**Verb patterns**

When we put two verbs together, the second verb is usually in the infinitive or *-ing* form. Which pattern we use depends on the first verb.

**verb + *-ing* form**

admit, advise, avoid, can't bear, can't help, carry on, consider, delay, dislike, deny, enjoy, envisage, fancy, feel, finish, give up, have difficulty, like, imagine, intend, it’s no good, it’s not worth, justify, keep (on), mind, practise, propose, put off, recollect, recommend, risk, stop, spend time, suggest

**verb + infinitive**

agree, ask, beg, dare, decide, expect, fail, happen, hope, manage, mean, offer, prepare, pretend, promise, refuse, seem, want, wish, would like, would prefer

* Some verbs can be followed by an *-ing* form or an infinitive with little or no change in meaning: *like, love, prefer, hate, begin, start, continue, intend.*
* A few verbs *(forget, go on, regret, remember, stop, try)* change their meaning depending on whether they are followed by an infinitive or an *-ing* form.

I remember locking the door.

Please remember to lock the door.

I regret to inform you that you failed the exam.

Do you regret not telling him you loved him?

* The verbs *see, hear, watch* and *feel* can be followed by object + base form to talk about a completed action, or object + *-ing* form to talk about an action in progress.

I saw Jo drop her wallet in the street then pick it up.

I saw Emil playing football in the park.

**verb + object + infinitive**

allow, ask, command, dare, enable, encourage, expect, forbid, force, get, inspire, invite, order, permit, persuade, remind, request, teach, tell, trust, urge, warn, want, wish, would like, would prefer

**verb + object + base form (infinitive without *to)***

help, make, let, know, notice

**(the causative:) verb + object + past participle**

get, have

1. **Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets.**
2. I encouraged my friend … (stay on) at school for another year.
3. Did you hear Pavarotti …(sing) *Nessun Dorma* at the concert?
4. We had difficulty …(get) the car …(start) this morning.
5. Is Jake pretending … (be) asleep?
6. While I was in town I stopped at the post office … (buy) some stamps.
7. Please remind me … (phone) Uncle Alan this evening.
8. Why do you keep on … interrupt) me?
9. I’m going to have my hair … (cut) this afternoon.
10. I can’t help … (want) Kevin …(ask) me out.
11. My dad is allowing me … (go) to the pop concert, but he’s made me … (promise) …(be) home

by midnight.