The Infinitive

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tense</th>
<th>Active</th>
<th>Passive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Present Simple</td>
<td>To read</td>
<td>To be read</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Present Continuous</td>
<td>To be reading</td>
<td>/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perfect Simple</td>
<td>To have read</td>
<td>To have been read</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perfect continuous</td>
<td>To have been reading</td>
<td>/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Participle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Active</th>
<th>Passive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Present Participle</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Being read</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past Participle</td>
<td>Stood</td>
<td>(only transitive verbs) read</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perfect Participle</td>
<td>Having read</td>
<td>Having been read</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The participle may function as a verb (Leaving the building, I met an old friend. ; She sat there waiting for him to come out.; I finally have my story sketched out.; Having finished my homework, I left.) or an adjective (She has an interesting mind. That surely was an entertaining sight. She gave him a fixed look. Do you know the number of those killed?).

The Gerund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Active</th>
<th>Passive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Present</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Being read</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perfect</td>
<td>Having read</td>
<td>Having been read</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The gerund may function as

a) A subject: Running is his passion. My going away so suddenly was a shock to her.

b) A verb: My mistake was having postponed the inevitable.

c) An object: I have finished practicing.

d) A prepositional object: They insisted on leaving early.

e) An adjective: You are late for the wedding ceremony.
Gerund is also used after expressions such as:
- It’s no use, it’s no good, it’s not worth, be capable of, be fond of, be sick of, looking forward to, I can’t help, there is no, as well as, in addition to, like, worth, etc.

As well as with the prepositional (phrasal) verbs such as:
- Count on, depend on, be frightened of, tired of, believe in, succeed in, be conscious of, insist on, complain about, apologize for, approve of, etc.

**Gerund vs. Participle**

She spent her day in writing letters. Vs. She spent her day writing letters. *(same form)*

- Unlike Gerunds, **Participles can be transformed into an adjective clause.** *(It is a travelling bag. It is bag for traveling. – gerund; It is a travelling circus. It is a circus that travels.)*
- Unlike Participles, **Gerunds may be preceded by prepositions** *(I apologize for being late. He was afraid of being robbed. The doctor started by feeling my pulse.)*
- Unlike Participles, **Gerunds may be used with articles and can have a plural form:** *(The findings of the court have been indisputable. I cannot keep track of all his comings and goings.)*
- **Gerunds go with possessive adjectives:** *(Excuse my being late. We have just heard of Jim’s being injured. He began speaking. She is fond of swimming. My sister’s favorite sport is swimming.)*

Gerunds can express:
- **Future:** Is there any hope of his ever getting better?
- **Past:** I do not remember seeing them before.
- **Same tense as the verb:** It began raining when we left the beach.

**A gerund can have its own subject, object, and adverbials:**

I have never heard of his being a singer.

I appreciated your inviting me.

Stop talking so much.

He insisted on the tests being carried out immediately.
There are certain verbs that take on gerund as their object:

- to avoid, to burst, to delay, to enjoy, to escape, to excuse, to fancy, to imagine, to finish, to forgive, to give up, to keep on, to mind, to postpone, to put off, to resent, to risk, to suggest, to pardon, cannot help, it’s no use, there is no…

**Some verbs take either gerunds or infinitives as their objects:**

- to begin, to start, to cease, to continue, to like, to love, to dislike, to hate, to prefer, to dread, to fear, to intend, to propose, to remember, to recollect, to attempt, to neglect, to regret.

He began **writing**. He began **to write**.

He started **running**. He started **to run**.

They love **staying** out late. They love **to stay** out late.

**Verbs:**

- feel, observe, hear, see, watch, look, listen, smell, perceive, and notice **take either a gerund or infinitive, with a change in meaning:**

I saw her **cross** the street. (she finished crossing)

I saw her **crossing** the street. (she was still crossing)

I heard them **quarrel**. I heard them **quarreling**.

**Verbs:**

- stop, remember, forget, try – **difference in meaning when taking gerund vs. infinitive:**

I stopped **to talk** to her. (*I stopped with a goal of talking to her*)

I stopped **talking** to her. (*I do not talk to her anymore*)

I remembered **to lock** the door. (*I remembered to do that*)

I remember **locking** the door. (*I remembered as I was doing that – to have done it*)

I forgot **to lock** the door. (*did not do it*)

I forgot **locking** the door. (*I did it but forgot about it*)

I tried **to turn** the key. (*just tried once*)

I tried **turning** the key. (*tried - experimented*)