



THE INFINITIVE FORM

Verbs	Infinitives
walk	to walk
talk	to talk
enter	to enter
win	to win
carry	to carry
go	to go
stay	to stay
have	to have
address	to address
speak	to speak

Verbs	Infinitives
add	to add
buy	to buy
correct	to correct
dance	to dance
continue	to continue
see	to see
pitch	to pitch
cook	to cook
call	to call
show	to show

Verbs	Infinitives
eat	to eat
fly	to fly
gather	to gather
invite	to invite
move	to move
obey	to obey
pay	to pay
quench	to quench
rule	to rule
study	to study
taste	to taste
waste	to waste



THE BARE INFINITIVE

The bare infinitive is used:

After modal verbs

- without 'to' and after 'may', 'must', 'should', 'will', 'make', 'help'
- The children must be asleep by 9 p.m.
- Sam should be home soon.
- She will be waiting at the station.

After the verbs 'make' and 'let'

- Mother made breakfast for Jenny.
- He makes his own bed every morning.
- The guard let them pass through the gate.
- Jim let the dog out of the kennel.
- She let the old woman have her seat on the bus.

After verbs of perceptions

- e.g. felt, watch, see, hear, smell, walk.
- She felt the heat from the oven.
 - Amy whispered a secret to Hana.
 - The cookies smell good.
 - He heard the news from a friend.



Common Errors

Do not say

- He was asked to quickly do his task.
- My father told me to carefully cross the road.
- The fire-fighters were ordered to bravely put out the fire.
- He is persuading his father to generously give to charity.
- Lily tried to slowly move her injured hand.
- Don't force him to unwillingly do something.

Say

- He was asked to do his task quickly.
- My father told me to cross the road carefully.
- The fire-fighters were ordered to put out the fire bravely.
- He is persuading his father to give generously to charity.
- Lily tried to move her injured hand slowly.
- Don't force him to do something unwillingly.

TO - INFINITIVE

The infinitive consists of 'to' + verb

- They used the main entrance **to enter** the building.
- She used salt **to season** the meat.
- Can you show me how **to use** the computer?
- Jerry was happy **to get** good results.
- He promised **to return** my book.

Infinitives of purpose

- We study History to know what happened in the past.
- We exercise in order to stay healthy.
- We work to acquire experience.
- We study Geography to understand about people of different races, religions and cultures.
- Aminah is going to America to further her studies.
- Jack went to a shopping fair to buy new clothes.

Infinitives after nouns

- Do you have anything to say?
- It is time to go for lunch.
- All ordered her son to stop the games immediately.
- I attend a cooking class to learn the cooking skills.
- Candy is teaching the children to draw pictures.
- I am sure the children must have many questions to ask.
- The correct way to greet your friend at night is to say 'Good evening'.
- May I have something to eat, please?

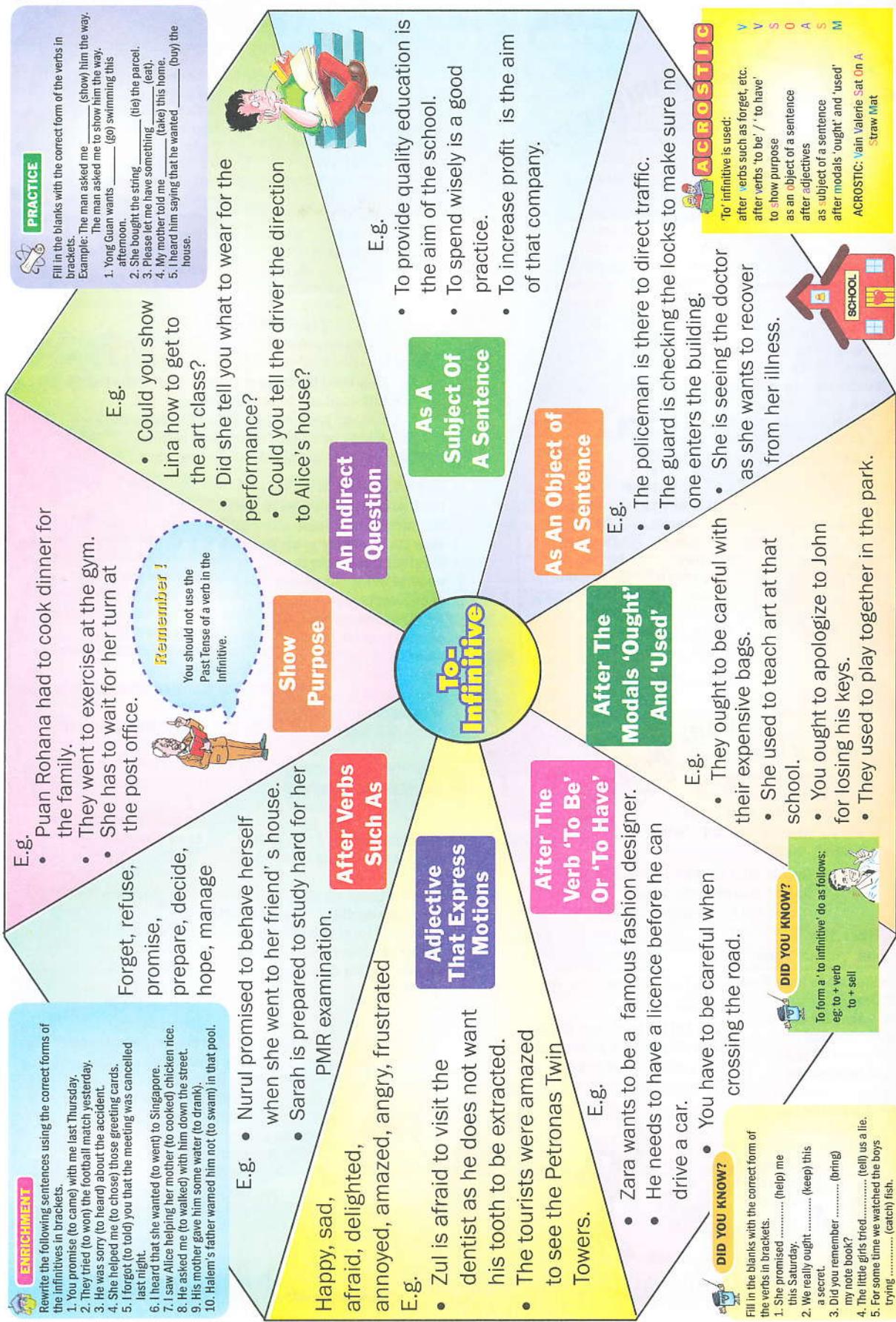
Infinitives before final prepositions

- There is no people to talk with.
- There is a tree for you to stand under.
- This bed is comfortable to sleep on.
- Do you have anything to talk about?
- This house is for his children to live in.
- My sister has many toys to play with.
- What information do you need to ask for?

Infinitives after adjectives

- I am anxious to open that door.
- This book is too difficult to read.
- She was too ill to attend the wedding.
- Siti is too worried to present her story in front of the class.
- I am unwilling to move from this house.
- The girl is too excited to meet the artist.
- It is quite difficult to start the project.
- I am glad to hear your voice again.
- Her handwriting is too difficult to read.





ENRICHMENT

Rewrite the following sentences using the correct forms of the infinitives in brackets.

- You promise (to come) with me last Thursday.
- They tried (to win) the football match yesterday.
- He was sorry (to heard) about the accident.
- She helped me (to chose) those greeting cards.
- I forgot (to told) you that the meeting was cancelled last night.
- I heard that she wanted (to went) to Singapore.
- I saw Alice helping her mother (to cooked) chicken rice.
- He asked me (to walked) with him down the street.
- His mother gave him some water (to drank).
- Haleem's father warned him not (to swam) in that pool.

PRACTICE

Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

Example: The man asked me _____ (show) him the way.
The man asked me to show him the way.

- Yong Guan wants _____ (go) swimming this afternoon.
- She bought the string _____ (tie) the parcel.
- Please let me have something _____ (eat).
- My mother told me _____ (take) this formic.
- I heard him saying that he wanted _____ (buy) the house.

ACROSTIC

'To' infinitive is used:

- after verbs such as forget, etc.
- to -how purpose
- as an object of a sentence
- after adjectives
- as - subject of a sentence
- after modals 'ought' and 'used'

ACROSTIC: 'ain Valerie Sat On A
Straw That

SCHOOL

DID YOU KNOW?

To form a 'to infinitive' do as follows:

eg: to + verb
to + verb

DID YOU KNOW?

Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

- She promised _____ (help) me this Saturday.
- We really ought _____ (keep) this a secret.
- Did you remember _____ (bring) my note book?
- The little girls tried _____ (tell) us a lie.
- For some time we watched the boys trying _____ (catch) fish.



The Bare Infinitive is used:



After modal verbs

- is used without 'to'
- It is used after modal verbs 'may', 'must', 'should', 'will', 'make', 'help'.
- E.g. • Ali may drink the juice in the jug.
- The patient must rest in bed.
- Puan Siti will fetch the children at 4.00 p.m.

After verbs of sensation/perception

- feel', 'whisper', 'observe', 'hear', 'crawl', 'watch', 'hear', 'see'
- E.g. • Eliza felt her teardrops roll down her face.
- We saw the farmer harvest the paddy.
- The teachers observe the pupils complete their homework.

After the verbs 'make' and 'let'

- E.g. • The guard made the robbers kneel on the ground.
- The lawyer made the client sign the document.
- Let them come to the party.
- The mother let her son wash his dirty shoes.
- He made her cry.

- Infinitives are used with the word 'to' in front of them. They do not take past, present nor future form. **Examples:**
- ① They planned to go for a trip last month.
- ② The chairman asked the members to attend the meeting on time.
- Some verbs are followed by the infinitives but without the word 'to' in front of them. **Examples:**
- ③ Please let the cat go.
- ④ Can you help me call this student now?
- There are two kinds of infinitives:
- a) the bare infinitive b) the to-infinitive.



The to-infinitive is used:

AFTER VERBS SUCH AS

- forget, refuse, promise, prepare, decide, hope, manage.
- e.g. • Do not forget to inform your parents of the PTA meeting.
- Ali refused to go home as he wanted to play with his friends.
- I have promised to lend her my car.

AFTER ADJECTIVES THAT EXPRESS MOTIONS

- happy, afraid, delighted, annoyed, amazed.
- e.g. • The children were happy to know that they are going to Sunway Lagoon this Saturday.
- Parveen was afraid to tell her mother that she had failed in her test.
- Tina was annoyed to find her room in a mess.

TO SHOW PURPOSE

- e.g.
- The boys had to walk for days in the jungle.
- Father has gone to fetch Louise from school.
- I went to buy some pencils from the bookshop.

IN INDIRECT QUESTION

- e.g.
- Can you show the maid how to bake pizza?
- Do you know how to solve this puzzle?
- Please tell me which road to take to the cyber cafe?

AS A SUBJECT OF A SENTENCE

- e.g.
- To donate generously is a good practice.
- To excel in life is my aim.
- To help the needy is the mission of The Heart Club.

AS AN OBJECT OF A SENTENCE

- e.g.
- The salesman is here to sell some utensils.
- The postman went to deliver a parcel.
- I decided to go home early as it began to rain.

AFTER THE MODALS 'OUGHT' AND 'USED'

- e.g.
- We ought to be punctual to school.
- You ought to be honest in your dealings.
- Azhar and I used to be classmates.
- Zaheer and Gracey used to live at the farm.

AFTER THE VERB 'TO BE' OR 'TO HAVE'

- e.g.
- Zamani and Armani are to sing a duet at the concert.
- Liza is to attend tuition next week.
- Kavita has to visit the dentist tomorrow.
- The watchman has to guard the factory every day.