

Gerunds and infinitives 1; Gerunds and infinitives 2

1 Circle the correct alternative.

- Some people forget things because the brain fails to collect/collecting the item from memory.
- If you want to improve your memory, I suggest to do/doing some simple exercises every day.
- Jane volunteered to take part/taking part in a memory development experiment.
- I recommend to watch/watching that film as some of the scenery is mesmerising.
- Don't give up to try/trying to learn the poem just because you find it difficult.
- My memory isn't very good. I always forget to do/doing things unless I make a list.

2 Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs given.

Would you like (1) (watch) *Fifty First Dates*? It's a film that came out in 2004. Drew Barrymore stars as a girl called Lucy. She had a car accident on October 13, 2002 and she has no memory of anything after that day. Every day she seems (2) (think) it's October 13. Adam Sandler plays Henry, a man who meets her after the accident. Due to her memory loss, he has to go on (3) (meet) her every day while he tries (4) (build up) a friendship with her. At first, Lucy's family don't like Henry getting to know Lucy. However, when they realise that he is a good friend, they decide (5) (help) him. If you like (6) (watch) old comedies or romantic films then this one is for you.

3 Choose the best answer (a or b).

- You'll catch a cold only a T-shirt outside in this weather.
a wearing b to wear
- We can't persuade him any more tests on his memory.
a do b to do
- I didn't notice them as I was too busy watching the show.
a to leave b leaving
- If someone shows me how to do something, it helps me the action more quickly.
a understanding b understand
- The teacher makes him every day as he says that is the best way to learn.
a practise b practising
- Let's encourage him another song for tomorrow's concert.
a learn b to learn

4 Find and correct the mistakes.

- I overheard a teacher to talk about the exam results.
- The teacher has authorised us set the class homework this week.
- Our teacher inspired me reading more literature.
- He warned them not leave their reinforcement to the last minute.
- I found them write up the results of their experiment in the laboratory.
- She chose a place studying which was too noisy for me.

5 Complete the text with the verb combinations in the box.

admit tasting • admitted hearing •
appear to hear • consider being • go on living •
hear someone speaking • hears someone saying •
likes doing • remember feeling • seem to be

Synaesthesia: the new sense?

Have you ever heard of synaesthesia? It's a condition where the reaction of one sense results in experiences in a second sense. Some people (1) a food and hearing a sound as a result. Others (2) sounds when they smell something. There (3) quite a few 'synaesthetes' (people with this condition) around the world. A lot of people have quite a mild form. For instance, when they (4), they visualise the words in specific colours. However, others have stronger forms of synaesthesia.

James Wannerton, president of the UK Synaesthesia Association, has a very strong condition. Sounds, words and colours have taste and texture to him. He can't (5) hungry because he always feels like he has something in his mouth. For example, when he (6) the name Audrey, it conjures up the flavour and texture of a tin of tomatoes. Quite a few synaesthetes are well-known and it's possible that their talent is aided by having synaesthesia. Daniel Tammet is a savant who (7) high-level maths and knows 11 languages. Numerous musicians, including Ed Sheeran, Pharrell Williams and Lady Gaga, have (8) music and seeing colour. When you ask a synaesthete if they want this condition to change, they usually say no because it is normal to them, and they want to (9) the way they're used to. Perhaps the real question is how we can describe what we (10) normal these days.