STENCIL 1E

INFINITIVE OR –ING FORM

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| VERB + INFINITIVE | VERB + -ING FORM (GERUND) |
| to agree  | to avoid |
| to decide | can’t face |
| to expect | can’t help |
| to fail | can’t stand |
| to happen | to enjoy |
| to hope | to fancy |
| to manage | to feel like |
| to mean | to imagine |
| to pretend | to insist on |
| to promise | to keep |
| to refuse | to spend (time) |
| to seem | to suggest |
| to want |  |
| EXAMPLES |
| My wife agreed to meet me at ten. | These people try to avoid seeing each other. |
| After the fight Jack decided to stay. | He imagined staying on Mars. |
| We hope to see you in two weeks. | John felt like playing football. |
| EXAMPLES WITH NOT.When you want to use the negative you add ‘not’ before the infinitive or the –ing form |
| My wife agreed not to meet me at ten. | These people try to avoid not seeing each other.  |
| After the fight Jack decided not to stay.  | He imagined not staying on Earth. |
| We hope not to see you in two weeks.  | John felt like not playing football.  |

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| SOME VERBS CAN BE FOLLOWED BY EITHER THE INFINITIVE OR THE –ING FORM. THEN THERE IS A SLIGHT DIFFERENCE.  |
| I like to get up early. | Meaning now. |
| I like getting up early. | Meaning always |
| She continued to talk. | She did’t talk at first, but then she began. |
| She continued talking. | She was already talking, stopped a moment, and then went on talking |
| SOME VERBS CHANGE THEIR MEANING DEPENDING ON WHETHER THEY ARE FOLLOWED BY AN INTINITIVE OR AN –ING FORM |
| I remember living in Paris when I was young. | This is a memory of something that happened in the past. |
| Did you remember to phone Jenny ? | This is an action that needs to be done – so you have to remember to do something. |
| I’ll never forget swimming with all those sharks. | This is a memory of an action you have done. |
| Patrick forgot to go to football practice. | This refers to an action that has not been done yet. |
| Please stop talking ! | End this action ‘talking’ |
| Karen stopped to ask for directions. | Karin stopped doing something in order to ask something |
| We tried hitting it with a hammer, but we couldn’t open it.  | You did something in order to solve a problem but you didn’t succeed |
| Sophie tried to save some money, but she spent it all. | You tried hard to do something, but you failed completely |