

Unit 3

Gerund, Participle, Infinitive

Objectives

After the completion of this unit, you would be able to–

- explain the uses and functions of non-finite verbs.
- use non-finite verbs for communication.

Overview:

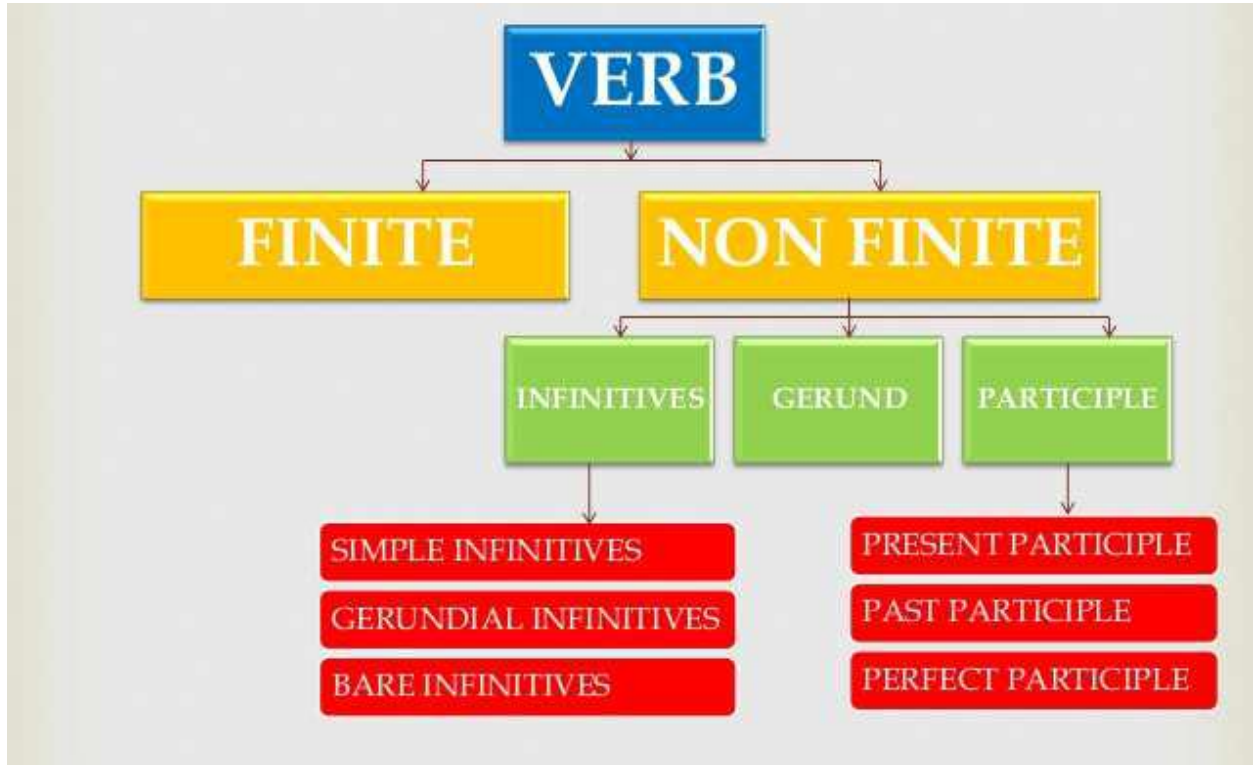
Lesson 1: *Gerund*

Lesson 2: *Participle*

Lesson 3: *Infinitive*

Answer Key

Lesson 1 : Gerund



Definition

Gerund is a non-finite verb. It looks like a verb but acts like a noun. When “verb+ing” works as a “noun and verb”, it is called Gerund.

Functions:

1. Subject of the verb:

Swimming is a good exercise.

Giving is better than receiving.

Seeing is believing.

Rising early is a good habit.

The bold subjects in the above sentences are gerund.

2. Object of a transitive verb:

Stop **writing**.

I like **reading** poetry.

Working is **praying**.

My hobby is **reading**.

I could not help **laughing**

Don't give up **trying**.

The bold objects (predicates) in the above sentences are gerunds.

3. Object of a preposition:

I am fond of **catching** fish.

I am tired of **writing**.

They are punished for **telling** a lie.

In the above sentences, after preposition 'of' and 'for', gerund is used.

4. By + Gerund:

By **eating** a balanced diet, you can live well.

By **drinking** milk, you can get vitamins.

By **being** curious, he can learn many things.

5. Without + Gerund:

Without **working** hard, you cannot success.

6. As Verbal Noun (The + Gerund + of):

The **reading** of history is interesting.

The **making** of dolls/the taking of exercise...

7. Gerund after particular Finite Verbs:

Mind, drop, practice, finish, delay, forbid, endure, excuse, consider, stop, fancy, suggest, present, prefer, deny, enjoy, miss, forgive, avoid, pardon.

After these finite (principal) verbs --- if another verb (action word) sits, it takes the structure of gerund (verb+ing).

Example:

- a. We enjoyed **playing** football.
- b. We stopped **working**.
- c. I suggest **doing** it.
- d. She forbade **doing** this.
- e. I have finished **reading**.



Exercise

Fill in the gaps with gerund:

1. He advised _____ (do) it.
2. I don't mind _____ (chat) with her.
3. I can't help _____ (laugh).
4. I am desirous of _____ (go) abroad.
5. Without _____ (run) faster, you can't catch the train.

Answer Key:

1. doing
2. chatting
3. laughing
4. going
5. running

Lesson 2 : Participle



Definition:

Participle is a non-finite verb. It is used as an adjective. There are three types of participle:

- a. Present Participle: When 'verb+ing' works as an 'adjective and verb', it is called Present Participle.
Example: Standing at the door, he knocks.
- b. Past Participle: When 'v3' works as 'non-finite verb', it is called past participle.
Example: The *burnt* house is not ours.
- c. Perfect Participle: When 'having' is used as 'adjective and verb' is called perfect participle.
Example: *Having* done the work, I slept.

Functions:

1. It takes an object like a verb:

Hearing a noise, he woke up.
I saw a boy *mending* his shoes.

The participle took objects ('a noise', 'his shoes') like a verb.

2. It is modified by an adverb:

Loudly *knocking* at the gate, he went off.
The book is very *interesting*.

'Loudly' and 'very' are adverbs modifying the participle.

3. It modifies a noun/pronoun:

A *lying* person should be punished.
A *sleeping* fox cannot catch a hen.
A *rolling* stone gathers no moss.
The glass is *broken*.
This story is *exciting*.
The girl is *good-looking*.

Here, the participles are modifying the nouns (subjects) like adjectives.

4. It can be compared like an adjective:

She is more *charming* than her sister.
This is the most *amusing* story I have ever heard.
Here the participles are compared like adjectives.

5. Absolute Nominative (it means --- not having any relation with Finite Verb):

The sky *being* clear, the plane took off.
I know nothing *regarding* the matter.

6. Noun phrase + Present Participle = Adjective:

I met a girl *carrying* a basket of flowers.

I found her *crying*.

I saw him *going* up the hill.

Here the italic words are used as adjectives.

Participle

1. Present Participle	Verb + ing	Walking Dancing
2. Past Participle	V.3	Walked Danced
3. Perfect Participle	Having + v.3	Having walked



Exercise

Fill in the gaps with participle (present/past/perfect participle):

- I know the boys ____ (make) a noise there.
- She kept me ____ (wait).
- I saw ship ____ (come) towards us.
- The car, ____ (break) since months, will be repaired soon.
- The sun ____ (verb to have) set, we came back.



Answer Key:

- Making
- waiting
- coming
- broken
- having

Lesson 3 : Infinitive**Structure of Infinitive: to + base form of verb (v1)**

After the following verbs infinitives take place:

Decide, desire, expect, promise, wish, want, offer, hope, refuse, and swear.

Example:

1. She promised *to speak* the truth.
2. I desire *to go* abroad.
3. We decided *to go* there.
4. She refused *to help* me.

After the following words ‘to’ remains invisible (hidden):

had better, had sooner, than, but, except

Example:

1. You have nothing *to do* but *weep*.
2. He is better able *to sing* than *recite*.

After the following verbs, ‘bare infinitive’ (zero/invisible infinitive) takes place:

Make, know, feel, hear, dare, bid, need, behold, watch, notice, see.

Example:

1. Let him *stay*.
2. I watched them *play*.
3. Did you hear me *call* you?

Infinitive of purpose

Beginning of the sentence	explanation why
<p>Lim and Joy went to a bank She wanted more money He worked harder They learnt a lot</p>	<p>get a mortgage. buy a new car. finish the work on time pass their exams.</p>
<p>They wanted him She asked me We invited our aunt She sent for him</p>	<p>help her. go out with her. make her happier. explain everything.</p>

We use infinitive of purpose to explain WHY we do something.

Exercise

Fill in the gaps with infinitives:

1. Kamal agreed ____ (come).
2. I hope ____ (see) you soon.
3. We plan ____ (finish) this shortly.
4. He offered ____ (sell) the house.
5. I want ____ (drink).

Answer Key:

1. to come
2. to see
3. to finish
4. to sell
5. to drink