

FINITE AND NON-FINITE VERBS

Verbs can be divided into two categories:

- **Finite verbs** are governed by the person and number of the subject.

Examples: I am driving down the lane.

Bandana drives to college.

They drive very fast.

In the above sentences, the verb 'drive' is governed by the person and number of the subjects, 'I', 'Bandana' and 'They' respectively.

- **Non-finite verbs** do not change their form even when the person and the number of the subject changes.

Examples: I want to eat something delicious.

Bandana has to eat apples every day.

They want to eat eggs for breakfast.

In the above sentences, the verb 'eat' does not change even though the person and number of the subject change.

Non-finite verbs are of three kinds:

- **Gerund:** The '-ing' form of the verb which is used as a noun is called a gerund. It is also called the verbal noun.

Examples: Taking exercise is important.

Running is a good way to keep fit.

- **Infinitive:** The infinitive is the base form of the verb. It is often used with 'to' or without 'to'. Infinitives with 'to' before them are called 'to-infinitives'.

Examples: David and I agreed to meet at 4 o'clock.

I'll arrange to see the dentist straight away.

- **Participle:** There are two kinds of participles:

Present participles are formed by adding '-ing' to the base verb.

Example: I have been reading.

Past participles are formed by adding -d, -ed, -en, -t or -n to the base verb.

Example: I have worked.

WORKSHEET 7

I. Fill in the blanks with the gerund form of the verbs given below.

swim	work	wander	climb	wait	get
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I can't stand (a) _____ in a long queue. I live a (b) _____ life. I like (c) _____ in the sea. My friend likes (d) _____ the mountains. I hate (e) _____ late for any task. I like (f) _____ hard.

II. Replace the underlined words as directed.

- He loves to dance and to sing. (gerund)
- It is no good to get upset. (gerund)
- The teacher told him that he should study hard. She further advised him that he should revise all the work done. (suitable infinite construction)
- Jim has decided that he is going to buy a car this summer. (suitable infinite construction)

III. Fill in the blanks with the infinitive form of the verb given in the brackets.

- Do you want _____ (come) to the shop with me?
- You don't need _____ (leave) yet—it's not late.
- Don't forget _____ (take) your umbrella with you.
- My parents are planning _____ (go) abroad.
- They are planning _____ (bring) me an ipod.
- How long do you expect _____ (stay) in Chandigarh?
- _____ (learn) English quickly is not an easy thing.
- She promised _____ (give) it as soon as possible.
- He's looking forward _____ (meet) all his friends again.
- Nita's apprehensive of _____ (hurt) her.

IV. Fill in the gaps with an '-ing' form or a 'to-infinitive' form of the verb in the box.

listen	miss	travel	drive	take	carry
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- I prefer _____ by train.
- Would you like _____ a shower now?
- I'd hate _____ any of the fun.

- d) The taxi-driver refused _____ my luggage up the stairs.
- e) Sam offered _____ us to the station.
- f) Mum likes _____ to the radio while she irons the clothes.

V. Complete the following sentences with a 'to-infinitive' and any other necessary words.

- a) I think you will be surprised _____.
- b) Miss Shyama Chona is certainly qualified _____.
- c) Actually, I am not fully prepared _____.
- d) We will be ready _____.
- e) My friend is inclined _____.
- f) Everyone will be disappointed _____.

VI. A daughter has written a letter to her mother describing the journey that she and her younger brother undertook to see their uncle. Complete the letter using appropriate non-finites ('-ing', '-ed' and 'to' verb form).

Dear Mother

It would perhaps interest you a) _____ that we mostly b) _____ the time of our journey in c) _____ out of the windows of the carriage. We saw sheep and cows d) _____ fields. We both e) _____ count each flock, but f) _____ is our attempt. When the journey was over we were g) _____ by our uncle at the railway station.

Love
Rama.

VII. Pick out the non-finite verbs in the following text.

Kaffol

Your best protection
against heart trouble!

Make kaffol part of your family's total health care plan,
together with a balanced diet and regular exercise.

Light and easy to digest, kaffol can be used for cooking,
frying, baking and in salad dressings to prepare all kinds of
tasty dishes.

Start your family on Kaffol, Today!

Good for your heart
Good for your family's health

