= intend)	would prefer

These verbs are followed by **to ... (infinitive)**. The structure can be:

verb + to ...

or

verb + object + to ...

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> We expected to be late. | <input type="checkbox"/> We expected Dan to be late. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Would you like to go now? | <input type="checkbox"/> Would you like me to go now? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> He doesn't want to know . | <input type="checkbox"/> He doesn't want anybody to know . |

Do not say 'want that':

- Do you **want me to come** with you? (*not* Do you want that I come)

After **help** you can use the infinitive with or without **to**. So you can say:

- Can you help me **to move** this table? or Can you help me **move** this table?

B

tell	remind	force	encourage	teach	enable
order	warn	invite	persuade	get (= persuade)	

These verbs have the structure **verb + object + to ...** :

- Can you **remind me to call** Sam tomorrow?
 Who **taught you to drive**?
 I didn't move the piano by myself. I **got somebody to help** me.
 Joe said the switch was dangerous and **warned me not to touch** it.

In the next example, the verb is *passive* (I was warned / we were told etc.):

- I **was warned not to touch** the switch.

You cannot use **suggest** with the structure **verb + object + to ...** :

- Jane **suggested that I ask** your advice. (*not* Jane suggested me to ask)

C

After **advise** and **allow**, two structures are possible. Compare:

verb + -ing (without an object)

verb + object + to ...

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I wouldn't advise staying in that hotel. | <input type="checkbox"/> I wouldn't advise anybody to stay in that hotel. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> They don't allow parking in front of the building. | <input type="checkbox"/> They don't allow people to park in front of the building. |

Study these examples with **(be) allowed (passive)**:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parking isn't allowed in front of the building. | <input type="checkbox"/> You aren't allowed to park in front of the building. |
|---|--|

D

Make and let

These verbs have the structure **verb + object + infinitive (without to)**:

- I **made him promise** that he wouldn't tell anybody what happened. (*not* to promise)
 Hot weather **makes me feel** tired. (= causes me to feel tired)
 Her parents wouldn't **let her go** out alone. (= wouldn't allow her to go out)
 Let me carry your bag for you.

We say '**make somebody do**' (*not* to do), but in the *passive* we say '**made to do**' (with to):

- We were made to wait** for two hours. (= They **made us wait** ...)

Verb + -ing or to ... 1 (remember/regret etc.)

A

Some verbs are followed by **-ing** and some are followed by **to ...**.

Verbs usually followed by **-ing**:

admit	fancy	postpone
avoid	finish	risk
consider	imagine	stop
deny	keep (on)	suggest
enjoy	mind	

For examples, see Unit 53.

Verbs usually followed by **to ...**:

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

For examples, see Unit 54.

B

Some verbs can be followed by **-ing** or **to ...** with a difference of meaning:

remember

I **remember doing** something = I did it and now I remember this.

You **remember doing** something *after* you have done it.

- I know I locked the door. I clearly **remember locking** it.
(= I locked it, and now I remember this)
- He could **remember driving** along the road just before the accident, but he couldn't remember the accident itself.

I **remembered to do** something = I remembered that I had to do it, so I did it.

You **remember to do** something *before* you do it.

- I **remembered to lock** the door, but I forgot to shut the windows.
(= I remembered that I had to lock it, and so I locked it)
- I must **remember to pay** the electricity bill. (= I must not forget to pay it)

regret

I **regret doing** something = I did it and now I'm sorry about it:

- I now **regret saying** what I said. I shouldn't have said it.
- Do you **regret not going** to college?

I **regret to say / to tell you / to inform** you = I'm sorry that I have to say (etc.):

- (*from a formal letter*) We **regret to inform** you that your application has been unsuccessful.

go on

Go on doing something = continue with the same thing:

- The president paused for a moment and then **went on talking**.
- We need to change. We can't **go on living** like this.

Go on to do something = do or say something new:

- After discussing the economy, the president then **went on to talk** about foreign policy.

C

The following verbs can be followed by **-ing** or **to ...** with no difference of meaning:

begin start continue intend bother

So you can say:

- It **started raining**. or It **started to rain**.
- Andy **intends buying** a house. or Andy **intends to buy** ...
- Don't **bother locking** the door. or Don't **bother to lock** ...

But normally we do not use **-ing** after **-ing**:

- It's **starting to rain**. (*not* It's starting raining)

Verb + -ing or to ... 2 (try/need/help)

A

Try to ... and try -ing

Try to do = attempt to do, make an effort to do:

- I was very tired. I **tried to keep** my eyes open, but I couldn't.
- Please **try to be** quiet when you come home. Everyone will be asleep.

Try also means 'do something as an experiment or test'. For example:

- These cakes are delicious. You should **try** one.
(= you should have one to see if you like it)
- We couldn't find anywhere to stay. We **tried** every hotel in the town, but they were all full.
(= we went to every hotel to see if they had a room)

If **try** (with this meaning) is followed by a verb, we say **try -ing**:

- a: The photocopier doesn't seem to be working.
b: **Try pressing** the green button.
(= press the green button - perhaps this will help to solve the problem)

Compare:

- I **tried to move** the table, but it was too heavy. (so I couldn't move it)
- I didn't like the way the furniture was arranged, so I **tried moving** the table to the other side of the room. But it didn't look right, so I moved it back again.

B

Need to ... and need -ing

I need to do something = it is necessary for me to do it:

- I **need to get** more exercise.
- He **needs to work** harder if he wants to make progress.
- I don't **need to come** to the meeting, do I?

Something **needs doing** = it needs to be done:

- My phone **needs charging**.
(= it needs to be charged)
- Do you think this jacket **needs cleaning**?
(= ... needs to be cleaned)
- It's a difficult problem. It **needs thinking** about very carefully.
(= it needs to be thought about)



C

Help and can't help

You can say **help to do** or **help do** (with or without **to**):

- Everybody **helped to clean** up after the party. or
Everybody **helped clean** up ...
- Can you **help me to move** this table? or
Can you **help me move** ...

I can't help doing something = I can't stop myself doing it:

- I don't like him, but he has a lot of problems. I **can't help feeling** sorry for him.
- She tried to be serious, but she **couldn't help laughing**.
(= she couldn't stop herself laughing)
- I'm sorry I'm so nervous. I **can't help it**.
(= I can't help **being** nervous)



She couldn't help laughing.

A

Like / love / hate

When you talk about repeated actions, you can use **-ing** or **to ...** after these verbs.

So you can say:

- Do you **like getting** up early? or Do you **like to get** up early?
- Stephanie **hates flying**, or Stephanie **hates to fly**.
- I **love meeting** people. or I **love to meet** people.
- I don't **like being** kept waiting, or ... **like to be** kept waiting.
- I don't **like friends calling** me at work, or ... friends **to call** me at work.

but

(1) We use **-ing** (**not to ...**) when we talk about a situation that already exists (or existed).

For example:

- Paul lives in Berlin now. He **likes living** there. (He **likes living** in Berlin = He lives there and he likes it)
- Do you **like being** a student? (You are a student – do you like it?)
- The office I worked in was horrible. I **hated working** there. (I worked there and I hated it)

(2) There is sometimes a difference between **I like to do** and **I like doing**.

I like doing something = I do it and I enjoy it:

- I **like cleaning** the kitchen. (= I enjoy it.)

I like to do something = I think it is a good thing to do, but I don't necessarily enjoy it:

- It's not my favourite job, but I **like to clean** the kitchen as often as possible.

Note that **enjoy** and **mind** are always followed by **-ing** (**not to ...**):

- I **enjoy cleaning** the kitchen. (not I enjoy to clean)
- I **don't mind cleaning** the kitchen. (not I don't mind to clean)

B

Would like / would love / would hate / would prefer

Would like / would love etc. are usually followed by **to ...** :

- I'd **like** (= I would like) to go away for a few days.
- Would you like to come** to dinner on Friday?
- I **wouldn't like to go** on holiday alone.
- I'd **love to meet** your family.
- Would you prefer to have** dinner now or later?

Compare **I like** and **I would like** (I'd like):

- I **like playing** tennis. / I **like to play** tennis. (= I like it in general)
- I'd **like to play** tennis today. (= I want to play today)

Would mind is always followed by **-ing** (**not to ...**):

- Would you mind closing** the door, please?

C

I would like **to have done** something = I regret now that I didn't or couldn't do it:

- It's a shame we didn't see Anna when we were in London. I **would like to have seen** her again.
- We'd **like to have gone** away, but we were too busy at home.

You can use the same structure after **would love / would hate / would prefer**:

- Poor David! I **would hate to have been** in his position.
- I'd **love to have gone** to the party, but it was impossible.

Prefer and would rather

A Prefer to do and prefer doing

You can use 'prefer to (do)' or 'prefer -ing' to say what you prefer in general:

- I don't like cities. I **prefer to live** in the country. or I **prefer living** in the country.

Study the differences in structure after **prefer**. We say:

	I prefer	something	to something else.
	I prefer	doing something	to doing something else.
but	I prefer	to do something	rather than (do) something else.

- I **prefer** this coat to the coat you were wearing yesterday.
- I **prefer driving to travelling** by train.
- but I **prefer to drive rather than travel** by train.
- Sarah **prefers to live** in the country **rather than (live)** in a city.

B Would prefer (I'd prefer ...)

We use **would prefer** to say what somebody wants in a specific situation (not in general):

- 'Would you **prefer** tea or coffee?' 'Coffee, please.'

We say 'would prefer **to do something**' (*not usually would prefer doing*):

- 'Shall we go by train?' 'I'd **prefer to drive.**' (*not I'd prefer driving*)
- I'd **prefer to stay** at home tonight **rather than go** to the cinema.

C Would rather (I'd rather ...)

Would rather (do) = would prefer (to do). We use **would rather + infinitive** (without **to**).

Compare:

- 'Shall we go by train?' $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{'I'd prefer to drive.}' \\ \text{'I'd rather drive.}' \text{ (not to drive)} \end{array} \right.$
- 'Would you **rather have** tea or coffee?' 'Coffee, please.'

The negative is 'I'd **rather not (do something)**':

- I'm tired. I'd **rather not go** out this evening, if you don't mind.
- 'Do you want to go out this evening?' 'I'd **rather not.**'

We say '**would rather do something than do something else**':

- I'd **rather stay** at home tonight **than go** to the cinema.

D I'd rather somebody did something

We say 'I'd **rather you did something**' (*not I'd rather you do*). For example:

- 'Who's going to drive, you or me?' 'I'd **rather you drove.**' (= I would prefer this)
- 'Jack says he'll repair your bike tomorrow, OK?' 'I'd **rather he did** it today.'
- Are you going to tell Anna what happened, or **would you rather I told** her?

In this structure we use the **past (drove, did etc.)**, but the meaning is present **not past**.

Compare:

- I'd rather **make** dinner now.
- I'd rather **you made** dinner now. (*not I'd rather you make*)

I'd rather you **didn't (do something)** = I'd prefer you not to do it:

- I'd **rather you didn't tell** anyone what I said.
- 'Are you going to tell Anna what happened?' 'No. I'd **rather she didn't know.**'
- 'Shall I tell Anna what happened?' 'I'd **rather you didn't.**'

Preposition (in/for/about etc.) + -ing

A If a preposition (**in/for/about** etc.) is followed by a verb, the verb ends in **-ing**:

	<i>preposition</i>	<i>verb (-ing)</i>	
Are you interested	in	working	for us?
I'm not good	at	learning	languages.
Sue must be fed up	with	studying	
What are the advantages	of	having	a car?
Thanks very much	for	inviting	me to your party.
How	about	meeting	for lunch tomorrow?
Why don't you go out	instead of	sitting	at home all the time?
Amy went to work	in spite of	feeling	ill.

You can also say 'instead of **somebody** doing something', 'fed up with **people** doing something' etc. :

- I'm fed up with **people** telling me what to do.

B Note the use of the following prepositions + **-ing**:

before -ing and **after -ing**:

- Before going** out, I phoned Sarah. (*not Before to go out*)
 What did you do **after finishing** school?

You can also say '**Before I went** out ...' and '... **after you finished** school'.

by -ing (to say *how* something happens):

- The burglars got into the house **by breaking** a window and **climbing** in.
 You can improve your English **by reading** more.
 She made herself ill **by not eating** properly.
 Many accidents are caused **by** people **driving** too fast.

without -ing:

- We ran ten kilometres **without stopping**.
 It was a stupid thing to say. I said it **without thinking**.
 She needs to work **without** people **disturbing** her. (*or ... without being* disturbed.)
 I have enough problems of my own **without having** to worry about yours.

C **To -ing** (look forward **to doing** something etc.)

To is often part of the *infinitive* (**to do / to see** etc.):

- We decided **to travel** by train.
 Would you like **to meet** for lunch tomorrow?

But **to** is also a *preposition* (like **in/for/about/with** etc.). For example:

- We went from Paris **to Geneva**.
 I prefer tea **to coffee**.
 Are you looking forward **to the weekend**?

If a preposition is followed by a verb, the verb ends in **-ing**:

- I'm fed up **with travelling** by train.
 How **about going** away this weekend?

So, when **to** is a preposition and it is followed by a verb, you must say **to -ing**:

- I prefer driving **to travelling** by train. (*not to travel*)
 Are you looking forward **to going** on holiday? (*not looking forward to go*)