

CHAPTER

8

**GRAMMAR:**

Infinitives (after verbs, for indirect speech, of purpose)

Gerunds (after prepositions, after certain verbs)

Infinitives or gerunds with similar meanings

Infinitives or gerunds with different meanings

Go/take + gerund

**COMPETENCIES:**

Comparing the advantages of

renting vs. owning a home

Buying a house

Moving

Fixing up a house

Finding child care

Getting information about senior citizen centers

Getting information about home care for the elderly

Getting information about activities through the

YMCA and senior centers



**How much do you already know? Read the following paragraphs and choose the correct words. Circle your answers.**

Yoon Kwan Han and his family have been thinking of [look/looking] <sup>1.</sup> for a house to buy. They have been considering [to buy/buying] <sup>2.</sup> their own place ever since Yoon's brother moved in with them last year. There are now three adults and four children living in a small apartment, and the rent keeps [to go/going] <sup>3.</sup> up every year.

Although they need more space and dislike [to argue/arguing] <sup>4.</sup> with a landlord who refuses [to fix/fixing] <sup>5.</sup> things, they're afraid that they can't afford a house. They enjoy [to walk/walking] <sup>6.</sup> around neighborhoods that they like, and they sometimes write down phone numbers of real estate offices when they walk past "For Sale" signs in front of nice houses. But they're always shocked at the prices. They remember [see/seeing] <sup>7.</sup> much bigger houses at lower prices back in their country, so sometimes they get discouraged.

Yoon's cousin, who is a real estate agent, has told them [not to/don't] <sup>8.</sup> hope for a "dream house." He tells them [to look/look] <sup>9.</sup> for a "fixer upper"—a house in bad condition. He says that they should expect [to do/doing] <sup>10.</sup> a lot of work on their first house and *make* it nice.

Yoon's wife, Kyung Sook, is planning on [go/going] <sup>11.</sup> [to job hunt/job hunting] <sup>12.</sup> if they really do decide to buy a house because she knows it'll be difficult to pay the bills with just her husband's paycheck. She worries about [leave/leaving] <sup>13.</sup> her children while she's at work, and she doesn't look forward to [try/trying] <sup>14.</sup> to find child care for them. But her sister has promised [to help/helping] <sup>15.</sup> her.

Kyung Sook is also worried about her aunt, who lives alone in another city. The woman likes living alone, but she is elderly and not always well. Kyung Sook hopes [to find/finding] <sup>16.</sup> someone to help her aunt with the [cook and clean/cooking and cleaning] <sup>17.</sup>. Also, she wants her aunt [to get/getting] <sup>18.</sup> out of the apartment from time to time, go [to shop/shopping] <sup>19.</sup> or meet with other senior citizens. Kyung Sook has asked her husband [to help/help] <sup>20.</sup> her find a senior citizen center for her aunt.

score: \_\_\_\_\_

## PART ONE / Infinitives (after Verbs, for Indirect Speech, of Purpose)

- Comparing the Advantages of Renting vs. Owning a Home • Buying a House

### Infinitives after Verbs

Certain verbs usually take an infinitive (*to* + simple form) as an object. Some verbs that require infinitives are:

agree	intend
appear	know how
attempt	mean (= intend)
be able	neglect
care	offer
consent	plan
decide	pretend
fail	refuse
forget	seem
hope	

They hope to buy a house someday.

Certain other verbs take a noun (or pronoun) and then an infinitive. Some of these verbs are:

advise	permit
allow	persuade
cause	remind
convince	require
encourage	teach
force	tell
get (= persuade)	urge
invite	warn
order (= command)	

His cousin convinced him to buy a house while the interest rates were low.

Certain other verbs can take either (1) an infinitive or (2) a noun (or pronoun) and then an infinitive<sup>1</sup>. Some of these verbs are:

ask (= request)	promise
expect	want
need	would like

He wants to find a house soon.    or    He wants his cousin to find a house soon.

<sup>1</sup>The "short form" of a sentence with one of these verbs can end after the word *to*. **Example:**

Are you going to meet with the realtor today?  
Yes, we'd like to.

**A.** Complete the following paragraph with infinitives. Choose from the simple forms in the list below. (You may use a verb more than one time.)

**EXAMPLE:** 1. Yoon's cousin, Jin, has been trying to persuade Yoon and Kyung Sook to buy their own house.

be	decide	move	save	spend
buy	keep	pay	sit	

Yoon's cousin, Jin, has been trying to persuade Yoon and Kyung Sook \_\_\_\_\_ their own house. Of course, they want \_\_\_\_\_ out of their small apartment, and they'd like \_\_\_\_\_ free of the landlord, but they aren't sure that they'll be able \_\_\_\_\_ enough money for the down-payment and the monthly payments.

Jin, who is a realtor, has advised them \_\_\_\_\_ down and write out a list of all their income (the money that they make) and all their expenses (the money that they need \_\_\_\_\_ each month). This list will allow them \_\_\_\_\_ how much money they can spend on a house. Jin says they should plan \_\_\_\_\_ no more than 25 percent (%) of their income on their house payments. Also, he has explained that they should expect \_\_\_\_\_ 10 percent (%) of the price of the house as a down-payment, so he is encouraging them \_\_\_\_\_ this money now.

Yoon and Kyung Sook are very nervous about all of this, but Jin is a very persuasive person. He tells them \_\_\_\_\_ in mind the fact that home ownership will allow them \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of money each year on income taxes.



### Infinitives for Indirect Speech

You can use an infinitive to report a person's command (order).

“Make a list of your income and expenses,” he said to them.  
= He told them to make a list of their income and expenses.

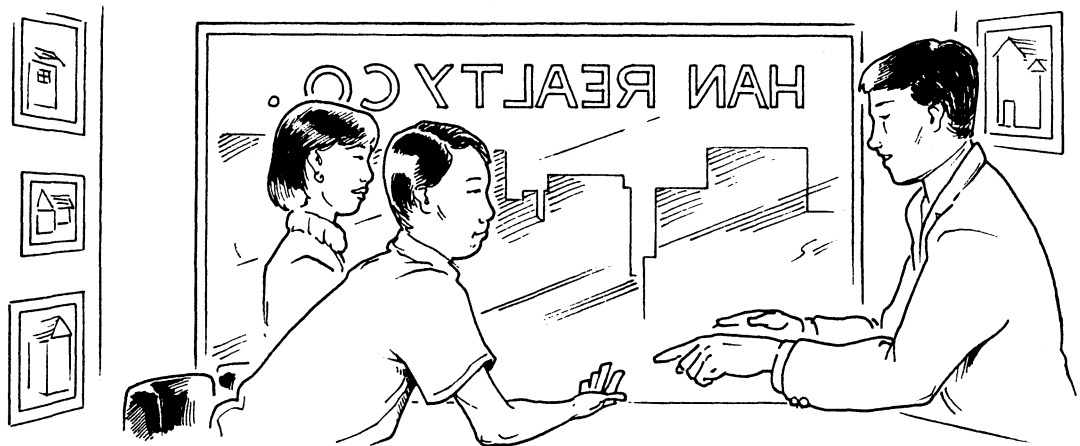
In the negative form, *not* comes before the infinitive.

“Don't expect too much,” she said.  
= She said not to expect too much.

## B.

**What did Yoon's cousin tell him and his family to do? Make sentences; use indirect speech and infinitives.**

**EXAMPLE:** 1. Yoon's cousin told them to take their time to shop for a house.



1. “Take your time to shop for a house.”
2. “Consider the advantages of an older home.”
3. “Don't expect to find a perfect house.”
4. “Try not to spend more than 25 percent (%) of your income on house payments.”
5. “Remember that the location is more important than the house itself.”
6. “Look for the cheapest possible house in the best possible area.”
7. “Try to imagine the house after you fix it up.”
8. “Don't hire someone to paint the house when you can do it yourselves.”
9. “Don't buy a house with serious problems with the heating, plumbing, or roofing.”
10. “Call many different banks to find the lowest interest rates for your loan.”
11. “Have an inspector check any house that you might seriously want to buy.”

### Infinitives of Purpose

Infinitives often show purpose; that is, the infinitive may answer the question "Why?"

He called the real estate office to ask about a house.  
(Why did he call? Because he wanted to ask about a house.)

## C.

**Match the activities in the left-hand column with the purpose for them in the right-hand column. Then make new sentences with infinitives.**

**EXAMPLE:** 1. They decided to buy a house to save money on income taxes.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. They decided to buy a house.                                | a. He showed them the areas that they could afford.             |
| 2. He drove them around the city.                              | b. She told them that she and Yoon had found a house.           |
| 3. The realtor put all of their figures into a computer.       | c. They wanted to save money on income taxes.                   |
| 4. She called her friends.                                     | d. They discussed the different possible types of home loans.   |
| 5. They called an inspector.                                   | e. He needed to find out how much they could spend on a house.  |
| 6. They made an appointment with the loan officer of the bank. | f. He checked the condition of the house.                       |
| 7. The realtor went to see the sellers of the house.           | g. They filled out the loan application at their kitchen table. |
| 8. They stayed home all day Saturday.                          | h. He put an offer on their house.                              |

**\*D.** **Beyond the book: If you're renting an apartment or house, tell or write the answers to these questions. Use infinitives in your answers.**

1. Why did you decide to rent?
2. Do you hope to buy a house someday?
3. What does your landlord (or landlady) permit you to do? What doesn't he/she permit you to do?
4. What do you expect the landlord/landlady to fix?
5. Is there anything that you can't get your landlord/landlady to fix?
6. Where would you like to live?
7. Has anyone ever given you advice about buying a house? If so, what did this person tell you to do or not to do?

**If you own your own house, tell or write the answers to these questions.**

1. Why did you decide to buy a house?
2. Do you plan to stay in this house or move to another?
3. What would you like to do to improve your home?
4. Do you do some repairs on your house yourself, or do you ask someone else to fix things?
5. If you have a garden, how much time do you need to spend on yardwork?
6. When you were looking for a house to buy, did anyone give you advice? If so, what did this person tell you to do or not to do?



## PART TWO / Gerunds (after Prepositions, after Certain Verbs)

- Moving • Fixing Up a House

### Gerunds after Prepositions

A gerund (verb-*ing*) is a verb form that takes the place of a noun. A gerund is sometimes the object of a preposition.

We were nervous about moving.

She was tired of packing.

You can also use a gerund after these expressions:

be used to (= be in the habit of)

be accustomed to (= be used to)

get used to (= become used to)

look forward to (= anticipate with pleasure)

feel up to (= feel well enough, be in the mood for)

object to (= be against, feel dislike for)

They look forward to having a backyard.

A gerund sometimes follows the preposition *by* to show the way that something is done. That is, *by* + gerund may answer the question "How?"

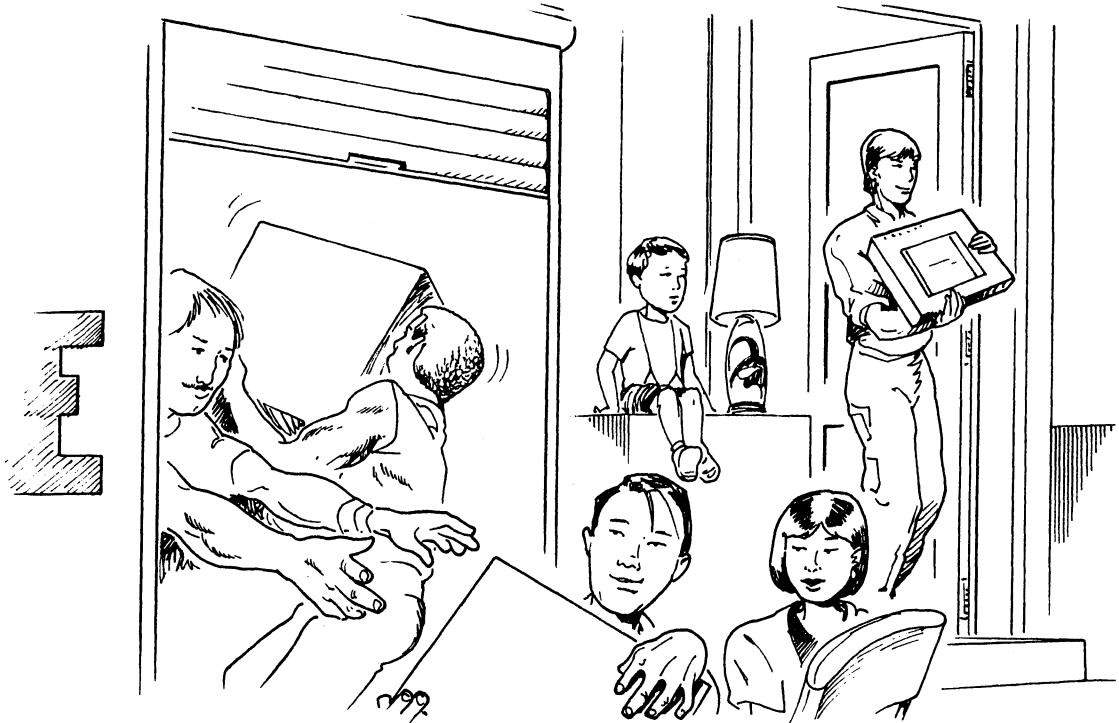
He found the least expensive moving company by calling every mover in the phone book. (How did he find an inexpensive moving company? He called every one in the phone book.)

### A. Fill in the blanks with gerund forms. Choose from the verbs in the list below. (You may use a verb more than once.)

- EXAMPLES:**
1. After signing the last loan papers,
  2. the Hans began to get excited about moving into their new home.

call	find	have	hire	pack	sign	take
fill	go	help	move	rent	spend	

After 1. \_\_\_\_\_ the last loan papers, the Hans began to get excited about 2. \_\_\_\_\_ into their new home. They had thought about 3. \_\_\_\_\_ movers, but Yoon objected to 4. \_\_\_\_\_ so much money, so they finally decided on 5. \_\_\_\_\_ a truck and 6. \_\_\_\_\_ themselves. They had succeeded in 7. \_\_\_\_\_ dozens of boxes at local supermarkets and liquor stores, and the whole family worked hard



at \_\_\_\_\_ for a week before they moved. Kyung Sook took care of \_\_\_\_\_  
 8. \_\_\_\_\_  
 the phone company, the water company, and the gas and electric company because  
 she was anxious about \_\_\_\_\_ these utilities from the first day in the new  
 10. \_\_\_\_\_  
 house. Yoon was responsible for \_\_\_\_\_ to the post office and \_\_\_\_\_ out  
 11. \_\_\_\_\_ 12. \_\_\_\_\_  
 a change of address card.

Several of the Hans' friends appeared early in the morning on moving day and  
 insisted on \_\_\_\_\_ them move. The Hans were very grateful for their help.  
 13. \_\_\_\_\_  
 The move took only five hours instead of \_\_\_\_\_ all day.  
 14. \_\_\_\_\_

### Gerunds after Certain Verbs

A verb must be in the gerund form after one of these verbs or expressions:

appreciate	consider	finish	imagine	spend time
avoid	deny	get through	involve	suggest
can't help	enjoy	(= finish)	mind	
(= can't avoid)	feel like	have trouble	postpone	

She considered taking a "how to" class.

They didn't mind spending time on their house.

**B.** Answer the questions about the Hans' first month in their new house. Use the cue words and gerunds. Each conversation is in the past tense. Follow the example.

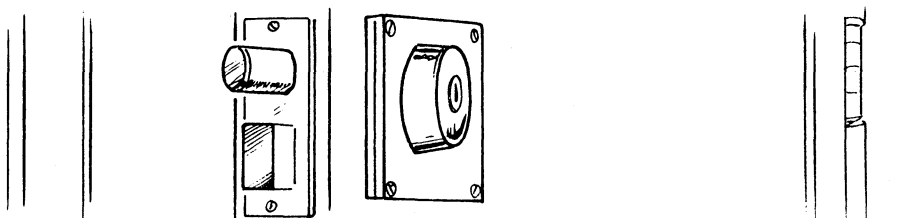
- EXAMPLE:** 1. a: How did you learn so much about home improvement?  
b. By reading these "how to"<sup>1</sup> books. I didn't feel like taking "how to" classes.



1. a: How did you learn so much about home improvement?  
b. read these "how to" books  
(I) not feel like / take "how to" classes

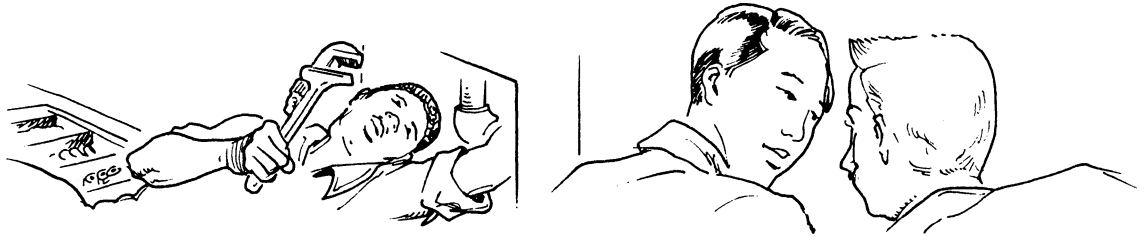


2. a: How were you able to afford to buy a house?  
b. buy a "fixer-upper"  
(we) can't keep / rent anymore



3. a: How did they make the house safe?  
b. put dead-bolt locks on the doors and special locks on the windows  
(they) not want to postpone / do this

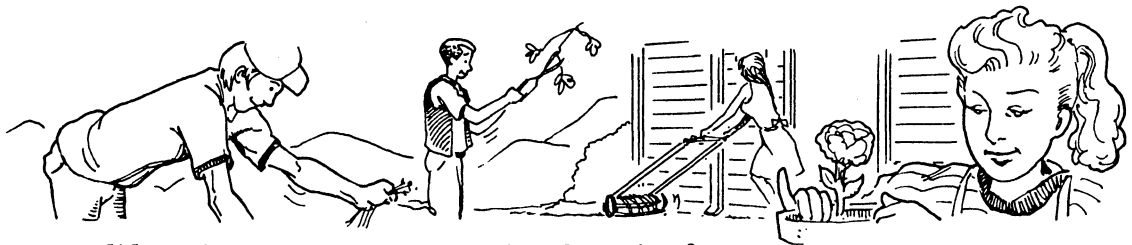
<sup>1</sup>This isn't a complete sentence, but in conversation it's the natural answer to such a question. The complete sentence is: I learned about it by reading these "how to" books.



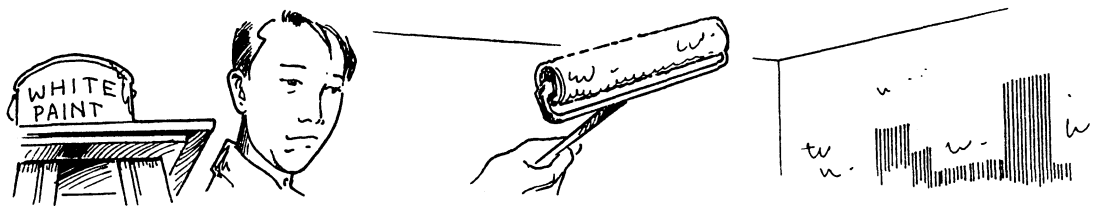
4. a: How were you able to find a good plumber?  
 b. ask friends for recommendations  
 (we) appreciate / get their suggestions



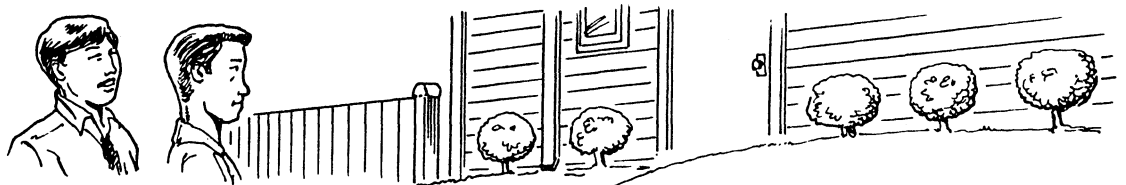
5. a: How did we spend so much money in one week?  
 b. buy a million small things for the house  
 (we) can't avoid / buy these necessary things



6. a: How did you improve the yard in such a short time?  
 b. hire some teenagers from the neighborhood one weekend  
 (they) not mind / make a little extra money



7. a: How did Yoon make this room seem larger?  
 b. paint it white  
 (he) finish / paint it just yesterday



8. a: How were they able to afford so many repairs?  
 b. do most of the work themselves  
 (it) involve / spend a lot of time and energy, though

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**\*C.** Beyond the book: Finish these sentences with information about the apartment or house where you live. Use gerunds.

**EXAMPLE:** 1. I found my apartment by looking through the classified ads in the newspaper.

1. I found my apartment (house) by \_\_\_\_\_.
2. I (We) sometimes have trouble \_\_\_\_\_.
3. I'd like to postpone \_\_\_\_\_.
4. There's no way to avoid \_\_\_\_\_.
5. I try to keep my house safe by \_\_\_\_\_.
6. I don't usually mind \_\_\_\_\_.
7. My landlord/landlady/manager/neighbor insists on \_\_\_\_\_.
8. I never feel like \_\_\_\_\_.
9. My landlord/landlady/doesn't seem to care about \_\_\_\_\_.
10. I make my apartment (house) feel like "home" by \_\_\_\_\_.

## PART THREE / Infinitives or Gerunds with Similiar Meanings

- Finding Child Care • Getting Information about Senior Citizen Centers

### Infinitives or Gerunds with Similiar Meanings (I)

A verb after one of these verbs may be either an infinitive or a gerund. There is little or no difference in meaning.

begin	hate	prefer
can't stand	like	start
continue	love	try

### A. Choose the correct form of each verb: an infinitive or a gerund. (In a few cases, both answers would be correct.)

- Soon after moving into their new neighborhood, Kyung Sook started \_\_\_\_\_ for a  
 1. move 2. look  
 day-care center for her two youngest children. She didn't have to worry about \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. find  
 child care for the older kids because they would be able \_\_\_\_\_ in the after-school  
 4. stay  
 program at their public school. This allowed her \_\_\_\_\_ them up at 5:30, after work.  
 5. pick  
 But she expected \_\_\_\_\_ some trouble \_\_\_\_\_ a good center for the younger  
 6. have 7. find  
 two, and she didn't look forward to \_\_\_\_\_ such an important decision.  
 8. make  
 She began \_\_\_\_\_ for a child-care center by \_\_\_\_\_ the YWCA, a local church, and  
 9. look 10. call  
 the pediatric department of a hospital because she wanted \_\_\_\_\_ for a list of nearby centers.  
 11. ask  
 Also, she hoped \_\_\_\_\_ some advice on \_\_\_\_\_ the best possible one.  
 12. get 13. choose  
 She appreciated \_\_\_\_\_ a pamphlet from the local hospital because it gave some  
 14. receive  
 specific suggestions. It advised her \_\_\_\_\_ four or five centers based on their location,  
 15. select  
 cost, hours, and size. Then, it said, she should visit each one and not consider \_\_\_\_\_ her  
 16. send  
 children to a center that didn't permit parents \_\_\_\_\_. At each center, she ought to see  
 17. visit

if the children liked \_\_\_\_\_ there and if there were interesting activities, clean rooms, and  
18. be

friendly teachers. Before \_\_\_\_\_ a decision, the pamphlet said, she should sit down and ask  
19. make

the director about meals, naps, toys, and extra clothes for the children as well as first-aid training

and licensing of the staff members. Finally, the pamphlet told her \_\_\_\_\_ her children  
20. not enroll

at any day-care center that didn't allow them \_\_\_\_\_ a special "security toy."  
21. bring

**Infinitives or Gerunds with Similiar Meanings (II)**

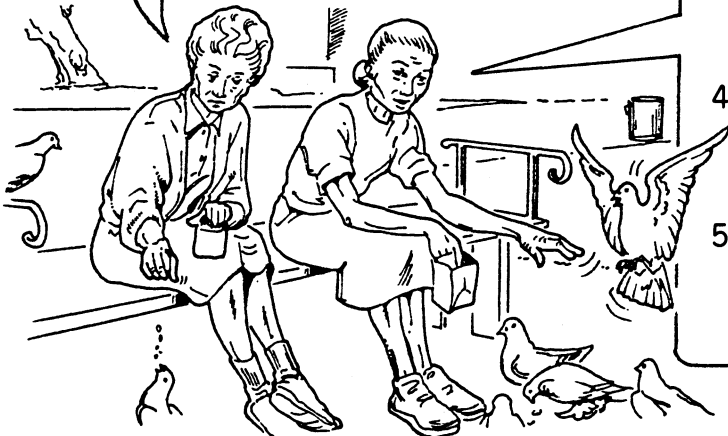
A gerund can be the subject of a sentence. You can rephrase such a sentence to mean the same thing by using the subject *it* and an infinitive.

Finding a senior citizen center is a good idea for an elderly person.  
(= It's a good idea for an elderly person to find a senior citizen's center.)

**B. Make new sentences that have the same meaning as the following sentences. Use gerunds as subjects.**

**EXAMPLE:** 1. Living alone isn't much fun.

- 1. It isn't much fun to live alone.
- 2. It's not enjoyable to eat by yourself.
- 3. It's difficult to find someone who will help with housework.
- 4. It's depressing to be alone.
- 5. It's expensive to go out for a little fun these days.



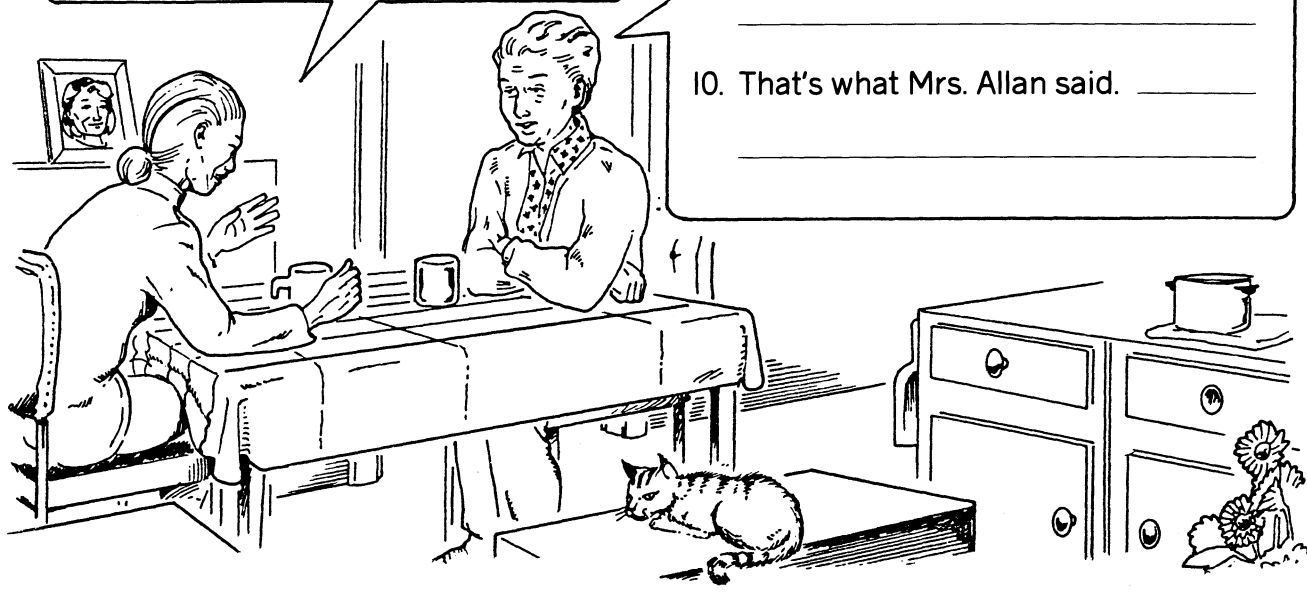
- 1. Yes, that's true. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2. You're right. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3. I know. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4. I agree. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5. That's certainly true. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Now make new sentences that have the same meaning as the following sentences. Use *it* and an infinitive.

EXAMPLE: 1. It might be a good idea to join the local senior center.

- 6. Joining the local senior center might be a good idea.
- 7. Meeting other people at the center would be very nice.
- 8. Having a hot meal every day is possible at senior centers.
- 9. Taking classes at the center could be interesting.
- 10. Enjoying ourselves isn't all that expensive at a senior center

- 6. I suppose you're right. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 7. Yes, that's true. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 8. I've heard that, too. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 9. Maybe you're right. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 10. That's what Mrs. Allan said. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**\*C.** Beyond the book: Make sentences about your opinions on family activities. Use the verbs below and infinitives or gerunds. (You can work in small groups.)

EXAMPLE: I can't stand doing the dishes every night.

- |             |      |      |      |        |
|-------------|------|------|------|--------|
| can't stand | hate | like | love | prefer |
|-------------|------|------|------|--------|

**\*D.** Beyond the book: Tell or write about some difficulties you have had with children, parents, or the elderly. Use infinitives and gerunds.

EXAMPLES: Finding a child-care center isn't easy.  
It's hard to have a full-time job and a family, too.



## PART FOUR **Infinitives or Gerunds with Different Meanings;** *go / take + Gerund*

- Getting Information about Home Care for the Elderly
- Getting Information about activities through the YMCA and Senior Centers

### Infinitives or Gerunds with Different Meanings

A verb after one of these verbs may be in either the infinitive or gerund form. However, the meaning is not the same.

forget    regret    remember    stop

She remembered to call her aunt.

(= First, she remembered. Then she called.)

She remembered calling her aunt.

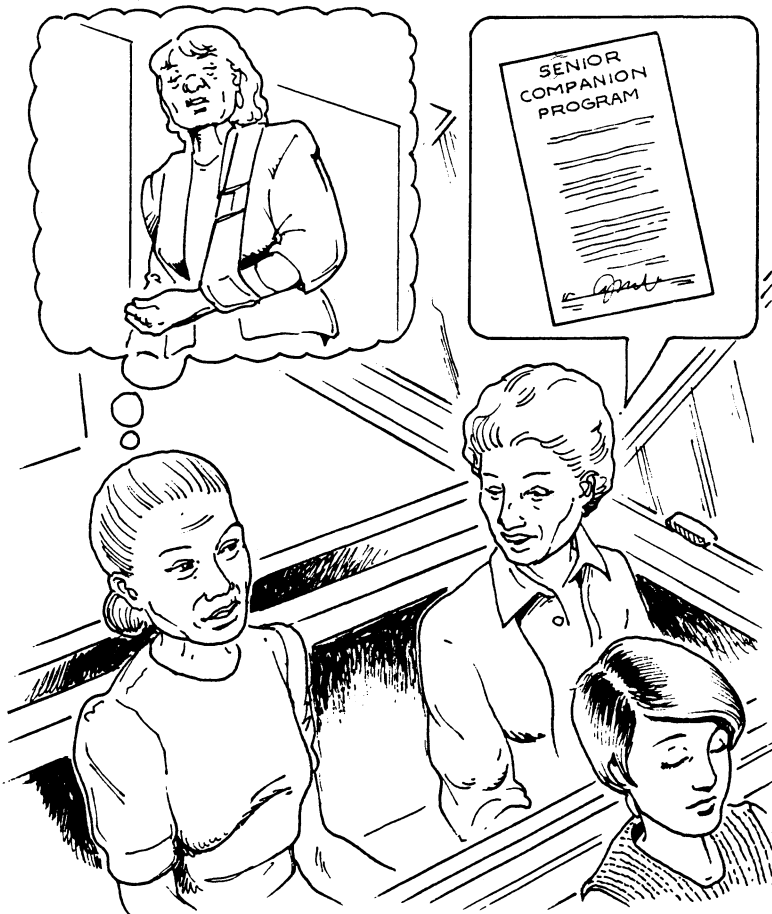
(= She remembered that she had called.)

She stopped to call her aunt.

(= She stopped doing something else because she wanted to call her aunt.)

She stopped calling her aunt.

(= She used to call her aunt, but she doesn't now.)



### SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM

Senior citizen? Living alone?

Need help with housework,  
meals, shopping?

Have a limited income?

Call and ask about our new Senior Companion Program. We provide a person who is patient, kind, and trained to help with household chores. You provide this person with room, board, and a small amount of money.

Call now!

Glenview Community Hospital  
555-6752 (ext. 341)

**A.** Choose the correct form of each verb: an infinitive or a gerund.

**EXAMPLE:** 1. a: Do you remember asking me for information about someone to help Mrs. Allan at home?

a: Do you remember \_\_\_\_\_ me for information about someone to help  
1. ask

Mrs. Allan at home?

b: Of course. I remember \_\_\_\_\_ you that she needs some help with cooking,  
2. tell

cleaning, and bathing because of her broken arm. Have you found someone?

a: Well, yes . . . and no. It seems that there are lots of people who do this work, but I  
regret \_\_\_\_\_ that medical insurance—including Medicare—doesn't pay for it.  
3. say

b: Oh, that's right. I had forgotten. I remember \_\_\_\_\_ one time that insurance  
4. hear

covers these services only if the person also needs a nurse.

a: (*Sighs.*) Yes. Isn't that terrible? But listen! A few days ago I heard about a program

that might be perfect for her. I simply forgot \_\_\_\_\_ you when we talked  
5. tell

yesterday. I really regret \_\_\_\_\_ to mention it. I'm sorry that . . .  
6. not think

b: Please stop \_\_\_\_\_! Just tell me about the program!  
7. apologize

a: Well, it seems that some hospitals have something called a senior companion

program. Anyway, I have a pamphlet that has more information. Maybe we can

stop \_\_\_\_\_ it to Mrs. Allan right now.  
8. give

b: Oh, not now. We'll be late for the movie. But let's remember \_\_\_\_\_  
9. stop

at her house on the way home.

a: Okay. If this program works out, we can stop \_\_\_\_\_ about her.  
10. worry

**go/take + gerund**

The gerund form usually follows the verbs *go* and *take*<sup>1</sup> (someone):

bowl	fish	hunt	mountain-climb	shop	swim
camp	hike	ice-skate	roller-skate	skate	water-ski
dance	house-hunt	jog	sail	ski	window-shop

They went shopping<sup>2</sup>.

He often takes her dancing.

<sup>1</sup>If the action is happening right now, use the present continuous tense. Don't use *go* + gerund. **Examples:** They're shopping. He's dancing with her.

<sup>2</sup>The infinitive form of one of these verbs after *go* shows purpose. However, this usage is not very common. **Example:** They went to shop for a shirt. = They went shopping because they wanted to shop for a shirt.

**B.**

Use these words to make sentences about activities at the YMCA and at a local senior citizens' center. Use *go* or *take* with the gerund form of verbs from the list in the box above. Follow the example.

**EXAMPLE:** a: Where did Sammy go?  
b: He went camping. The YMCA takes a group of kids camping every summer.

1. a: Sammy  
b: the YMCA / a group of kids / every summer
2. a: Billy  
b: the YMCA / a bunch of kids / once a month
3. a: Mrs. Elliot  
b: the seniors' center / a group of people / every Friday
4. a: Armen and Rafik  
b: the YMCA / groups of children / from time to time
5. a: Sarah and Al  
b: the senior citizens' center / them / once a week
6. a: the kids  
b: the YMCA / them / as often as possible

**CAMP****SKATE****BOWL****HIKE****SHOP****SWIM****\*C.**

Beyond the book: What do you remember doing as a child? Make sentences about your own life. (You can work in small groups.)

**EXAMPLE:** I remember going fishing with my grandfather.