Gerunds & infinitives: meaning changes

10 practice questions • Padworth Learning Studio

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. “I stopped to drink water” means:

I no longer drink water / I paused another activity to drink / I forgot to drink

My answer: _____

2. “I remember meeting her” means:

I recall the meeting / I still need to meet her / I refuse to meet her

My answer: _____

3. “Remember to lock the door” means:

Recall locking it yesterday / Do not forget the task / Stop locking it

My answer: _____

4. “Try restarting the computer” suggests:

Experiment with that solution / Never restart it / You restarted it already

My answer: _____

5. “He stopped smoking” means:

He paused to smoke / He ended the habit / He intended to smoke

My answer: _____

6. “She stopped to drink some water” means what?

She forgot to drink. / She paused another activity in order to drink. / She gave up drinking water.

My answer: _____

7. “I remember locking the door” refers to what?

A memory of a completed action. / An instruction to lock it later. / A decision never to lock it.

My answer: _____

8. “Remember to lock the door” asks someone to do what?

Describe a past memory. / Stop locking the door. / Not forget a future action.

My answer: _____

9. “I tried restarting the computer” describes what?

Avoiding a restart. / Testing a possible solution. / Always succeeding at a difficult task.

My answer: _____

10. “She went on to explain the results” means what?

She moved to the next action. / She continued the same explanation without a new stage. / She stopped speaking permanently.

My answer: _____

Answer key & explanations

1. **I paused another activity to drink** — The infinitive gives the purpose of stopping.

2. **I recall the meeting** — Remember + -ing recalls a past experience.

3. **Do not forget the task** — Remember + infinitive concerns a task to perform.

4. **Experiment with that solution** — Try + -ing can propose a possible solution.

5. **He ended the habit** — Stop + -ing means cease that activity.

6. **She paused another activity in order to drink.** — Stop plus to-infinitive introduces the purpose of a pause.

7. **A memory of a completed action.** — Remember plus -ing refers to remembering an earlier event.

8. **Not forget a future action.** — Remember plus to-infinitive concerns an action still needing to be done.

9. **Testing a possible solution.** — Try plus -ing commonly describes an experiment to see whether something helps.

10. **She moved to the next action.** — Go on plus to-infinitive introduces a subsequent action or stage.