

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*)
- ☐ Tom **suggested going** to the cinema. (*not suggested to go*)
- ☐ 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

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 newspaper. (= I pretended that I **was** reading)
- ☐ You **seem to have lost** weight. (= it seems that you **have lost** weight)
- ☐ Martin **seems to be enjoying** his new job. (= it seems that he **is enjoying** it)

C

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)

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 change** the film in this camera?
- ☐ Ask Jack. He'll tell you **what to do**.

Verb + **-ing** → Unit 53 Verb + object + **to ...** (want etc.) → Unit 55

Verb + **to ...** and **-ing** → Units 55C, 56–58

Exercises

Unit 54

54.1 Complete the sentences for these situations.

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | Shall we get married? | Yes, let's. | They decided <u>to get married</u> . |
| 2 | Please help me. | OK. | She agreed |
| 3 | Can I carry your bag for you? | No, thanks. I can manage. | He offered |
| 4 | Let's meet at 8 o'clock. | OK, fine. | They arranged |
| 5 | What's your name? | I'm not going to tell you. | She refused |
| 6 | Please don't tell anyone. | I won't. I promise. | She promised |

54.2 Complete each sentence with a suitable verb.

- Don't forget to post the letter I gave you.
- There was a lot of traffic, but we managed to the airport in time.
- Jill has decided not a car.
- We've got a new computer in our office. I haven't learnt it yet.
- Karen failed a good impression at the job interview.
- We were all afraid to speak. Nobody dared anything.

54.3 Put the verb into the correct form, to ... or -ing. (See Unit 53 for verbs + -ing.)

- When I'm tired, I enjoy watching television. It's relaxing. (watch)
- It was a nice day, so we decided for a walk. (go)
- It's a nice day. Does anyone fancy for a walk? (go)
- I'm not in a hurry. I don't mind (wait)
- They don't have much money. They can't afford out very often. (go)
- I wish that dog would stop It's driving me mad. (bark)
- Our neighbour threatened the police if we didn't stop the noise. (call)
- We were hungry, so I suggested dinner early. (have)
- Hurry up! I don't want to risk the train. (miss)
- I'm still looking for a job, but I hope something soon. (find)

54.4 Make a new sentence using the verb in brackets.

- You've lost weight. (seem) You seem to have lost weight.
- Tom is worried about something. (appear) Tom appears
- You know a lot of people. (seem) You
- My English is getting better. (seem)
- That car has broken down. (appear)
- David forgets things. (tend)
- They have solved the problem. (claim)

54.5 Complete each sentence using what/how/whether + the following verbs:

do ~~get~~ go ride say use

- Do you know how to get to John's house?
- Can you show me this washing machine?
- Would you know if there was a fire in the building?
- You'll never forget a bicycle once you've learnt.
- I was really astonished. I didn't know
- I've been invited to the party, but I haven't decided or not.