

Verb Patterns

Sometimes we follow verbs with other verbs:

- **Auxiliary:**

Do you like sport?

I *have* eaten today.

I *do* not like sport.

- **Modal:**

I *can* speak 4 languages.

You *should* visit your parents more often.

We *must* wear a seatbelt.

- **Verb Pattern:**

I want to eat.

There are rules when we do this but it's not always easy to spot when we should use them!

Here is some guidance:

- 1) **verb pattern:** *verb + action*
- 2) Sometimes the same verb can be followed by different forms: *infinitive/gerund*
- 3) Sometimes this means the same thing: prefer
- 4) Sometimes it means something different:

try	<p>The room was warm. We <u>tried opening</u> the window but it didn't help.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We opened the window. The temperature remained the same. <p>The room was warm. We <u>tried to open</u> the window but it was locked.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We couldn't open the window.
stop	<p>I had a marathon. I stopped smoking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I no longer had the habit of smoking. <p>I had a marathon. I stopped to smoke.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I stopped running, so I could have a cigarette.

Here are the four basic patterns:

to + infinitive	gerund	object + to + infinitive	Preposition + gerund
intend prefer promise refuse want try wait	advise prefer require risk deny try	advise encourage require remind want	intend on admit to approve of plan on refrain from

Exercise 1: Which box would you put the following verbs into? (Clue – it could be more than one!)

wish	tell	offer	need	consider	involve
	order	delay	agree	think	

Important! When objects are involved, the passive can be used:

advise

active: The doctor **advised Mr Smith to do** more exercise.

passive: **Mr Smith was advised to do** more exercise.

need

active: I **need to paint** my fence.

passive: My fence **needs painting/ needs to be painted**

Possible OET situations, in which we would use the passive:

- The wound **needs to be dressed / needs dressing**
- The stitches **need to be removed / require removing**

Things can be a bit different if you include the object + infinitive:

active: I **need you to paint** my fence.

passive: **You are needed to paint** my fence. (unnatural)

Exercise 2

Choose a verb from table 1 and follow it with the correct form of the verb in table 2:

1)

to + infinitive	gerund	object + to + infinitive	Preposition + gerund
intend prefer promise refuse want try wait wish offer need agree ask remember forget	advise prefer require risk deny try need consider delay stop remember	advise encourage require remind want tell need order ask	intend on admit to approve of plan on refrain from involve in think about restrain from

cut down	change	drink	commence	have	become	stay	do
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- Mr Smith physio after his wedding.
- Most patientsa regular GP. Relationships are important.
- Ms Johnsonin bed. She was found wandering in the hall.
- Harry Greenthe cholesterol in his diet. He has been set a target.
- Mrs Windsorexercise. Mobility is key for her at this stage.
- Danny Farrellyover 40 units of alcohol daily. That explains his results.
- Mr Stevens' friendan organ donor. They are a match.
- Ms Smith's dressing daily. Please keep the wound clean.

Exercise 3

to + infinitive	gerund	object + to + infinitive	Preposition + gerund
intend prefer promise refuse want try wait wish offer need agree	advise prefer require risk deny try need consider delay	advise encourage require remind want tell need order	intend on admit to approve of plan on refrain from involve in think about
Last night, I was feeding my son but he <u>refused to eat</u>.	The thief <u>denied stealing</u> the bike.	The doctor <u>advised Mr Smith to lose</u> weight.	The thief <u>admitted to stealing</u> the bike.

Correct the errors below:

Mr Smith promised being compliant with his hypertension regimen but I refused accepting his promise. Instead, I insisted on him use a Webster pack. Additionally, it is important that he refrains from drink alcohol while on his medication. If he requires to remind about this, just give the health centre a call and I will contact him. In our appointment last week he reported to try to be compliant but I'm not sure I believe him!

Report

Reported that: (+verb clause)

How she felt on the 1st June: Mrs Smith presented on the 1st of June.
She reported that she felt sick.

How she felt leading up to the 1st June: Mrs Smith presented on the 1st of June.
She reported that she had been experiencing abdominal pain for three weeks.

Reported: (+ ing)

How she felt on the 1st June: Mrs Smith presented on the 1st of June. She reported feeling sick.

How she felt leading up to the 1st June: Mrs Smith presented on the 1st of June. She reported having experienced abdominal pain for 3 weeks.

Multiple verb patterns:

She **reported that** she wanted to change her medication.
She reported wanting to change her medication.

Mr Smith **reported that** he had tried to scratch his ear with a needle.
Mr Smith reported trying to scratch his ear with a needle.

Answers

Exercise 1

to + infinitive	gerund	object + to + infinitive	Preposition + gerund
intend prefer promise refuse want try wait wish offer need agree	advise prefer require risk deny try need consider delay	advise encourage require remind want tell need order	intend on admit to approve of plan on refrain from involve in think about
Last night, I was feeding my son but he <u>refused to eat</u>.	The thief <u>denied stealing the bike</u>.	The doctor <u>advised Mr Smith to lose weight</u>.	The thief <u>admitted to stealing the bike</u>.

Exercise 2

- Mr Smith **was advised to do** physio after his wedding.
- Most patients **prefer to have / having** a regular GP. Relationships are important.
- Ms Johnson **refused to stay / needs to stay** in bed. She was found wandering in the hall.
- Harry Green **is intending / is required to cut down** the cholesterol in his diet. He has been set a target.
- Mrs Windsor **has been advised / encouraged to do more** exercise. Mobility is key for her at this stage.
- Danny Farrelly **admitted to drinking** over 40 units of alcohol daily. That explains his results.
- Mr Stevens' friend **is planning on/ thinking about becoming / agreed to become** an organ donor. They are a match.
- Ms Smith's dressing **requires changing / needs to be changed** daily. Please keep the wound clean.

Exercise 3

Mr Smith promised to be compliant with his hypertension regimen but I refused to accept his promise. Instead, I insisted on him using a Webster pack. Additionally, it is important that he refrains from drinking alcohol while on his medication. If he requires reminding about this, just give the health centre a call and I will contact him. In our appointment last week he reported trying to be compliant but I'm not sure I believe him!