



## Gerunds and Infinitives: Both Forms Allowed: No Change in Meaning

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

1. Would you like \_\_\_ for lunch with us?  
a) to come  
b) coming  
c) come  
d) came
2. I would prefer \_\_\_ at home tonight.  
a) staying  
b) to stay  
c) stay  
d) stayed
3. She would hate \_\_\_ her best friend.  
a) disappoint  
b) disappointed  
c) to disappoint  
d) disappoints
4. Would you like \_\_\_ a seat by the window?  
a) having  
b) have  
c) has  
d) to have
5. It was starting \_\_\_ heavily, so we ran inside.  
a) raining  
b) rain  
c) rained  
d) to rain
6. She loves \_\_\_ her weekends at the beach.  
a) spending  
b) spend  
c) spent  
d) spends
7. He would love \_\_\_ abroad for a year.  
a) living  
b) to live  
c) live  
d) lived
8. The baby was beginning \_\_\_ her first steps.  
a) took  
b) take  
c) to take  
d) takes
9. I hate \_\_\_ goodbye to my friends.  
a) saying  
b) said  
c) say  
d) says
10. He was beginning \_\_\_ the answer.  
a) understanding  
b) understand  
c) understood  
d) to understand
11. We continued \_\_\_ even though it was raining.  
a) walk  
b) to walk  
c) walked  
d) walks

12. Would you love \_\_\_\_ in a big city like New York?  
a) live  
b) lived  
c) to live  
d) lives
13. They prefer \_\_\_\_ the bus to work.  
a) took  
b) take  
c) takes  
d) taking
14. I can't stand \_\_\_\_ to loud music late at night.  
a) listening  
b) listen  
c) listened  
d) listens
15. She would prefer \_\_\_\_ the meeting online.  
a) having  
b) to have  
c) have  
d) had
16. He likes \_\_\_\_ up early and going for a run.  
a) wake  
b) woke  
c) waking  
d) wakes
17. I began \_\_\_\_ French when I was twelve.  
a) learning  
b) learn  
c) learned  
d) learns
18. Would you hate \_\_\_\_ in a small town?  
a) living  
b) to live  
c) live  
d) lived
19. The team continued \_\_\_\_ hard despite the difficulties.  
a) works  
b) work  
c) working  
d) worked
20. It's beginning \_\_\_\_ cold outside.  
a) getting  
b) get  
c) got  
d) to get



## Answers

1. a) to come
2. b) to stay
3. c) to disappoint
4. d) to have
5. d) to rain
6. a) spending
7. b) to live
8. c) to take
9. a) saying
10. d) to understand
11. b) to walk
12. c) to live
13. d) taking
14. a) listening
15. b) to have
16. c) waking
17. a) learning
18. b) to live
19. c) working
20. d) to get



# Explanations

## 1. “to come” (a)

After 'would like', we always use the to-infinitive. 'Would you like to come?' is correct. We cannot say 'Would you like coming?'

## 2. “to stay” (b)

After 'would prefer', we always use the to-infinitive. 'I would prefer to stay at home' is correct.

## 3. “to disappoint” (c)

After 'would hate', we always use the to-infinitive. 'She would hate to disappoint her best friend' is correct.

## 4. “to have” (d)

After 'would like', we always use the to-infinitive. 'Would you like to have a seat?' is correct.

## 5. “to rain” (d)

When 'start' is in a continuous form (was starting), we use the to-infinitive to avoid two -ing forms together. 'It was starting to rain' is correct, not 'It was starting raining.'

## 6. “spending” (a)

The verb 'love' can be followed by either a gerund or a to-infinitive with no change in meaning. Here, 'spending' (gerund) is correct. 'She loves to spend' would also be acceptable.

## 7. “to live” (b)

After 'would love', we always use the to-infinitive. 'He would love to live abroad' is correct. We cannot say 'He would love living abroad' in this structure.

## 8. “to take” (c)

When 'begin' is in a continuous form (was beginning), we use the to-infinitive to avoid two -ing forms together. 'The baby was beginning to take her first steps' is correct.

## 9. “saying” (a)

The verb 'hate' can be followed by either a gerund or a to-infinitive with no change in meaning. Here, 'saying' (gerund) is correct. 'I hate to say goodbye' would also be acceptable.

## 10. “to understand” (d)

When 'begin' is in a continuous form (was beginning), we use the to-infinitive. Also, with mental state verbs like 'understand', the to-infinitive is preferred. 'He was beginning to understand' is correct.

## 11. “to walk” (b)

The verb 'continue' can be followed by either a gerund or a to-infinitive with no change in meaning. Here, 'to walk' is correct. 'We continued walking' would also be acceptable.

## 12. “to live” (c)

After 'would love', we always use the to-infinitive. 'Would you love to live in a big city?' is correct.

## 13. “taking” (d)

The verb 'prefer' can be followed by either a gerund or a to-infinitive with no change in meaning. Here, 'taking' (gerund) is correct. 'They prefer to take the bus' would also be acceptable.

## 14. “listening” (a)

The expression 'can't stand' can be followed by either a gerund or a to-infinitive. Here, 'listening' (gerund) is correct. 'I can't stand to listen' would also be acceptable.

**15. “to have” (b)**

After 'would prefer', we always use the to-infinitive. 'She would prefer to have the meeting online' is correct.

**16. “waking” (c)**

The verb 'like' can be followed by either a gerund or a to-infinitive with no change in meaning. Here, 'waking' (gerund) is correct. 'He likes to wake up early' would also be acceptable.

**17. “learning” (a)**

The verb 'begin' can be followed by either a gerund or a to-infinitive with no change in meaning. Here, 'learning' (gerund) is correct. 'I began to learn French' would also be acceptable.

**18. “to live” (b)**

After 'would hate', we always use the to-infinitive. 'Would you hate to live in a small town?' is correct.

**19. “working” (c)**

The verb 'continue' can be followed by either a gerund or a to-infinitive with no change in meaning. Here, 'working' (gerund) is correct. 'The team continued to work hard' would also be acceptable.

**20. “to get” (d)**

When 'begin' is in a continuous form (it's beginning), we use the to-infinitive to avoid two -ing forms together. 'It's beginning to get cold' is correct, not 'It's beginning getting cold.'