

UNIT 24

Infinitives After Certain Verbs

HAPPINESS

OUTCOMES

- Use verbs that are followed by infinitives
- Identify statistics in a short article
- Evaluate speakers' attitudes in a conversation
- Discuss tendencies and preferences
- Give an opinion in response to a literary quote
- Write a paragraph on a personal topic, using transition words

STEP 1 GRAMMAR IN CONTEXT

BEFORE YOU READ

Look at the photo. Discuss the questions.

1. What is the relationship of these people?
2. Do you think they are happy? Why?
3. What makes *you* feel happy?

READ

Read this magazine article about happiness.



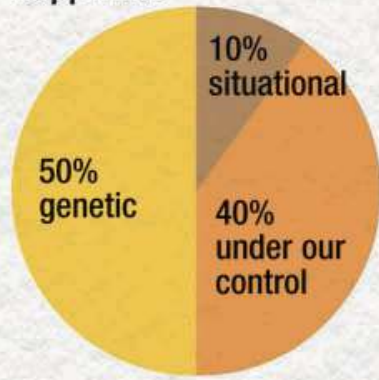
Can People Learn to Be Happy?

WE ALL KNOW people who have problems in life, but who still **seem to be** happy most of the time. On the other hand, there are people who **appear to have** it all—money, health, good friends, and family, but still seem unhappy. What makes one person happy and another unhappy? According to psychologist¹ Martin Seligman, 50 percent of happiness is genetic—you are born with a certain disposition.² This means that you are “programmed” from birth to feel a certain way. Another 10 percent of happiness is situational—if bad things happen, people **tend to feel** bad; if good things happen, they feel good, at least for a while. Interestingly, research shows that after some time, people **seem**

¹ *psychologist*: a person whose job it is to study the mind and how it works

² *disposition*: the way a person usually feels or acts

Sources of Happiness



to return to their pre-set genetic levels of happiness. But perhaps the most significant finding is that 40 percent of our feelings is under our control—we can choose to react to life’s situations one way or another.

If 40 percent of happiness is under our control, what can we do to feel happier? Studies show that happy people tend to do the following:

- interact with friends and people they like
- stay healthy
- focus on goals
- participate in enjoyable activities
- do meaningful work
- show compassion³ to themselves and others

Most people want to be happy. Life is not always easy, however, and it is appropriate to feel sad in reaction to a life-changing event such as illness, death, or other losses. We can, however, try to feel better even when we have problems. And it’s good to know that although genetics play a large role in how we feel, there is still a lot we can do to increase our chances at happiness.

³ compassion: a strong feeling of sympathy for someone who feels bad or has problems

AFTER YOU READ

A VOCABULARY Match the underlined words with the words in **bold**.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ___ 1. You’ll feel better if you <u>talk and work</u> with other people. | a. focus |
| ___ 2. Don’t <u>keep your attention</u> on your problems. | b. tend to |
| ___ 3. Sometimes it is <u>a normal reaction</u> to feel sad. | c. significant |
| ___ 4. Good friends and family <u>usually</u> make people feel better. | d. appropriate |
| ___ 5. The research on happiness is <u>important</u> . | e. participate in |
| ___ 6. People who <u>do</u> more enjoyable activities are happier. | f. interact |

B COMPREHENSION Read the statements. Check (✓) *True* or *False*.

- | | True | False |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. People who have money and health are always happy. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. People always feel bad in reaction to bad events. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Participating in enjoyable activities usually increases happiness. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. People’s attitudes can affect their happiness. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Feeling good is one of life’s goals. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. People can’t change the way they feel. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

C DISCUSSION Work with a partner. Compare your answers in B. Why did you check *True* or *False*?

STEP 2 GRAMMAR PRESENTATION

INFINITIVES AFTER CERTAIN VERBS

Statements				
Subject	Verb	(Object)	Infinitive	
I	decided		(not) to stay	home.
You	advised	John	(not) to change	jobs.
He	wanted	(her)	(not) to be	happy.

GRAMMAR NOTES

1 Forming Infinitives

An infinitive is to + the base form of the verb.	She decided to join a health club.
Form the negative by placing not before the infinitive: not to + base form.	She decided not to join the math club.

2 Verb + Infinitive

An infinitive can directly follow certain verbs.																									
<table border="0"> <tr> <td><i>agree</i></td> <td><i>fail</i></td> <td><i>manage</i></td> <td><i>seem</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>attempt</i></td> <td><i>forget</i></td> <td><i>offer</i></td> <td><i>tend</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>begin</i></td> <td><i>hope</i></td> <td><i>plan</i></td> <td><i>try</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>can't wait</i></td> <td><i>learn</i></td> <td><i>refuse</i></td> <td><i>volunteer</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>choose</i></td> <td><i>like</i></td> <td><i>remember</i></td> <td><i>wait</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>decide</i></td> <td><i>love</i></td> <td><i>rush</i></td> <td><i>want</i></td> </tr> </table>	<i>agree</i>	<i>fail</i>	<i>manage</i>	<i>seem</i>	<i>attempt</i>	<i>forget</i>	<i>offer</i>	<i>tend</i>	<i>begin</i>	<i>hope</i>	<i>plan</i>	<i>try</i>	<i>can't wait</i>	<i>learn</i>	<i>refuse</i>	<i>volunteer</i>	<i>choose</i>	<i>like</i>	<i>remember</i>	<i>wait</i>	<i>decide</i>	<i>love</i>	<i>rush</i>	<i>want</i>	<p>VERB + INFINITIVE</p> <p>They seemed to enjoy it.</p> <p>He tends to be happy.</p> <p>She tried not to arrive late.</p> <p>I can't wait to see you.</p> <p>We like to go to the movies.</p> <p>Did they decide to take a dance class?</p>
<i>agree</i>	<i>fail</i>	<i>manage</i>	<i>seem</i>																						
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BE CAREFUL! When there is more than one infinitive in a clause, do not repeat to.	<p>He wants to move and get a job.</p> <p>NOT He wants to move and to get a job.</p>																								

3 Verb + Object + Infinitive

Some verbs need an object (noun or pronoun) before the infinitive.													
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<i>advise</i>	<i>encourage</i>	<i>permit</i>	<i>tell</i>										
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The object can be a noun or a pronoun.													
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noun • pronoun 	<p>VERB + NOUN + INFINITIVE</p> <p>We invited Marta to have dinner with us.</p> <p>VERB + PRONOUN + INFINITIVE</p> <p>We invited her to have dinner with us.</p>												
BE CAREFUL! Do not forget the object after these verbs.	<p>Marta persuaded us to go dancing.</p> <p>NOT Marta persuaded to go dancing.</p>												

4 Verb + (Object) + Infinitive

An **infinitive** or an **object + infinitive** can follow some verbs.

<i>ask</i>	<i>help</i>	<i>prefer</i>	<i>teach</i>
<i>choose</i>	<i>need</i>	<i>promise</i>	<i>want</i>
<i>expect</i>	<i>pay</i>	<i>remind</i>	<i>would like</i>

VERB + INFINITIVE

She **wanted to take** dance lessons.

VERB + OBJECT + INFINITIVE

She **wanted Tomás to take** dance lessons.

USAGE NOTE After the verb *help*, you can use the **base form** of the verb or the **infinitive**.

He **helped** me **meet** new people.

He **helped** me **to meet** new people.

PRONUNCIATION NOTE

Pronunciation of *Want to*

In **informal conversation**, we often pronounce **want to** “wanna.”

A: Do you **want to** go dancing Friday night?
(*wanna*)

B: Sure. Where do you **want to** go?
(*wanna*)

IN WRITING Sometimes people use *wanna* in **informal notes, text messages, and email** to friends.

Hi, Lyn. I **wanna** ask you a question. (*email*)

BE CAREFUL! Do not use *wanna* when you write to people you have a formal relationship with. Also, do not use *wanna* in formal writing.

Professor, I **want to** ask you a question. (*email*)

NOT Professor, I *wanna* ask you a question.

Studies show that people **want to** be happy. (*paper*)

NOT Studies show that people *wanna* be happy.

REFERENCE NOTES

For a list of **verbs followed by infinitives**, see Appendix 14 on page 459.

For a list of **verbs followed by object + infinitive**, see Appendix 16 on page 459.

STEP 3 FOCUSED PRACTICE

EXERCISE 1 DISCOVER THE GRAMMAR

A GRAMMAR NOTES 1–4 Read Alissa’s journal entry. Underline all the verb + infinitive and the verb + object + infinitive combinations. Circle the objects.

I have been unhappy since I moved here. Dara advised (me) to join a club. I didn’t know anyone, and I wanted to make new friends. So, I finally did it! I decided to join the school’s Outdoor Adventure Club, and I went to my first meeting last night. I’m really excited about this. The club is planning a hiking trip next weekend. I can’t wait to go. I hope it won’t be too hard for my first adventure. Last night, they also decided to go rafting in the spring. At first, I didn’t want to sign up, but the leader was so nice. He urged me not to miss this trip, so I put my name on the list. After the meeting, a group of people asked me to go out with them. We went to a coffee shop and talked for hours. Well, I hoped to make some new friends when I joined this club, but I didn’t expect everyone to be so friendly. I’m glad Dara persuaded me not to give up.

B Read what people said to Alissa. Then find the words in her journal entry that describe the situation.

1. “We’re going out for coffee. Why don’t you come?” A group of people asked me to go out with them.
2. “We’re all going rafting in the spring.” _____
3. “Don’t miss this trip!” _____
4. “I’m happy that I listened to Dara. I didn’t quit.” _____
5. “You really should join a club.” _____
6. “I’m really looking forward to going!” _____
7. “I’m going to join!” _____
8. “I’m surprised everyone is so friendly.” _____
9. “I don’t think I’ll sign up.” _____
10. “I’d like to make some new friends.” _____

EXERCISE 2 VERB + INFINITIVE

GRAMMAR NOTES 1–2 Psychologist Martin Seligman advises people to make a list of things that went well during the day. Complete Lucas's list. Use the verbs in parentheses. Choose between affirmative and negative.

1. I've been feeling tired, so I refused to work late today. I needed the rest.
(refuse / work)
2. I _____ on my problem with my co-worker. Instead, I thought about her good qualities.
(decide / focus)
3. I _____ my aunt. Yesterday, I forgot.
(remember / call)
4. I _____ to my friends so much. It's really not appropriate.
(try / complain)
5. I _____ to Miguel's party. I need to have some fun.
(agree / go)
6. Jon and I _____ to work today. It's better to walk.
(choose / drive)
7. I _____ at the health fair. I think it's an important event.
(volunteer / help)

EXERCISE 3 VERB + OBJECT + INFINITIVE

GRAMMAR NOTES 1, 3–4 Read these tips from Helen's Happiness Workshop. Rewrite each tip using an object + infinitive. Choose between affirmative and negative.

1. "Go outside every day. But don't stay out in the sun too long."
Helen advised us to go outside every day.
But she warned us not to stay out in the sun too long.
2. "Get enough sleep. Aim for at least six hours."
She urged _____.
She told _____.
3. "Stay healthy. Don't eat junk food."
She told _____.
She urged _____.
4. "Do something fun every day."
She encouraged _____.
5. "Don't spend too much time alone."
She persuaded _____.
6. "Don't give up! Be patient!"
She urged _____
and reminded _____.
7. "Come to the next happiness workshop!"
She invited _____.

EXERCISE 4 OBJECT OR NO OBJECT

GRAMMAR NOTES 1–4 Write a summary sentence for each conversation. Use the correct form of a verb from the box followed by an infinitive or an object + infinitive.

advise ask decide encourage forget ~~invite~~ remind

1. **JASON:** You look a little down, Meghan. We're going out. Would you like to join us?
MEGHAN: I'd love to.

Summary: Jason *invited Meghan to join them* _____.

2. **INA:** This math problem is too hard. I can't do it.
TIM: Come on, Ina. I'm sure you can do it. Don't give up. Just keep trying!

Summary: Tim _____.

3. **SALLY:** Stop focusing on your problems. You'll only feel worse.
DIEGO: You're probably right, but it's easier said than done.

Summary: Sally _____.

4. **ROBERTO:** Don't forget to go to the happiness workshop. It's tomorrow night.
EMILIA: Oh, OK. Thanks! I'll be there.

Summary: Roberto _____.

5. **LYNN:** Can you help me plan a birthday party for Bill?
LARRY: Sure. I'd be happy to. When's his birthday?

Summary: Lynn _____.

6. **LISA:** I'm finally going to take a photography class.
KYLE: Great. You need to have more fun.

Summary: Lisa _____.

7. **RITA:** So, did you go to the workshop?
EMILIA: Oh, no! When was it?

Summary: Emilia _____.

EXERCISE 5 WANT TO OR WANNA

PRONUNCIATION NOTE Listen to the sentences. Check (✓) *More Formal* if you hear *want to*. Check (✓) *Less Formal* if you hear *wanna*.

- | | More Formal | Less Formal |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Most people want to be happy. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Do you want to go to a movie tonight? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. I don't want to stay home. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. We want to make more friends. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. They want to focus on their goals. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Do you want to read this book on happiness? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. I really want to learn how to be happier. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

EXERCISE 6 EDITING

GRAMMAR NOTES 1–4 Read this article on friendship and happiness. There are ten mistakes in the use of infinitives. The first mistake is already corrected. Find and correct nine more.



Studies show that happy people tend ^{to have} ~~having~~ more friends. You know from experience that friends are important for your happiness, and you'd like to make some new ones. Maybe you're at a new school or job, or, possibly, you have changed and the "new you" wants meet new people.

To begin with, psychologist Timothy Johnson strongly advises to turn off your computers. He says that "friending" people on Facebook just isn't the same as making real friends. You need go out and interact with real people. He says, "Decide right now to don't refuse invitations. When a classmate or co-worker invites you for coffee, just say yes." Join a club and volunteer to doing something. That responsibility will force you to attend the meetings. By doing these things, you will manage meeting a lot of new people. Dr. Johnson warns us, however, don't rush to become close friends with someone right away. Relationships take time. You have to learn to listen. It is important to encourage your new friend to talks by asking him or her questions. Allow each relationship develops naturally, and soon you'll have a group of people you are really comfortable interacting with. These types of friendships are important to happiness because they help you to feel connected, and feeling connected leads to increased happiness.

STEP 4 COMMUNICATION PRACTICE

EXERCISE 7 LISTENING

A Two friends are having a conversation after work. Listen to parts of their conversation. Read the pairs of sentences below. Then listen again to each part and choose the sentence you hear.

- a. I expected to be on time.
b. I expected him to be on time.
- a. He wanted to work on Saturday.
b. He wanted me to work on Saturday.
- a. She tends to be happy most of the time.
b. She tends not to be happy most of the time.
- a. My cousin wants to make dinner.
b. My cousin wants me to make dinner.
- a. I decided to go to the workshop.
b. I decided not to go to the workshop.
- a. She asked me to get dessert.
b. She asked me not to get dessert.

B Listen again. Work with a partner and compare your answers in A. Decide if Ana is happy or unhappy about each situation. Give reasons.

EXAMPLE: A: Ana said, "I expected to be on time."

B: That's right. But she wasn't on time because she missed her bus.

A: I think she felt bad because her boss was annoyed with her. He expected her to be on time, too.

EXERCISE 8 WHAT ABOUT YOU?

A CONVERSATION Complete these personal statements before you talk about them with a partner. Make sure you use infinitives.

- When I'm happy, I tend _____.
- I like _____. I always feel better afterwards.
- Every day I try _____.
- I seem _____ when I spend time with my friends.
- When I feel down, I don't want _____.
- I prefer _____.

B Now talk about your statements with a partner.

EXAMPLE: A: When I'm happy, I tend to want to be with other people. What about you?

B: Me too. Sometimes when I'm feeling down, I prefer to spend time alone.

EXERCISE 9 QUOTABLE QUOTES

DISCUSSION Work with a partner. Read these quotes about happiness. Choose three quotes and discuss them. What do they mean? Do you agree with them? Why or why not?

- The best way to cheer yourself is to try to cheer someone else up.
—*Mark Twain (1835–1910, U.S. author)*
EXAMPLE: **A:** Mark Twain said, “The best way to cheer yourself is to try to cheer someone else up.” I agree with that. If you try to cheer another person up, you think less about your own problems.
B: It’s true. When I want to feel better fast, I always try to help another person.
- If you want others to be happy, practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion.
—*Dalai Lama (1935– , Tibetan religious leader)*
- You will never be happy if you continue to search for what happiness consists of. You will never live if you are looking for the meaning of life.
—*Albert Camus (1913–1960, French philosopher and author)*
- We tend to forget that happiness doesn’t come as a result of getting something we don’t have, but rather of recognizing and appreciating what we have.
—*Frederick Koenig (1774–1833, German inventor)*
- When what we are is what we want to be, that’s happiness.
—*Malcolm Forbes (1919–1990, U.S. magazine publisher)*
- Happiness is a choice. You can choose to be happy. There’s going to be stress in life, but it’s your choice whether you let it affect you or not.
—*Valerie Bertinelli (1960– , U.S. actor)*

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EXERCISE 10 RECIPE FOR HAPPINESS

DISCUSSION Work in a group. What is important for happiness? Consider the issues in the list below.

- EXAMPLE: **A:** I don’t think you have to be rich, but it helps to have enough money for the things you need.
B: I agree. Money can make a significant difference in your life. You don’t want to struggle to pay the rent or to put food on the table.
C: Yes, but I’d like to . . .

- money
- health
- age
- friends
- family
- education
- work
- hobbies and interests
- Other: _____





FROM GRAMMAR TO WRITING

A BEFORE YOU WRITE Think about a time that you were unhappy about something in your life. What was the problem? What steps did you take to try to change the situation? How did you feel afterwards? Complete this outline.

The problem: _____

Steps I took to change the situation:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

How I felt after: _____

B WRITE Use your outline to write a paragraph about how you tried to improve a situation you were unhappy about. Use *First*, *Then*, and *Finally* to introduce the steps you took. Try to avoid the common mistakes in the chart.

EXAMPLE: I was unhappy with my apartment. I couldn't afford to move, so I decided to improve the situation. First, I asked my friends to help me paint. Then, I... Finally, I... Afterwards, I felt...

Common Mistakes in Using Infinitives

Use an **infinitive** after **certain verbs**. Do not use the base form of the verb or verb + *-ing*.

I **want to be** happy.

NOT I ~~want be~~ happy.

NOT I ~~want being~~ happy.

Put **not** before the infinitive to form the **negative**. Do not put *not* before the base form of the verb.

I chose **not to go** to the party.

NOT I chose ~~to not go~~ to the party.

Use **want to**. Do not use *wanna*.

They **want to** be friends with me.

NOT They ~~wanna~~ be friends with me.

C CHECK YOUR WORK Read your paragraph. Underline all the verb + infinitive and the verb + object + infinitive combinations. Circle the objects. Use the Editing Checklist to check your work.

Editing Checklist

Did you use...?

- infinitives after the correct verbs
- the correct form of the negative (*not* + infinitive)
- verb + object + infinitive correctly

D REVISE YOUR WORK Read your paragraph again. Can you improve your writing? Make changes if necessary. Give your paragraph a title.

UNIT 24 **REVIEW**

Test yourself on the grammar of the unit.

A Complete each sentence with the infinitive form of the correct verb from the box.

call finish go meet play read

1. Would you like _____ this book about happiness? It's really good.
2. I've heard so much about you. I can't wait _____ you!
3. Did you manage _____ your paper on time?
4. Where did you decide _____ on your next vacation?
5. I love the piano. I want to learn _____.
6. Remember _____ when you get home.

B Unscramble the words to complete the sentences.

1. I _____
(visit / Mary / invited / us / to)
2. She _____
(come / to / agreed)
3. She _____
(to / wants / new friends / make)
4. I _____
(early / her / to / told / come)
5. I _____
(Tom / not / decided / invite / to)
6. He _____
(his project / to / needs / finish)

C Find and correct eight mistakes.

1. A: I want invite you to my party.
B: Thanks. I'd love coming.
2. A: I plan to not get there before 8:00.
B: Remember getting the soda. Don't forget!
3. A: Sara asked I to help her.
B: I agreed helping her, too.
4. A: I promised pick up some ice cream.
B: OK. But let's do it early. I prefer don't arrive late.

Now check your answers on page 480.

Go to [MyEnglishLab](https://www.mylab.com) to complete the review online.