

FCE MINI LESSON

LET'S LEARN ABOUT:
WHEN TO USE A GERUND
OR AN INFINITIVE



WHEN TO USE A GERUND OR AN INFINITIVE

VERBS FOLLOWED BY EITHER AN INFINITIVE OR A VERB + -ING WITH A DIFFERENCE IN MEANING

	VERB + INFINITIVE	VERB + -ING
remember	<i>Did you remember to bring your running shoes? (an action you have to do)</i>	<i>I remember wondering if I would ever get down off the summit of the mountain. (a memory of something in the past)</i>
forget	<i>Don't forget to complete your physics presentation. (an action you have to do)</i>	<i>I'll never forget seeing my wife for the first time at my best friend's wedding. (a memory of something in the past)</i>
regret	<i>I regret to tell you that the room you booked is no longer available. (I'm sorry to give you this information.)</i>	<i>I regret not arriving at the hotel at the agreed time. (I'm sorry I didn't do this.)</i>
try	<i>I'm mailing my CV every day to IT companies to try and get a job. (My objective is to get a job in IT.)</i>	<i>If you want to get a job in IT, why don't you try phoning the companies? (Phoning is a method to reach your objective.)</i>
mean	<i>Martin means to get a scholarship to cover some of the costs of his college course. (This is his intention.)</i>	<i>He wanted to get a scholarship to cover some of the costs of his college course, but it meant getting top grades in all his subjects. (it involved)</i>
stop	<i>She stopped playing the game of chess to phone her mother. (in order to phone her mother)</i>	<i>When her opponent made a winning move, she stopped playing the game of chess. (She didn't continue.)</i>

ACTIVITIES!

1. I REMEMBERED ____ (TO LOCK / LOCKING) THE DOOR, BUT I FORGOT ABOUT THE WINDOWS.
2. HE STOPPED ____ (TO SMOKE / SMOKING) AFTER HIS HEALTH SCARE LAST YEAR.
3. I LOVE ____ (TO READ / READING) BOOKS IN MY FREE TIME.
4. SHE TRIED ____ (TO CALL / CALLING) HIM, BUT THERE WAS NO ANSWER.
5. THEY CONTINUED ____ (TO PLAY / PLAYING) DESPITE THE RAIN.
6. I REGRET ____ (TO TELL / TELLING) HER THE TRUTH; IT ONLY MADE THINGS WORSE.
7. IT'S HARD ____ (TO CONCENTRATE / CONCENTRATING) WHEN THERE'S SO MUCH NOISE.
8. HE CAN'T STAND ____ (TO BE / BEING) IN CROWDED PLACES.
9. THEY STARTED ____ (TO RUN / RUNNING) AS SOON AS THEY SAW THE BUS.
10. I DON'T REMEMBER ____ (TO MEET / MEETING) HIM AT THE PARTY.

ANSWERS

1. I REMEMBERED LOCKING THE DOOR, BUT I FORGOT ABOUT THE WINDOWS.
2. HE STOPPED SMOKING AFTER HIS HEALTH SCARE LAST YEAR.
3. I LOVE READING BOOKS IN MY FREE TIME.
4. SHE TRIED TO CALL HIM, BUT THERE WAS NO ANSWER.
5. THEY CONTINUED PLAYING DESPITE THE RAIN.
6. I REGRET TELLING HER THE TRUTH; IT ONLY MADE THINGS WORSE.
7. IT'S HARD TO CONCENTRATE WHEN THERE'S SO MUCH NOISE.
8. HE CAN'T STAND BEING IN CROWDED PLACES.
9. THEY STARTED TO RUN AS SOON AS THEY SAW THE BUS.
10. I DON'T REMEMBER MEETING HIM AT THE PARTY.