

UNIT 55 Verb + object + infinitive

a) **want ask expect help mean (= intend) would like would prefer**

There are two possible structures after these verbs:

<i>verb + to + infinitive</i>	<i>verb + object + to + infinitive</i>
I asked to see the manager.	I asked Tom to help me.
We expected to be late.	We expected him to be late.
He would like to come .	He would like me to come .

After **help** you can use the infinitive with or without **to**:

- Can somebody **help me (to) move** this table?

Be especially careful with **want**. Do not say 'want that ...':

- Everyone **wanted him to win** the race. (*not* 'wanted that he won')
- Do you **want me to come** early? (*not* 'want that I come')

b) **tell remind force enable persuade
order warn invite teach (how) get (= persuade)**

These verbs have the structure *verb + object + to + infinitive*:

- **Remind me to phone** Ann tomorrow.
- **Who taught you (how) to drive?**
- He **warned me not to touch** anything.
- I **got Jack to repair** my car.

Here is an example in the *passive*:

- I **was warned not to touch** anything.

You cannot use **suggest** with this structure (see also Unit 35c):

- Tom **suggested that I bought** a car. (*not* 'Tom suggested me to buy')

c) **advise recommend encourage allow permit**

There are two possible structures after these verbs. Compare:

<i>verb + -ing (without an object)</i>	<i>verb + object + to + infinitive</i>
He doesn't allow smoking in his house.	He doesn't allow anyone to smoke in his house.
I wouldn't recommend staying at that hotel.	I wouldn't recommend you to stay at that hotel.

d) **Make and let**

These verbs have the structure *verb + infinitive (without to)*:

- Hot weather **makes me feel** uncomfortable. (= causes me to feel)
- I only did it because they **made me do it**. (= forced me to do it)
- She wouldn't **let me read** the letter. (= allow me to read)

Remember that **make** and **let** have the infinitive without **to**:

- They **made me do it**. (*not* 'they made me to do it')
- Tom **let me drive** his car yesterday. (*not* 'Tom let me to drive')

But in the *passive* **make** has the infinitive with **to**:

- I only did it because I **was made to do it**.

UNIT 55 Exercises

55.1 Read each sentence and write a second sentence from the words given.

Example: Jill didn't have any money.

she / want / Ann / lend her some She wanted Ann to lend her some.

- 1 Tom's parents were disappointed when he decided to leave home.
they / want / Tom / stay with them
- 2 Please don't tell anyone that I'm leaving my job.
I / not / want / anyone / know
- 3 There's a football match next Saturday between England and Scotland.
you / want / Scotland / win?
- 4 Unfortunately someone had told Sue that I was going to visit her.
I / want / it / be a surprise

55.2 Now you have to read a sentence and then write a second sentence with the same meaning. Each time begin in the way shown.

Examples: 'Don't touch anything', the man said to me.

The man told me not to touch anything.

My father said I could use his car. My father allowed me to use his car.

- 1 'Don't forget to post the letter', Jack said to me.
Jack reminded
- 2 She told me that it would be best if I told the police about the accident.
She advised
- 3 I told you that you shouldn't tell him anything.
I warned
- 4 I was surprised that it rained. I didn't expect
- 5 'Would you like to have dinner with me?' Tom said to Ann.
Tom invited
- 6 At first I didn't want to play tennis but John persuaded me.
John persuaded
- 7 The sudden noise caused me to jump. The sudden noise made
- 8 If you've got a car, you are able to travel around more easily.
Having a car enables
- 9 She wouldn't allow me to read the letter. She wouldn't let

55.3 Now put the verb in the right form: -ing, to + infinitive, or infinitive without to.

Example: Mr Thomas doesn't allow smoking (smoke) in his office.

- 1 Mr Thomas doesn't let anyone (smoke) in his office.
- 2 I don't know Jack but I'd like (meet) him.
- 3 Where would you recommend me (go) for my holidays?
- 4 I don't recommend (eat) in that restaurant. The food's awful.
- 5 The film was very sad. It made me (cry).
- 6 Jack's parents have always encouraged him (study) hard.
- 7 We were kept at the police station for an hour and then allowed (go).