

Министерство науки и высшего образования РФ  
Федеральное государственное бюджетное образовательное учреждение  
высшего образования «Нижевартовский государственный университет»

Кафедра лингвистики и перевода

# **NON-FINITE FORMS: INFINITIVE**

## **НЕЛИЧНЫЕ ФОРМЫ ГЛАГОЛА: ИНФИНИТИВ**

**Рабочая тетрадь**

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Нижевартовск  
2019

**ББК 81.432.1-21**  
**УДК 811.111**  
**N 76**

Печатается по постановлению Редакционно-издательского совета  
Нижевартовского государственного университета

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**N 76 Non-finite forms: Infinitive (Неличные формы глагола: инфинитив)** : рабочая тетрадь / сост. Н.М. Перельгут. – Нижневартовск: Нижневартовский государственный университет, 2019. – 27 с.

**ISBN 978-5-00047-515-7**

Рабочая тетрадь курса «Практическая грамматика английского языка» посвящена неличным формам глагола: инфинитиву. Материалы включают краткий грамматический справочник и упражнения репродуктивного и продуктивного характера по основным разделам темы «Формы инфинитива, его синтаксические функции и конструкции (комплексы)».

Данное учебное издание способствует усвоению и практической отработке грамматического материала по теме «Инфинитив», и, в конечном итоге, развитию у студентов коммуникативных компетенций посредством активизации изученного материала в письменной и устной речи.

Рабочая тетрадь адресована студентам вузов, слушателям программ профессиональной переподготовки, равно как и всем интересующимся английским языком.

Материалы могут использоваться для аудиторной работы под руководством преподавателя, а также во время самостоятельной работы студентов с дальнейшей проверкой в аудитории.

**ББК 81.432.1-21**

**ISBN 978-5-00047-515-7**

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## SECTION I. GRAMMAR REFERENCE

### NON-FINITE FORMS OF THE VERB (VERBALS)

#### Инфинитив. Герундий. Причастие I, II

*Инфинитив, герундий, причастие I и II* – неличные формы глагола, которые обладают двойственной природой: во-первых, **как глагол** они могут иметь следующие морфологические глагольные категории:

1) категорию *залога* (voice), то есть быть в пассивной (passive) или неактивной форме (non-passive);

2) категорию *временной соотнесённости* (time-relation), то есть использоваться в перфектной (perfect) или неперфектной форме (non-perfect);

3) категорию *вида* (aspect) – только инфинитив, то есть функционировать в длительной (continuous) / недлительной форме (non-continuous).

Во-вторых, подобно *глаголу* они могут сочетаться с существительными (в постпозиции и препозиции в виде подлежащего и дополнения), а также с наречиями (в роли обстоятельств).

**Подобно существительному** инфинитив и герундий в предложении выполняют (*синтаксические*) **функции** подлежащего, дополнения, предикатива, определения; причастия I и II могут также быть в предложении определением, обстоятельством и предикативом (именной частью составного именного сказуемого).

#### The Infinitive. The Gerund. Participle I, II

There are *four non-finite forms of the verb* in English: *the infinitive* (to write), *the gerund* (writing), *participle I* (writing), *participle II* (written). These forms possess the double nature, that is, some *verbal* and some *non-verbal* features.

**Verbal features in morphology** are manifested in the verb categories of *voice, time-relation (or phase) and aspect*. (They lack the categories of person, number, mood and tense. None of the finite forms have morphological features of non-verbal parts of speech either: nominal, adjectival or adverbial).

**Syntactically** non-finites possess both *verbal and non-verbal features*. **The verbal character** of the non-finites **in syntax** is manifested mainly in their combinability. Similarly to finite forms they may be followed by nouns functioning as direct, indirect or prepositional objects, by adverbs and prepositional phrases used as adverbial modifiers, and by subordinate clauses.

**The non-verbal character** reveals itself in their **syntactic functions**. Thus, the infinitive and the gerund perform the main syntactic functions of the noun, which are those of *subject, object and predicative*. Participle I, II functions as *attribute and adverbial modifier*, participle II as *attribute*.

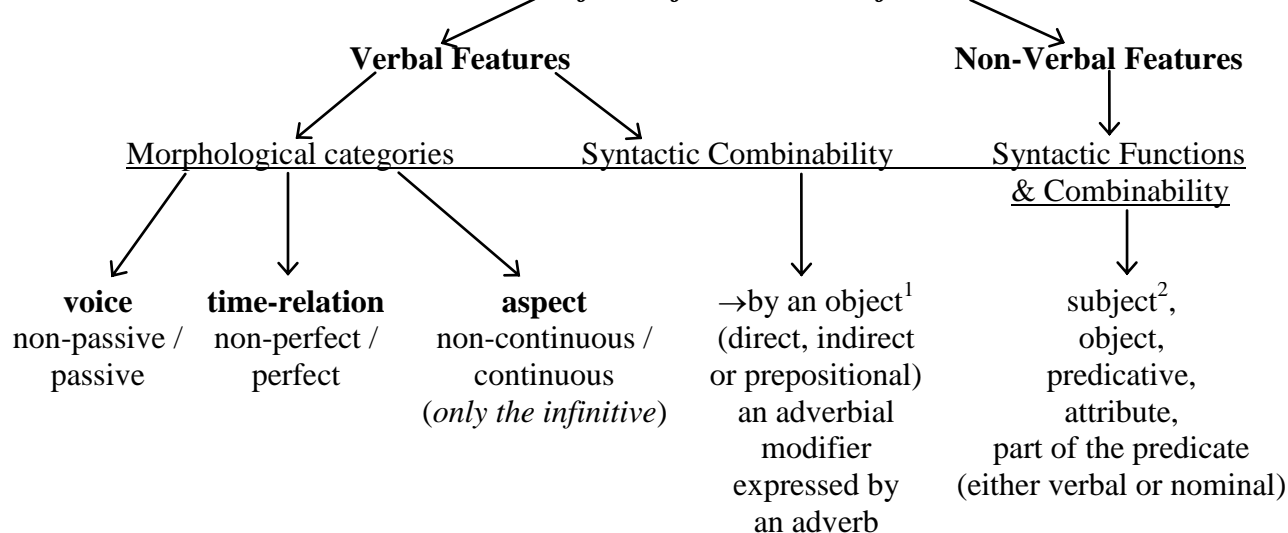
They cannot form a predicate by themselves, although they can function as part of a compound predicate.

All non-finite verb forms may function as the so-called *predicative constructions*, that is, *two-component* syntactic units where a *noun* in the common case or a *pronoun* in the objective case and a *non-finite verb form* are in predicative relations similar to those of the subject and the predicate:

*I saw **him crossing** the street.*

*We waited **for the bell to ring**.*

## *The Double Nature of Non-finite Forms of the Verb*



<sup>1</sup> The arrow directed from left to right means (→) “is followed”.  
The arrow directed from right to left (←) will be used to express “is preceded”.

The arrow ↔ means “may be either preceded or followed”.

<sup>2</sup> This function may be performed only by the Infinitive and the Gerund.

## THE INFINITIVE

*Инфинитив* – неличная (неопределенная) форма глагола, которая обладает двойственной природой: как глагол инфинитив может иметь морфологические глагольные категории: то есть быть в пассивной (passive) или непассивной форме (non-passive) (категория залога – Voice), в перфектной (perfect) или неперфектной форме (non-perfect) (категория временной соотнесённости – Time-relation), в длительной (continuous) / недлительной форме (non-continuous) (категория вида – Aspect).

Будучи глаголом, инфинитив может сочетаться с существительным в *постпозиции* (в качестве прямого и косвенного дополнения или с предлогом в случае предложного дополнения) и в *препозиции*, а также сочетаться с наречием.

Подобно *существительному* инфинитив может выполнять в предложении функции подлежащего, дополнения, определения, предикатива, обстоятельства.

In all its forms and functions the infinitive has a special marker, the **particle to**. The particle *to* is generally used with the infinitive verb and is so closely connected with it that does not commonly allow any words to be put in between. Occasionally, however, *to* and the rest of the infinitive may be separated by an adverb in the so called **split infinitive**.

*He began to slowly get up off the floor.*

(Split infinitive structures are quite common in English, especially in an *informal* style).

Although the particle *to* is very closely connected with the infinitive, sometimes the **bare infinitive** is used. The cases where the infinitive loses its marker are very few in number and will be discussed further on (see Table 4).

### DOUBLE NATURE OF THE INFINITIVE

Table 1

Verbal Features		Nominal Features	
<i>Morphological categories</i>	<i>Syntactic Combinability</i>	<i>Syntactic Functions</i>	<i>Syntactic Combinability</i>
<b>Voice</b> (passive / non passive)	→ by an object <sup>3</sup> (direct, indirect or prepositional)	subject, object, predicative, attribute,	← by the noun with a preposition (when infinitive functions as an attribute)
<b>Time-correlation</b> (perfect / non perfect)	→ an adverbial modifier (expressed by an adverb)	adverbial modifier, (of time, reason, comparison, condition, concession)	
<b>Aspect</b> (continuous / non-continuous)			

<sup>3</sup> The arrow directed from left to right means (→) “is followed”.  
The arrow directed from right to left (←) will be used to express “is preceded”.  
The arrow ↔ means “may be either preceded or followed”.

## FORMS OF THE INFINITIVE

### Morphological Categories of the Infinitive

Table 2

Time-relation	Voice		Non-passive (Active)	Passive
	Aspect			
Non-perfect	Non-continuous (Common)		to go to tell	– to be told
	Continuous		to be going to be telling	– (to be being told)
Perfect	Non-continuous (Common)		to have gone to have told	– to have been told
	Continuous		to have been going to have been telling	– –

**NOTE:** as is seen from the table, there are no perfect continuous forms in the passive voice. As for the non-perfect continuous passive infinitives similar to the one in brackets, they are possible, but are not normally used.

The **verbal features** of the infinitive are of two kinds: **morphological** and **syntactic** (combinability).

**Morphological features:** the infinitive has the verb categories of *voice*, *time-relation* and *aspect*:

Table 3

Voice	
Simple (Non-passive)	Passive
<i>The evening is the time <b>to praise</b> the day.</i>	<i><b>To be praised</b> for what one has not done was bad enough.</i>
Time-relation	
Simple (Non-perfect)	Perfect
<i>She did not intend <b>to keep</b> me long.</i>	<i>I am so distressed <b>to have kept</b> you waiting.</i>
Aspect	
Simple (Non-continuous)	Continuous
<i>She promised <b>to bring</b> the picture down in the course of ten minutes.</i>	<i>At that time I happened <b>to be bringing</b> him some of the books borrowed from him two days before.</i>

Commentary.

<b>Voice</b>	<p><b>NB!</b> There some sentences where <b>active and passive</b> infinitive can have <b>similar meaning</b> (<i>passive and non-passive infinitives are often both possible</i>):  e.g. <i>There's a lot of work <b>to do</b> / <b>to be done</b>.</i>  <i>There are six letters <b>to post</b> / <b>to be posted</b>.</i>  <i>The people <b>to interview</b> / <b>to be interviewed</b> are in the next room.</i></p> <p><b>Non-passive</b> (active) infinitives are used if the emphasis is put <b>on the person</b> who will do the action.  e.g. <i>I've got work <b>to do</b>.</i>  <i>They've sent Jane a form <b>to fill in</b>.</i></p> <p><b>Passive</b> infinitives are preferred if the emphasis is laid <b>on the action</b>, or the person or thing that the action is done to.  e.g. <i>The carpets <b>to be cleaned</b> are in the garage.</i>  <i>His desk is covered with the forms <b>to be filled in</b>.</i>  After '<b>be</b>' passive infinitives are normally used:  e.g. <i>These sheets are <b>to be washed</b>.</i>  <i>The cleaning is <b>to be finished</b> by midday.</i>  <i>This behavior is <b>to be encouraged</b>.</i>  <i>He wasn't anywhere <b>to be seen</b>.</i>  <i>You are <b>to be congratulated</b>.</i></p>
<b>Time-relation</b>	<p><b>Perfect</b> infinitives (<i>to have gone, to have left, etc</i>) have the same kind of meaning as perfect and past forms of the predicate verb (<b>Priority – предшествование</b>).  e.g. <i>I'm glad <b>to have left</b> school.</i> = I'm glad that I have left school.  <i>She was sorry <b>to have missed</b> Will.</i> = She felt sorry that she had missed Will.  <i>We hope <b>to have finished</b> the job by next Saturday.</i> = We hope that we will have finished the job by next Saturday.  <i>You seem <b>to have annoyed</b> Anne yesterday.</i> = It seems that you annoyed Ann yesterday.</p>
<b>Aspect</b>	<p><b>Continuous</b> infinitives show that actions and events <i>are / were / will be continuing</i> around the moment we are talking about.  e.g. <i>It's nice <b>to be talking</b> to you again.</i>  <i>He seemed <b>to be thinking</b> hard how to react to her words.</i>  <i>This time tomorrow I'll <b>be lying</b> on the beach.</i></p>



## Infinitive without 'to' (Bare Infinitive)

Table 4

	Bare Infinitive	Examples
1.	After the modal verbs: <i>will, shall, would, should, can, could, may, might, must</i> (except: <i>ought to, have to, be to</i> )	I must <i>go</i> home. Do you think she might <i>be joking</i> ? She will probably <i>be elected</i> .
2.	After <i>would rather, had better, dare, need</i>	I would rather <i>go</i> home alone. You'd better <i>see</i> what she wants. She needn't <i>do</i> the washing up. I daren't <i>go</i> out at night.
3.	After <i>let, make, hear, feel, see, watch, notice, observe*</i> + smb Ø do	I made them <i>give</i> me the money back. I didn't see you <i>come</i> in.
4.	After <i>why (not)</i>	Why <i>stand up</i> , if you can sit down. Why not <i>take</i> a taxi?
5.	After conjunctions: <i>and, or, except, but, than, as</i> and <i>like</i>	I'd like to lie down <i>and go</i> to sleep. I'm ready to do anything, <i>but work</i> on a farm. It's <i>as</i> easy to smile <i>as frown</i> . It's easier to do it yourself <i>than explain</i> to somebody else how to do it. <i>Rather than wait</i> any more, I decided to go home by taxi.
6.	After <i>do</i>	All I <i>did</i> was (to) <i>give</i> him a little push. What a fire door <i>does</i> is (to) <i>delay</i> the spread of a fire.
7.	Bare infinitive is also possible after <i>help, have</i> and <i>know</i>	Could you help me (to) <i>unload</i> the car? <i>Have</i> Mrs. Hansen <i>come in</i> , please. (especially AmE) I've never <i>known</i> him (to) <i>pay</i> for a drink.
8.	<b>Idiomatic phrases</b> with verbs <i>hear tell, make believe, and let (it) slip</i> (also: <i>make do, let go</i> )	He <b>made believe</b> that he had caught the huge fish himself. (= pretended) She <b>let (it) slip</b> that she is leaving. (= said it unintentionally) Jim borrowed my new bike; I had to <b>make do</b> with my old one. (= it wasn't the one I wanted)

**\*NOTE:** If these verbs are used in the *passive*, they take the infinitive *with* the particle 'to':  
He was made *to pay* back the money. He was overheard *to say* that he hoped John would resign.

## SYNTACTIC FUNCTIONS OF THE INFINITIVE

Table 5

№	Function of the Infinitive	Examples
1.	Подлежащее (subject)	<i>To tell him about it the same night was out of the question...</i>
2.	Дополнение (object)	<i>She did not mean to depend on her father... That's what I wanted to know. I don't want to look pale tonight. I don't like to cry in public unless I'm getting paid for it. The children were instructed not to talk or laugh but to act as serious as possible.</i>
3.	Часть составного глагольного (модального или фазового) сказуемого (Part of a compound verbal (modal or phasal / aspect) predicate after modal verbs and phasal (or aspective) verbs like begin, start, continue, etc.	<i>To draw his attention I had to speak very loudly. Leaders at the United Nations' World Summit on the Information Society agreed that by 2015, more than half the world should have access to the internet. The accommodation was so awful it had to be seen to be believed. She began to feel a sense of panic. I can't begin to imagine how awful it was.</i>
4.	Именная часть составного именного сказуемого (предикатива) (Part of a compound nominal predicate (predicative) after a link verb*)	<i>To understand is to forgive. (subject, predicative)</i>
5.	Определение (attribute)	<i>I saw the chance to escape into the garden. There is still a long way to go to reach that goal. Have you anything to offer me?</i>
6.	Обстоятельство (adverbial modifier) – цели (of purpose, also with conjunctions: in order, so as (not) to) – последующего действия (adverbial modifier of subsequent event)** – результата (of result) (enough to do something) (too ... to do something) – условия или причины (condition / explanation of reason) – comparison	<i>I merely came back to water the roses. (adverbial modifier of purpose) To draw his attention I had to speak very loudly. (adverbial modifier of purpose) The bridegroom arrives first at the church to wait at the Altar with the best man. (adverbial modifier of subsequent event = The bridegroom arrives first at the church and waits at the Altar with the best man) Will Evans be fit enough to play? The rooms are all large enough to take a third bed. Surely no one would be foolish enough to lend him the money? To see them, you'd think they were married. But they only met yesterday. To hear her talk, you'd think she was made of money. Beckworth shook his head as if to say 'Don't trust her'.</i>
7.	Вводные слова или фразы (parenthesis)	<i>Well, to begin with, he shouldn't even have been driving my car. To make things still worse, he missed the last train. To conclude, I'd like to express my thanks to my family. To be honest, I don't like him very much.</i>

**NOTE:**

\*Link verbs are: be, become, seem, look, appear, remain, turn, grow, etc.

\*\*Infinitives in such sentences are used to say what somebody found out or learnt at the end of an action, journey, or task.

I arrived home to find that the house had been burgled.

The idea of surprise or disappointment can be emphasised by using only.

At last we got to Amy's place, only to discover that she was away.

He spent four years studying, only to learn that there were no jobs.

Verbs followed by an infinitive:

Example: She threatened to quit if she didn't get a raise.

Table 6

agree	come	grow (up)	say	seek	want
afford*	consent	guarantee	offer	seem	wish
appear	dare	hesitate	prepare	shudder	turnout
arrange	decide	hope	pretend	strive	venture
ask	demand	intend	promise	struggle	volunteer
attempt	deserve	learn	prove	swear	
beg	determine	manage	refuse	tend	
care	expect	mean	remain	threaten	
choose	fail	need	request	used (to do)**	
claim	get	neglect	resolve	wait	

\*NOTE: Afford can be followed by an infinitive with to, but not an '-ing' form: I can't afford to buy (NOT can't afford buying) a car.

\*\*Used to do – refers the action to the past; it no longer takes place.

Adjectives (participial adjectives) describing reactions and feelings followed by an infinitive:

Table 7

able	happy	stupid
afraid	likely	sure
anxious	lucky	surprised
careful	pleased	welcome
certain	right	willing
due	sorry	wrong

NOTE: some of the adjectives can be followed by preposition with the -ing form or by that-clause with little or no difference:

e.g. I'm not afraid of telling / to tell her the truth.

But to talk about fear of things that happen accidentally, afraid of + -ing is preferred.

e.g. I don't like to drive fast because I'm afraid of crashing.

Why are you so quiet? – I'm afraid of waking the children.

Sorry for / about + -ing or sorry + perfect infinitive can be used to refer to past things with similar meanings.

e.g. I'm sorry for / about losing my temper this morning.

I'm sorry to have woken you up. (or I'm sorry that I woke you up.)

Sorry + simple infinitive is used to apologise for current situations.

e.g. Sorry to disturb you.

Sorry to keep you waiting. We can start now [16, p. 277].

Cf: Verbs followed by an infinitive or an *ing-form* (a gerund) with little or no change in meaning:

Example: *It started to rain.* / *It started raining.*

Table 8

begin	like
can't bear	love
can't stand	prefer
continue	propose
hate	start

Verbs followed by an infinitive or a gerund with **a change** in meaning:

Table 9

forget	I forgot to meet him. (I didn't meet him because I forgot to do it.)
	I forgot meeting him. (I don't have the memory of meeting him before.)
go on	He went on to learn English and French. (He ended one period of time before this.)
	He went on learning English and French. (He continued learning the languages.)
quit*	She quit to work here. (She quit another job in order to work here.)
	She quit working here. (She quit her job here. She doesn't work here anymore.)
regret	I regret promising to help you. (I'm sorry that I made the promise.)
	I regret to tell you that we can't hire you. (I'm telling you now, and I'm sorry. – used mostly in announcement about bad news)
remember	She remembered to visit her grandmother. (She didn't forget to visit.)
	She remembered visiting her grandmother. (She had memories of this time.)
stop	I stopped to call you. (I interrupted another action in order to call you.)
	I stopped calling you. (I stopped this activity. Maybe we had a fight.)
try	I tried to open the window. (I attempted this action but didn't succeed.)
	I tried opening the window. (This was one option I sampled. Maybe the room was hot.)

\*Quit – (past tense and past participle **quit**, also **quitted BrE**, present participle **quitting**) [23].

## INFINITIVE CONSTRUCTIONS (SYNTACTIC COMPLEXES)

Инфинитивные конструкции *состоят из инфинитива и именного элемента* (местоимения в объектном падеже (objective case), существительного или имени собственного в общем падеже (common case)), стоящего перед ним.

Например:

*I saw **him** leave a few minutes ago.*

*She heard **Tom** go upstairs.*

*It is important **for parents** to show an interest in their children's sport participation.*

### TYPES OF INFINITIVE CONSTRUCTIONS

Table 10

№	Type of the Construction	Examples
1	<b>The Objective with the Infinitive Construction (Complex Object)</b>	
	<p><b>After verbs of sense perception</b> (to hear, listen to, to feel, to see, to watch, to observe, to notice and some others). After these verbs the infinitive is used without 'to' (bare infinitive).  <b>Note:</b> After the verbs to see and to notice the infinitive of the verb to be is not used. Instead, subordinate object clause is used:  <i>He only had time to notice that the girl was unusually pretty.</i></p>	<p><i>No one had ever heard her <math>\emptyset</math> cry.</i>  <i>He was listening attentively to the chairman <math>\emptyset</math> speak.</i>  <i>I paused a moment and watched the car <math>\emptyset</math> stop.</i></p>
	<p><b>After verbs of mental activity</b> (to think, to believe, to consider, to expect, to understand, to suppose, to find and some others). Here the infinitive is used in any form, though the non-perfect forms are the most frequent.</p>	<p><i>I know him to be an honest man.</i>  <i>She believed him to have left for San Francisco.</i>  <i>I believed her to be knitting in the next room.</i>  <i>I should expect my devoted friend to be devoted to me.</i></p>
	<p><b>After verbs of wish and intention</b> (to want, to wish, to desire, to intend, to mean and some others). After these verbs only non-perfect common aspect forms of the infinitive with the particle to are used:</p>	<p><i>He only wished you to be near him.</i>  <i>I don't want him to be punished.</i>  <i>Several countries wanted Antarctica to be declared a 'world park'.</i></p>
	<p><b>After verbs of emotion</b> (to like, to love, to hate, to dislike and some others). Here non-perfect, common aspect forms of the infinitive are the most usual.</p>	<p><i>I always liked him to sing.</i>  <i>I'd love you to come with me too.</i>  <i>I hated him to have been sent away.</i></p>
	<p><b>After verbs of declaring</b> (to declare, to pronounce) (formal):</p>	<p><i>I declare you to be out of your mind.</i>  <i>He reported the boat to have been seen not far away.</i>  <i>He declared his intention to stand for president.</i></p>
	<p><b>After verbs of inducement</b> (to have, to let, to make, to get) of which the first three take the infinitive without 'to':</p>	<p><i>I can't get him to do it properly.</i>  <i>She made me <math>\emptyset</math> obey her.</i>  <i>The teacher asked Mary to bring the books.</i>  <i>The teacher asked the books to be brought.</i></p>

2	<b>The For-to-Infinitive Construction</b>	
	<p>The <i>for-to-infinitive</i> construction has the same functions as the infinitive alone, though with some restrictions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject</li> <li>2. Predicative</li> <li>3. Object</li> <li>4. Attribute</li> <li>5. Adverbial modifier of <i>purpose</i> or <i>consequence / result</i></li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>It was difficult for him to do anything else.</i></li> <li>2. <i>To hear him is for me to get back to my young days.</i></li> <li>3. <i>She watched for the door to open.</i> <i>He longed for me to see the truth.</i> <i>Neither of us meant for this to happen. We were just friends, for ages.</i></li> <li>4. <i>There was no need for him to be economical.</i> <i>There is little incentive for people to leave their cars at home when public transport remains so expensive.</i></li> <li>5. <i>She paused for him to continue.</i> <i>The wall was too high for anything to be visible.</i> <i>He had said enough for me to get alarmed.</i></li> </ol>
	<p><b>NOTE:</b> The <i>for-to-infinitive</i> construction has the same functions as the infinitive alone, though with some restrictions.</p>	

**List of Verbs with Object + Infinitive / for Object + Infinitive / with or without Object + Infinitive**

Table 11

Verbs + Object + Infinitive	Examples
Consider, warn, allow, believe, cause, command, enable, encourage, entitle, force, invite, order, persuade, show, teach, tell	I consider <i>her</i> to be the best person for the job. The police warned <i>everyone</i> to stay inside with their windows closed.
<b>Verbs + FOR + Object + Infinitive</b>	
Appeal, apply, arrange, campaign, long (= want,) plan, wait	They waited <i>for the taxi</i> to come before saying goodbye. They arranged <i>for Jane</i> to stay in London for a couple of days.
<b>Note:</b> after <b>apply</b> and <b>campaign</b> , the to-infinitive is usually <i>passive</i>	They applied <i>for the hearing</i> to be postponed.
<b>Verbs with or without Object + Infinitive</b>	
Can bear (in negative sentences and in questions), hate, help, like, love, need, prefer, want, wish	I prefer to drive. (= I do the driving) – I prefer <i>you</i> to drive. (= you do the driving) I need to complete this report by Friday. (= we complete it) – We need <i>them</i> to complete this report by Friday. (= they complete it)
<b>Note:</b> after 'help' we can use either a 'to'-infinitive or bare infinitive	
<b>Verbs + NO Object + Infinitive</b>	
Agree, consent, decide, fail, hope, pretend, refuse, start, threaten, volunteer, etc	The shop refused to accept a cheque. He threatened to report their behavior to the principal. ( <b>not</b> He threatened them to report their behavior ... .)

## SECTION II. PRACTICE EXERCISES

### FORMS OF THE INFINITIVE

**Exercise 1. Match the infinitives with the definitions of their forms.**

1.	<i>to have taken</i>	A.	<i>passive</i>
2.	<i>to go</i>	B.	<i>perfect continuous</i>
3.	<i>to be dying</i>	C.	<i>perfect</i>
4.	<i>to be seen</i>	D.	<i>perfect passive</i>
5.	<i>to have been eating</i>	E.	<i>continuous</i>
6.	<i>to have been caught</i>	F.	<i>simple</i>

**Exercise 2. Give all possible forms of the infinitive of the verbs according to the description.**

Forms	change	run
<i>non-perfect, non-continuous passive</i>		
<i>perfect continuous active</i>		
<i>simple</i>		
<i>non-perfect continuous active</i>		
<i>perfect non-continuous active</i>		
<i>perfect non-continuous passive</i>		

**Exercise 3. Point out the Infinitive and analyze its form according to the model:**

*In newspaper advertisements many words are abbreviated to save space. – to save – simple infinitive (non-perfect, non-passive, non-continuous)*

**1.** I could see every detail of him twenty yards off across the water. **2.** One always feels than the average police detective must be hampered by lack of imagination. **3.** It was important for everyone to be fully informed. **4.** What can he have done with his money? **5.** He should be working now. **6.** This might have been done yesterday. **7.** I tried to soothe him. **8.** It was the last message to reach the outside world. **9.** He is surrounded by people who want to adopt him, but he doesn't want to be adopted. **10.** It made the boy sad to see the old man come in each day with his skiff empty. **11.** But the woman seems to be frightening. **12.** Traditional windmill blades are designed to catch the wind and to be pushed by it.

**Exercise 4. Explain the difference in the meaning of the infinitive forms in the following sets of sentences. Translate the sentences in Russian.**

**1.a.** He may come tomorrow. **b.** He may have come but I was out. **2.a.** She was born to love. **b.** She was born to be loved. **3.a.** She ought to be told about it. **b.** She ought to have been told about it. **c.** She ought to tell him about it. **d.** She ought to have told him about it. **4.a.** It's good to finish work in time. **b.** It's good to have finished work for the day. **5.a.** I noticed that he seemed to be smoking a lot. **b.** He seemed to smoke a lot. **6.a.** Why's she so late? She can't still be working. Of course, she may be having trouble with the car. **b.** She can't work there, I know she has retired. She may have



some errand to do for them. **7.a.** She was glad to teach them. **b.** She was happy to have been taught by the experienced teachers. **c.** She felt happy to have been teaching English for many years.

**Exercise 5. Open the brackets using the appropriate form of the infinitive.**

**1.** You ought (to put) it out of your mind. It has nothing (to do) with you. **2.** Even if you disliked her at first sight you should (to be) polite. **3.** I'd rather (to stay) awake. **4.** He hasn't got back by now. Whatever can (to happen) to him? **5.** It's nice (to sit) here with you. **6.** She ought (to tell) them about it. **7.** I'm so sorry not (to come) on Thursday. **8.** I appear (to make) a small mistake. **9.** I didn't expect (to invite) to join them. **10.** Nothing seems (to forget) by now, though it was long ago. **11.** We are looking for a place (to live) in. **12.** Give me the names of the people (to contact). **13.** The dog was nowhere (to find). **14.** He was made (to give) them the money back. **15.** She was believed (to take part) in revolutionary activities. **16.** Why (to pay) more at other shops? We have the lowest prices in town. **17.** I heard her (to say) that she was fed up. **18.** He seems (to sit) here all day long.

**Exercise 6. Use either particle *to* or *bare infinitive* in the sentences that follow.**

1. I didn't want (to eat) the crawfish. My sister made me (to try) it.
2. Several witnesses saw the boy (to leave) the sidewalk and (to run) into the side of the bus.
3. "I remember the first song I heard him (to sing): 'Mention Dirty to My Heart'." (Alan Lomax speaking about Woody Guthrie.)
4. On Tuesday, the White House announced new steps (to expand) research into technology that would help (to capture) and (to store) carbon emitted by burning coal.
5. I felt her heart (to beat).
6. They ought (to have told) someone that they were leaving.
7. The birds were heard (to sing) a merry tune.
8. The program has strengthened our economy and helped (to remedy) past and present discrimination.
9. The lamb is ready (to be eaten).
10. We watched Leo (to become) confused.
11. Everybody wanted (*to be told*) over and over again the things which had happened to her.
12. We feed them, we let them (to sleep) in our beds, we play with them, we even talk to them. And of course, we love them. (About a pet! What pet?)
13. Her positioning *meant* that she *had* (to keep) turning in order to hug back.
14. The children were instructed not (to talk) or (to laugh) but (to act) as serious as possible.
15. She might (to have been) serious when said that she would never return.
16. You would not (to have called) to me unless I had been calling to you, "said the Lion".
17. What I really need to do is (to get away) for a break.

**Exercise 7. Paraphrase the sentences that follow using the infinitive.**

1. I was sorry I had disturbed.
2. I'm happy I've had a chance to talk to you.
3. I'm glad I've met you.
4. It seems she's got lost.
5. It's unlikely that they've got married.
6. It is known that he's made an important discovery.
7. It turned out that he had told a lie.
8. They believed that he was adopted into a family.



## SYNTACTIC FUNCTIONS OF THE INFINITIVE

### Exercise 1. Analyse the functions of the infinitives in the sentences that follow.

1. **To tell him about it** the same night was out of the question. 2. She did not mean **to depend on her father** in her economic things. 3. She wanted **to be a teacher**. 4. There's a lot of work **to do**. 5. **To draw his attention** I had **to speak very loudly**. 6. I don't want **to look pale** tonight. 7. Mary needs a friend **to play with**. 8. This form is **to be filled** in in ink. 9. I don't know where **to put the car**. 10. I sat down **to rest**. 11. **To switch on**, press the red button. 12. She needn't **have sent** the flowers. 13. Your task is **to get across the river** without being seen. 14. I was stupid **to believe** him. 15. He's the *oldest athlete* ever **to win** an Olympic gold medal. 16. He's easy **to please**. 17. His theory is impossible **to understand**. 18. Any dog-owner will tell you that their pet has a remarkable capacity **to understand** the world around them.

### Exercise 2. Complete the following statements using the infinitive as **Subject**.

- a)
- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ is a usual thing for her.
  - 2) \_\_\_\_\_ would be ridiculous.
  - 3) \_\_\_\_\_ was impossible.
  - 4) \_\_\_\_\_ would have been the death of me.
  - 5) \_\_\_\_\_ is out of the question.
- b)
- 1) It was nice of you \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2) It worries me \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3) It will do you no harm \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 4) It has become his habit \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 5) It made me feel annoyed \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 6) It will take us an hour \_\_\_\_\_.

### Exercise 3. Complete the following sentences using the infinitive as **Predicative**.

- 1) My greatest ambition is \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) Our next step will be \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) You look so worn out. What you need is \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) To act like this was \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) The best kind of rest for him is \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6) The only thing we could do was \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7) What I really want now is \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8) My plan was \_\_\_\_\_.
- 9) The only chance to get there is \_\_\_\_\_.
- 10) To give farmers an incentive to improve their land is \_\_\_\_\_.

### Exercise 4.

#### a) Complete the following using the infinitive as **Part of a Predicative**.

1. The weather is unlikely \_\_\_\_\_.
2. He was unwilling or unable \_\_\_\_\_ the fine.
3. The question was difficult \_\_\_\_\_.
4. What he says is pleasant \_\_\_\_\_, but rather hard \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The poem was easy \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The film is interesting \_\_\_\_\_.
7. This task will not be difficult \_\_\_\_\_.
8. The melody is pleasant \_\_\_\_\_.

**b) Make up sentences of your own, illustrating the model above.**

Make use of the following words: comfortable / uncomfortable, convenient / inconvenient, difficult, easy, hard, interesting, nice, pleasant / unpleasant, useful.

**Exercise 5.**

**a) Express disagreement with the following statements according to the model using the infinitive as **Part of the Verbal Predicate**.**

**Model:** Mozart is known to have died very old. → No, Mozart is known to have died very young.

- 1) Dogs are supposed to like chocolate.
- 2) The economic situation in the country is likely to change for the better after Brexit<sup>4</sup>.
- 3) Potatoes are known to have come to Russia from China.
- 4) Cats are believed to be good swimmers.
- 5) The communists are sure to win the elections in the UK.
- 6) Magellan is known to have discovered America.
- 7) Prices are likely to come down soon.
- 8) Children are believed to hate cartoons.

**b) Think of possible statements of your own, illustrating the usage of the infinitive as **Part of the Verbal Predicate** (Complex Subject or Subjective Infinitive Construction).**

**Exercise 6.**

**a) Complete the following using the infinitive as **Object**.**

- 1) My friend offered \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) I was surprised \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) The teacher promised \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) I am sorry \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Do you remember \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6) She was proud \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7) When did you learn \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8) He tried \_\_\_\_\_.

**b) Make up dialogues, using the infinitive as object. Use the following words and phrases:**

to agree, to ask, to decide, to demand, to intend, to offer, to promise, to propose, to remember, to try, to want, to be afraid, to be ashamed, to be frightened, to be furious, to be glad, to be happy, to be pleased, to be proud, to be sorry, to be surprised, etc.

**Exercise 7.**

**a) Complete the following sentences using the infinitive as **Attribute**.**

- 1) There's nothing \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) I have no time \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) He was the last \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) This is just the man \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) I have something \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6) She had nowhere \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7) These are the rules \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8) He was the only one \_\_\_\_\_.

**b) Develop your sentences into short situations.**

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<sup>4</sup> 'Brexit' ['breksit'] – an abbreviation for "British exit", referring to the U.K.'s decision in a June 23, 2016 referendum to leave the European Union (EU).

**Exercise 8. Arrange the given words into sentences, using the infinitive as an Adverbial modifier of result:**

- 1) enough; not; well; to go back to work; is; Linda.
- 2) to use; scissors; too; are; for; sharp; very young children.
- 3) my work; yesterday; to finish; enough; not; time; have.
- 4) we couldn't go; too; to call the box office for tickets; because we waited; long; to the musical.
- 5) old; Jimmy; enough; not; to ride on the bus by himself; is.

**Exercise 9. Use the following infinitive phrases as Parenthesis in sentences of your own.**

To begin with, to tell (speak) the truth, to speak frankly, to cut (make) a long story short, to crown (it) all, to say the least, to put it mildly, not to mention, to make matters (things) worse.

**Exercise 10.**

**a) Read the following newspaper and magazine headlines. If possible, paraphrase them so as to use the infinitive as Part of the Verbal Predicate (complex subject with the infinitive) according to the model:**

**Model:** "A thief has made off with a lot of money", the police report. → A thief is reported to have made off with a lot of money. (to make off with = escape with)

1. "Phrasal verbs are more colloquial and often much more picturesque", linguists believe.
2. "Earth Shrinking by Ten Metres Each Year", declare Scientists.
3. Appalling Reports of Rebel Troops Entering Capital.
4. Earthquake Supposed to Have Cost \$3 Billion.
5. Young People Encouraged to Apply for Government Grants.
6. Discovery That Aspirin Can Help Fight Cancer.

**b) Which newspapers and magazines published in this country do you prefer to read? Make use of the following phrases and constructions in your answers:**

I find / consider / think it interesting / useful / important / pleasant / boring to...  
It's necessary / important (for...) to ... etc.

**c) Infinitive in headlines often means what will happen, or what is predicted to happen in the future, or intentions. Read the following headlines. What time reference of the action does the infinitive denote (Past, Present or Future)?**

1. Be the life of the party! Get witty jokes, fascinating facts, and sweet tips *to boost* your public-speaking mojo, all in a cool, weekly-ish interactive newsletter!
2. Agricultural policy *to be discussed*.
3. "1994: President and Queen *to Open* Chunnel".
4. Russia *to Create* Government Job *to Fight* Doping in Sport.

## INFINITIVE CONSTRUCTIONS (SYNTACTIC COMPLEXES)

**Exercise 1. Paraphrase the following sentences using the Complex Object with the infinitive. Follow the model:**

*They believe that she is guilty. → They believe her to be guilty.*

1. We know that he is an honest person.
2. I could hardly believe that it had happened.
3. He felt that somebody touched him lightly on the shoulder.
4. The father knew that she had a lot of potential.
5. They wanted to recruit someone who could drive, feed and assist.
6. Do you have a professional dream that you would wish to pursue?
7. They discovered that the claim was false.
8. I found that the task was too difficult.
9. He heard that someone called him by name.

**Exercise 2. Arrange the following words into sentences, using the Complex Object with the infinitive. Add the particle 'to' if necessary. Translate the sentences into Russian:**

- 1) so; be; it; let.
- 2) speak; I; have heard; of his parents; never; him.
- 3) what; that; her; do; made?
- 4) about the voyage; I, me; you; want; tell.
- 5) swing; at once; open; the door; I; saw.
- 6) without explaining; him; let; she; go; anything.
- 7) young; the sound of this melody; makes; feel; me; again.

**Exercise 3. Complete the following sentences by adding 'for-phrases' to them. Follow the model.**

**Model:** It's advisable (she; to stay in bed). →  
It's advisable for her to stay in bed.

- 2) It's necessary (you; not to make such mistakes).
- 3) It's rather unusual (he; to be late).
- 4) It was rather pleasant (we; to spend our holidays in Petersburg).
- 5) It'll be better (she; to talk to the manager).
- 6) Is it possible (you; to make him see the doctor)!
- 7) It was not difficult (I; to write this article).
- 8) It's very important (children; to play outdoors).
- 9) It'll be useful (you; to read more books in the original).
- 10) It's high time (we; to take a decision).
- 11) It was surprising (he; to behave like this).

### Exercise 4.

**a) Complete the following sentences using the 'for-to-Infinitive' Construction. Make use of the words in brackets.**

- 1) He stood there with a bunch of flowers waiting for (she) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) Everything will be all right. There is nothing for (you) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) It's getting cold. It's desirable for (the children) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) Under the circumstances I really think it best for (him) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) The cafe is crowded with people. I can't find a place for (we) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6) They waited at the door for (she) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7) Where are the Robinsons? It seems strange for (they) \_\_\_\_\_.

- 8) Have you brought something for (I) in the train?
- 9) She is out playing. The doctor does not think it necessary for (she) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 10) Tom has missed the last lecture. It is advisable for (he) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 11) She played the violin for (we) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 12) There is no reason for (you) \_\_\_\_\_.

**b) Imagine that you have a friend who has come to a strange town for the first time and had all his money stolen. It's about 10 o'clock a.m. and his plane leaves at noon. What would you advise him to do?**

Put forward your suggestions, using the 'for-to-infinitive' construction.

**Exercise 5. Translate the following into Russian.**

- 1) *It's impossible for the job to be finished in time.*
- 2) *Would it be easy for you to phone me tomorrow?*
- 3) *It's important for the meeting to start at eight.*
- 4) *It seems unnecessary for him to start work this week.*
- 5) *It's essential for the school to be properly heated.*
- 6) *Is it usual for the foxes to come close to the town?*
- 7) *I thought it strange for her to be out so late.*
- 8) *It's not good for the oil tank to be so close to the house.*

**Exercise 6. Think of your own sentences with the adjectives given below. Use the model: It's + adjective for smb / smth to do / not to do smth.**

*vital, necessary, pointless, unimportant, common, normal, unusual, rare, right, wrong*

**Exercise 7. Point out the Infinitive constructions. Translate the sentences into Russian.**

(1) Most sport psychologists believe it is important for parents to show an interest in their children's sport participation. Most children want their parents to watch them perform in sports. Many children whose parents do not come to watch them play in sporting events feel that their parents do not adequately support them. However some children become extremely nervous when their parents watch them perform, or get embarrassed when their parents cheer too loudly or make a fuss. If children request that their parents not watch them perform, parents should respect their children's wishes. Parents should compliment their children for their sports performance.

One of the hardest things for parents to do is to watch their children practicing or performing at a sport without helping them, to let their children make mistakes without interfering. The best way parents can help children in sports is to let them get to know themselves, and the only way they can do this is by having experiences in life [21, p. 365].

(2) It is traditional for the bride's father to give her away (to walk to the front of the church with her and formally give permission for her to marry). After the ceremony the bride and groom and the guests go to the reception, which is special meal and a party to celebrate the wedding. During the meal the bride and groom cut the wedding cake together. In the US they feed each other a small piece, and it is traditional for them to try and make a mess on each other's faces. At the end of the meal there speeches made by the bride's father, the groom, and the best man. Before the reception ends, the bride and groom drive away to a hotel to spend their wedding night, before beginning their honeymoon. Before the couple leaves, the bride throws her bouquet to her friends. According to custom, the one who catches it will be the next one to get married [17, p. 804].

**Talking points**

1. When a child did you want your parents to watch you perform in sports? Why?
2. Do you have a similar wedding ceremony tradition in your country / culture? Do / would you follow it?

**Exercise 8. Choose one of the verbs to complete each sentence.** (To do exercises 7–9 see Table 11 in Grammar Reference Section).

#	Sentences	Verbs
1	I ..... Jim to drive a car before the age of 18.	hoped / taught
	I ..... to drive a car before the age of 18.	
2	We ..... him to go to the party.	allowed / agreed
	We ..... to go to the party.	
3	They ..... for the kittens to go to good homes.	wanted / arranged
	They ..... the kittens to go to good homes.	
4	He ..... the children to stay away.	warned / threatened
	He ..... to stay away.	
5	The police ..... for his protectors to give him up.	appealed / forced
	The police ..... him to give himself up.	
6	She ..... him to visit the exhibition before it ended.	promised / told
	She ..... to visit the exhibition before it ended.	
7	Did you ..... for the bed to be delivered or shall I collect it?	need / arrange
	Did you ..... the bed to be delivered or will you collect it yourself?	
8	I ..... my mother to buy a new car.	decided / persuaded
	I ..... to buy a new car.	

**Exercise 9. Report the sentences using one of the verbs and a ‘to-infinitive’.** Use each verb once only.

agree, encourage, invite, order, promise, ~~refuse~~, volunteer, warn

1. You can't borrow the car! → He *refused* to lend me the car.
2. You really should continue the course. → He ...
3. I'll phone you soon. → He...
4. Okay, I'll come with you. → He...
5. Stop the car! → He ...
6. Would you like to go out for dinner? → He ...
7. I'll work late at the weekend. → He ...
8. Don't go out without an umbrella. → He...

**Exercise 10. There is at least one mistake in each sentence. Suggest appropriate corrections.**

1. She longed the holidays to come so that she could be with her family again.
2. I overheard say that he's thinking of moving to Manchester.
3. We watched to play football until it started to rain.
4. Very reluctantly, he consented her to lend money to Janet.
5. My parents always encouraged work hard at school.
6. For years the group has been campaigning an inquiry to hold into the accident.
7. I think we should let them to stay until the weekend.
8. Sam promised me to show me how to fish for salmon, but he never had time.
9. Hospital workers had to make them to do with a 1.5% pay increase this year.
10. I hear her tell that she's got a new job. = someone told me about it.
11. This card entitles to take an extra person with you free.
12. They let me to borrow their car while they were on holiday.

**Exercise 11. Translate the following into English.**

1. Хотелось бы мне сидеть там в тот момент.
2. Окно должно быть отремонтировано к завтрашнему утру.
3. Я собиралась тебе позвонить, но забыла.
4. Мог бы и позвонить. Мы беспокоились.
5. Как хорошо закончить работу раньше.
6. Она, кажется, работает в саду. Не думаю, что у нее есть на вас время.
7. Им повезло, они могли серьезно пострадать при пожаре.
8. Почему не позвонить ему и не спросить адрес?!
9. Мне интересно изучать иностранные языки.
10. Известно, что делегация уже прибыла.
11. Пригласите этого джентльмена войти. Он, кажется, ждет уже целый час.
12. Делать было нечего, только ходить по фойе и разглядывать афиши.
13. Странно, что её не пригласили на вечеринку.
14. Им важно приехать вовремя. Это их последний шанс.
15. Просить Сьюзен о помощи будет большой ошибкой.

## REVISION EXERCISES

**Exercise 12. Read the text that follows. Make up your own ad.**

### The Press in Britain

The Personal Columns in British newspapers are a favourite place for people to advertise all sorts of things – from flats to holidays, from cars to antiques! This is an advertisement you would be likely to find in British press; ads have a special language, and many words are abbreviated to save space. Here is an example:

**KNIGHTSBRIDGE.** 2 mins. Harrods, Attractive house to rent, furnished, £150 p. w., incl. c. h. & c. h. w., 4 beds, 2 large recepts., kit., 2 cloaks. Avail., long / short term. Tel. 4595694 after 6 p. m.

**Exercise 13.**

**a) Comment on the meaning of the following proverbs and sayings, give Russian equivalents and say what the functions of the infinitives are.**

- 1) If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all. (Don't say mean things about other people).
- 2) It's not enough to have a good mind, the main thing is to use it well.
- 3) The evils we bring on ourselves are hardest to bear.
- 4) There's always time to add a word, never to withdraw one.
- 5) Be slow to promise and quick to perform.
- 6) To err is human, to forgive is divine.
- 7) Diplomacy is to do and say the nastiest things in the nicest way.
- 8) The past is impossible to catch.
- 9) Happiness is not the absence of problems, but the ability to deal with them.

**b) Choose two of the proverbs above and develop them into short situations.**

**Exercise 14. Render the following jokes in Russian, focus on the use of the infinitive.**

1. Q. How can you prevent a Summer cold?  
A. You'd better catch it in the Winter!
2. Teacher: What kind of noun is 'trousers'?  
Pupil: To tell the truth, an uncommon noun, because it is singular on the top and plural at the bottom.

**Exercise 15. Starting with 'What' or 'All'.**

**a) Rewrite the sentences using the expressions with 'What' or 'All' according to the model:**

*What I really need to do* is get away for a break.

*What I'd really like to do* is learn to drive.

*All I wanted* was you to stay with me.

"If I was a flower growing wild and free *all I'd want* is you to be my sweet honeybee". (an ad)

*All I want is* to always remember you as the brave heart whom I adored.

1. Your company is sending you to Japan, so you have to start learning the language.  
What .....
2. You think it would be a great idea to buy a flat in the next couple of years.  
What .....
3. You have no money and desperately need to start saving.  
What .....



4. You think you would quite like to travel round Latin America in the non-too-distant future.

What .....

5. You've always wanted to start a family as soon as you get married.

All .....

6. You've had an idea – maybe go abroad for Christmas this year rather than stay at home.

What .....

**b) Complete these sentences in ways that are true for you.**

1. What I really need to do before the end of the week is .....

2. What I'd really like to do this / next summer is .....

3. All I want at the moment is .....

4. What I'd really like to be doing in a few years' time is .....

**Exercise 16. Read the following stories and retell them using the infinitive and infinitive constructions.**

### FUNNY CRIME STORIES

#### 1. Get Out Of The Car!

This is a true account recorded in the Police Log of Sarasota, Florida.

An elderly Florida lady did her shopping and, upon returning to her car, found four males in the act of leaving with her vehicle.

She dropped her shopping bags and drew her handgun, proceeding to scream at the top of her lungs, "I have a gun, and I know how to use it! Get out of the car!"

The four men didn't wait for a second threat. They got out and ran like mad.

The lady, somewhat shaken, then proceeded to load her shopping bags into the back of the car and got into the driver's seat. She was so shaken that she could not get her key into the ignition.

She tried and tried, and then she realized why. It was for the same reason she had wondered why there was a football, a Frisbee and two 12-packs of beer in the front seat.

A few minutes later, she found her own car parked four or five spaces farther down.

She loaded her bags into the car and drove to the police station to report her mistake.

The sergeant to whom she told the story couldn't stop laughing.

He pointed to the other end of the counter, where four pale men were reporting a car jacking by a mad, elderly woman described as white, less than five feet tall, glasses, curly white hair, and carrying a large handgun.

#### 2. Bungling Burglar Hangs Around to Wait for Police to Arrive.

A Victorian house in Dartford, Kent, England was the scene for this hilarious story of failure. The robber, armed with only a hammer attempted to smash his way into the house through the front windows. The man somehow got his foot caught and unable to free himself, was left hanging upside down in the window frame for more than an hour as a crowd of 30 neighbours and passers-by gathered to ridicule him in Dartford, Kent. One wag told Will and Guy that he called out, 'Hang in there, mate' to the would-be robber.

Police were seen laughing as they arrested the bungler.

#### 3. The Worst Hijacker.

We shall never know the identity of the man who in 1976 made the most unsuccessful hijack attempt ever. On a flight across America, he rose from his seat, drew a gun and took the stewardess hostage.

'Take me to Detroit', he said.

'We're already going to Detroit', she replied.

'Oh ... good', he said, and sat down again.

#### 4. The Brave Old Lady and the Hopeless Crook.

Mrs. Johns, a 75-year-old widow, woke up with a start. Peering into the darkness, she was astonished to see a man in her room. It was easy to see he was a burglar. At first, she was too afraid to move. Then she plucked up her courage and said, "We must talk about this over a cup of tea. Would you be so kind as to help me downstairs?" To her surprise, the man meekly obeyed. He was eager to help and anxious to please the old lady. He prepared the tea and said he was sorry to have disturbed her. He was too frightened to run away. After a cup of tea, he said he would be glad to give Mrs. Johns his name and address and left empty-handed. Of course, Mrs. Johns informed the police, who praised her for her bravery. Later, during the trial, the judge said it was his duty to send the man to prison, describing him as the most incompetent burglar he had ever met!

##### a) Develop the following phrases.

to be astonished to see ...  
to be easy to see ...  
to be too afraid to move  
to be so kind as to help ...  
to be eager to help and anxious to please ...  
to be sorry to have disturbed ...  
to be too frightened to run away  
to be glad to give ...  
to send smb to prison ...

##### b) Complete the following sentences.

Mrs. Johns happened to ...  
The burglar seemed to ...  
The burglar was too surprised ...  
Mrs. Johns was clever enough ...  
It wasn't difficult for the old woman ...  
It was a surprise for the burglar ...  
Mrs. Johns was not a woman to ...  
The police believed Mrs. Johns to be ...  
The police believed the burglar to be ...

#### Talking points

**Work in pairs and discuss the following questions, trying to use different forms of infinitive.**

1. Which story is the funniest?
2. What were the criminals' mistakes?
3. Which criminal was the most stupid / the worst prepared / the most unprofessional?
4. What do you think of the way the victims of the crimes behaved?

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Учебное издание

## **NON-FINITE FORMS: INFINITIVE**

## **НЕЛИЧНЫЕ ФОРМЫ ГЛАГОЛА: ИНФИНИТИВ**

**Рабочая тетрадь**

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Верстка: *Е.В. Ломакина*

Изд. лиц. ЛР № 020742. Подписано в печать 16.05.2019  
Формат 60×84/16. Бумага для множительных аппаратов  
Гарнитура Times New Roman. Усл. печ. листов 3,5  
Тираж 300 экз. Заказ 2085

Отпечатано в Нижневартковском государственном университете  
628615, Тюменская область, г. Нижневартковск, ул. Дзержинского, 11  
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