



# Verbs : Non-Finite Forms

## Learning Outcomes

- Students will learn about non-finite verbs (infinitive, gerund, and participle).
- They will understand how non-finite verbs are used in sentences.



## Lead in

Know about the 'to....' and '.....ing' from the verb.



The child is learning to walk to walk.



Jogging is good for health.

## Non-Finite Verbs

Read the following sentences:

1. To **swim** is a good exercise.
2. **Singing** is a beautiful form of art.
3. **Black marketing** has been a trouble for the nation.
4. The deceased were **buried** under the ground.
5. The house seems **to have broken down**.

In the above sentences, the words printed in bold letters are all **Non-Finites**.

- **To-verbs** and the **-ing** form of verbs are referred to as **Non-Finites**.
- Whatever the subject in a sentence, non-finites retain the same form.



## Kinds of Non-Finites

Non-finites are of three types:

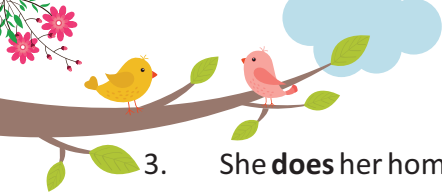
1. The Infinitive
2. The Participle
3. The Gerund

### 1. The Infinitive

- **The Infinitive** is the basic dictionary form of a verb. It is usually preceded by to. The infinitive is also referred to as the to-verb. We can use it with or without to.

### Examples:

1. She hopes **to pass** the exam.
2. He wants **to participate** in the competition. (to-infinitive)



3. She **does** her homework daily. (the infinitive without to)
4. He can **run** very fast. (the infinitive without to)

➤ **Verb + to infinitive**

decide	promise	want	forget/learn
plan	agree	hope	agree/fail
choose	love	remember	refuse/expect
like	intend	hope	hate

**Examples :**

1. She **decided to** stay at home.
2. They **agreed to** sign the project.
3. We **forgot to** invite him.

**A. Fill in the blanks with suitable infinite forms.**

return meet buy play take

1. Rupali wants \_\_\_\_\_ a lovely dress.
2. Sourav asked \_\_\_\_\_ his money by the end of the week.
3. Rahul promised \_\_\_\_\_ me tomorrow.
4. She wanted \_\_\_\_\_ the piano.
5. He planned \_\_\_\_\_ a holiday.

➤ We use the **To-Infinitive** after appear, seem, claim, happen, etc.

**Examples :**

1. He has lost his purse, (appear)  
He appears **to have lost** his purse.
2. She has realised her mistakes. (seem)  
She seems **to have realised** her mistakes.
3. They have developed a vaccine. (claim)  
They claim **to have developed** a vaccine.

➤ We can use a question word (what/how/where/whether) + to infinitive after these words.

know	ask	decide	wonder
forget	learn	explain	understand

**Examples :**

1. She **could not decide where to hide** the box.
2. They **do not know how to tackle** the situation.

**The infinitive without to**

➤ We use **The Infinitive** without to after these verbs of perception.

know see feel hear

**Examples :**

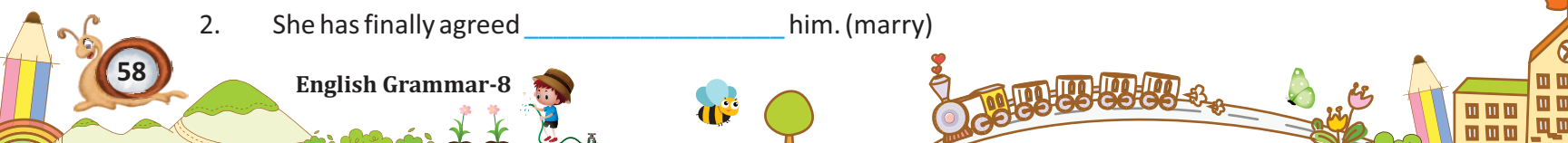
1. I **knew** the boy climbing the tree.
2. I **saw** the burgler climb over the fence.
3. I **felt** the ground shaking.

**B. Fill in the blanks with the infinitive with or without to.**

1. To know him was \_\_\_\_\_ him. (love)
2. She has finally agreed \_\_\_\_\_ him. (marry)



**Skills/Level**  
READING & WRITING/B2



3. The child's mother made the child \_\_\_\_\_ the milk. (drink)
4. They heard her \_\_\_\_\_ that she was leaving. (say)
5. They were made \_\_\_\_\_ back the money. (pay)
5. I felt the ground \_\_\_\_\_ (shake).

### So - That

Read the following sentences:

1. The sum was **so** difficult **that** no one could solve it.
  2. The day was **so** hot **that** they did not want to go out.
  3. I was **so** busy **that** I could not take her.
- We use the infinitive **without** to after these verbs.
- need      make      let      bid      dare

#### Examples :

1. There is a long queue. You **needn't wait** as there is no chance of getting an appointment.

- We use the infinitive **without to** after these expressions.

**would rather    had better    rather than**

#### Examples :

1. Would you like to go out tonight?  
I **would rather** stay at home than go out tonight.

2. It is getting late. You **had better** sleep now.

- We can express these ideas by using **the too ... to** pattern:

1. The sum was **too** difficult **to** solve.
2. The day was **too** hot **to** go out.

### C. Rewrite the following sentences using the too...to pattern.

1. It is so wet that we cannot go camping.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. The coffee is so hot that he cannot drink it.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. He is so old that he cannot work.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. She is so shy that she can't perform on the stage.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. They are so poor that they cannot send their children to school.  
\_\_\_\_\_



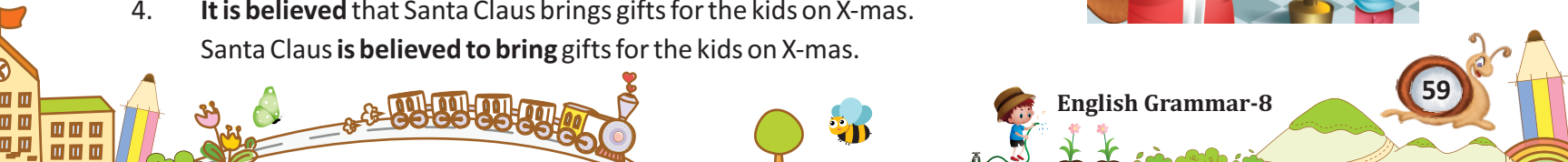
**Skills/Level**  
READING & WRITING/B2

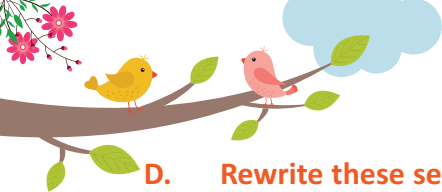


### Infinitives to Make Sentences Compact

Sometimes we can make our sentences compact by using the infinitives.

1. Uma **hoped that she could win** the match easily.  
Uma hoped to win the match easily.
2. She did not know **whom she should submit** her resume to.  
She did not know whom to submit her resume to.
3. She broke down **when she heard** about her husband's accident.  
She broke down to hear about her husband's accident.
4. **It is believed** that Santa Claus brings gifts for the kids on X-mas.  
Santa Claus **is believed to bring** gifts for the kids on X-mas.





D. Rewrite these sentences replacing the verb in *italics* with an infinitive. Make any other changes where necessary.

1. It is said that the new principal is a strict person.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. She was delighted when she heard the news of her brother's success.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Mr Sharma was the first person who offered us help.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. It was believed that Ferdinand Magellan was the first man to sail around the world.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Neil Armstrong was the first man to set foot on the moon.  
\_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Participles

A **Participle** is a form of verb that is used in a sentence to modify a noun, noun phrase, verb or verb phrase and than plays a role similar to an adjective or adverb.

### Types of Participles

Participles are of two types:

1. The Present Participle
2. The Past Participle

The present participle shows that an action is continuing or is incomplete. Example : The man sitting over there is my father.

The past participle denotes an action which is completed and hence is no longer in progress.

### Examples :

1. The food **eaten** by the children was contaminated.
2. The task **finished**, we returned home.

### Participles to Join Sentences

- When both clauses have the same subject, we take the more important sentence as the main clause and convert the verb in the other sentence into a participle.

### Examples :

1. The dog ran out of the house. It **was barking**.  
We can rewrite this sentence as:  
The dog ran out of the house **barking**.
2. Nura **is** a foreigner. Nura does not understand Hindi a lot.

We can rewrite the sentence as:

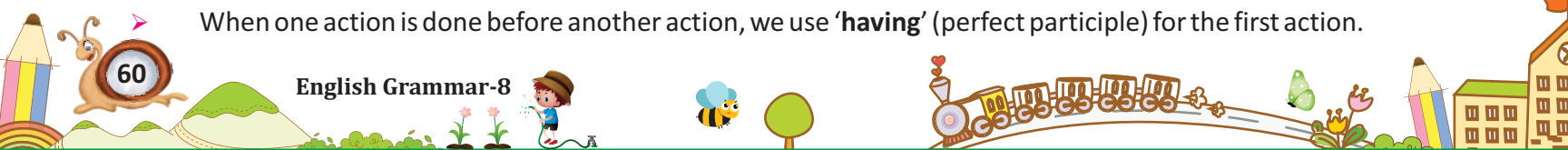
**Being** a foreigner, Nura doesn't understand Hindi a lot.

- When two things happen at the same time, we use -ing (present participle) for one of the verbs.

### Examples :

1. Kanika **saw** a tiger. She **began** to scream.  
We can rewrite the sentences as:  
**Seeing** a tiger, Kanika **began** to scream.
2. She **felt** happy, so she **gave** a treat to her friends.  
We can rewrite the sentences as:  
**Feeling** happy, she **gave** a treat to her friends.

When one action is done before another action, we use '**having**' (perfect participle) for the first action.







### Examples :

1. They **ordered** their meals. They **went** into the dining hall.  
We can rewrite these sentences as:  
**Having ordered** their meals, they **went** into the dining hall.
2. She **finished** her homework.  
She **went** to meet her friend.  
We can rewrite these sentences as.  
**Having finished her** homework, she **went** to meet her friend.

### E. Combine the following pairs of sentences using participles.

1. She has spent all her money. She could not afford to pay her rent.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. They finished their lunch. They resumed their discussion.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. He stole the furniture. He looked for a place to hide it.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. They bought the tickets. They went into the museum.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. He fed the dog. He sat down to his own dinner.  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Father felt tired. He went to bed early.  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. She was at home. She was eating her breakfast.  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Gerund

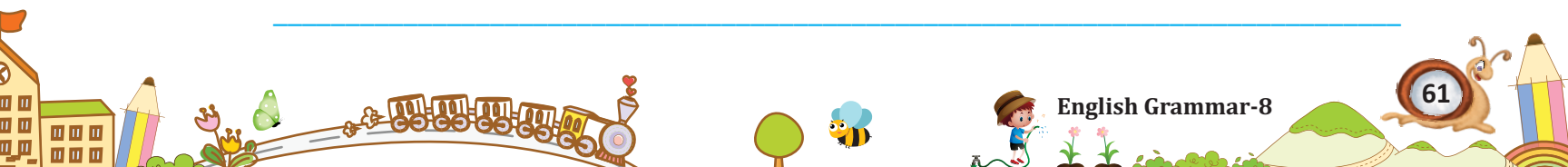
A **gerund** is a form of verb which ends in **ing** and has the force of a noun and a verb. So, it is called a **Verbal Noun**.

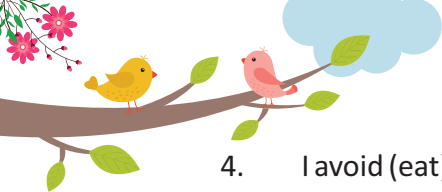
#### Uses of the Gerund

- **Subject of verb**
  1. **Swimming** is a good exercise.
- **Object of a verb**
  1. Start **marching** ahead
- **Object of a preposition**
  1. Children are fond of **playing**.
- **Complement of a verb**
  1. His weakness is **believing**.
- **As case in opposition**
  1. It is no use **running after money**.

### F. Rewrite the following sentences using the correct gerund form of the verbs given in the bracket.

1. He does not mind (share) his books with his friend.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. She doesn't like (borrow) money from friends.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Do you mind (wait) a little?  
\_\_\_\_\_





4. I avoid (eat) fast food.

5. She enjoys (play) badminton.

6. He likes (sing).



## Points to Remember

- Non-finites are of three types— **The infinitive, The participle, The gerund.**
- The infinitive** is the basic form of a verb. It is usually preceded by **to**.
- We use the infinitive without **to** after these **Verbs of perception**.
- Sometimes we can make our sentences compact by using **The infinitives**.
- A participle** is a form of verb that is used in a sentence to modify a noun, used phrase, verb or verb phrase and than plays a role similar to an adjective or adverb.
- When both clauses have the same subject we take the more important sentence as **The main clause** and convert the verb in the other sentence **Into a participle**.



## My Activity Corner

1. He had spent all his money. He couldn't afford to buy a house.

2. Mohit is poor. He can't afford such expensive food.

3. The hungry fox saw a bunch of grapes. It was hanging from a vine.

4. I received no letter. I sent another letter.

5. He hurt his leg. He stopped walking.



## My EeeBee Interactive Activities



Listening



Speaking



Reading



Writing



Grammar



Vocabulary

Practice your LSRW Skills



on Communication Lab



WRITE YOUR SCORE

