

1 Complete these sentences with the gerund or infinitive form of the verb in parentheses.

1. I practiced speaking (speak) English with an American friend last night.
2. He volunteered \_\_\_\_\_ (help) at the hospital fund-raiser.
3. They discussed \_\_\_\_\_ (go) somewhere exotic on their vacation this year.
4. She's stopped \_\_\_\_\_ (talk) to him because they had a big argument.
5. My great-grandmother has trouble \_\_\_\_\_ (get) to our family reunions.
6. Laura always denies \_\_\_\_\_ (be) wild and crazy, but she really is.

2 Choose the best answer to complete the sentences.

My friend Shanda is pretty cool and very outgoing. She's usually busy (1) *to do / doing* a million things at once. Last week, I suggested (2) *to go / going* out for dinner and (3) *to see / seeing* a movie. We arranged (4) *to meet / meeting* at 7:00. Well, I know she doesn't worry about (5) *to be / being* on time, but she didn't show up until 7:30. At first, she said it took her a long time to finish (6) *to get / getting* ready. Then, after the movie, she couldn't resist (7) *to tell / telling* me what really happened. She was having such a good time (8) *to play / playing* video games with her brother that she forgot about our plans. It's a good thing I'm the laid-back type!

1 Complete the sentences with *about*, *of*, *with*, or *to*.

1. The best thing about my grandmother living with us is that she's a great cook.
2. The upside \_\_\_\_\_ being a two-income family is we can afford a few small luxuries.
3. One difficulty \_\_\_\_\_ living with my in-laws is that they want everything their way.
4. The trick \_\_\_\_\_ living in a large family is you have to learn to respect each other.
5. The hard part \_\_\_\_\_ strict parents is you always have to remember the rules.
6. The problem \_\_\_\_\_ not going to our family reunion is I won't see my cousins.

2 Rewrite the sentences. Change the noun phrases in boldface to gerund phrases.

1. The trouble with **a big family** is it's expensive to feed everyone.  
*The trouble with having a big family is it's expensive to feed everyone.*
2. The trick to **a two-income family** is you have to schedule family time together.
3. The hard part about **a big house** is there's so much work to do.
4. The upside of **a big house** is no one has to share a room.
5. The only bad thing about **little brothers** is I always have to babysit them.
6. One good thing about **little sisters** is they really look up to you.
7. One problem with **an extended family** is we had to get a bigger car.
8. The greatest thing about **a small house** is the bills are a lot lower.

1 Choose the correct answer to complete the sentence.

1. Jan *should have / shouldn't have* ignored the problem because it only got worse.
2. I *was supposed to / didn't have to* go on vacation, but I didn't save enough money.
3. Yoko *needed to / wasn't supposed to* ignore her parents' advice, but she did.
4. He fixed the leak himself, so he *didn't need to call / should have called* a plumber.
5. When I got older, I *had to / wasn't supposed to* learn to solve my own problems.
6. I *needed to / didn't have to* book my flight so early, but I wanted a good seat.

2 Complete the sentences with *(not) had to*, *was (not) supposed to*, *should (not) have*, or *(not) needed to* and the correct form of the verb in parentheses. Sometimes more than one answer is possible.

1. A: I heard Rob's cell phone rang in the middle of the test. What happened?  
B: He had to leave (leave) the room immediately and was given a failing grade.
2. A: You're home early, Jenny. I thought your English exam lasted until 4:00.  
B: I finished early, and the teacher said I \_\_\_\_\_ (stay) if I didn't want to.
3. A: Have you seen Steven this morning? He's late for the test.  
B: No, I haven't. He \_\_\_\_\_ (meet) me for breakfast, but he didn't show up.
4. A: The teacher recommends using a pencil on tests so you can erase wrong answers.  
B: Yes, and I \_\_\_\_\_ (follow) his advice. I made a real mess with my pen.

Choose the correct answer to complete the sentence.

1. A: Kimberly didn't come to the party last night. I wonder why.  
B: I'm not sure. She could have / *should have* been sick, I guess.
2. A: Where's my umbrella? It was right here by the door.  
B: Oh, I'm sorry, Paul. My sister *couldn't have* / *must have* taken it.
3. A: I got a terrible cramp in my leg while I was jogging yesterday.  
B: Hmm. You *must not have* / *may have* done your stretches properly first.
4. A: I had to ask Natalie twice to turn down the TV.  
B: She *might not have* / *must have* heard you the first time.
5. A: They said the meeting was at 7:30, but it had already started when I got there.  
B: They told me 7:00. You *can't have* / *must have* been told the wrong time.
6. A: Marnie wasn't at work yesterday. Was she sick?  
B: Well, she *couldn't have* / *must have* been too sick. I saw her at the park.
7. A: I only used your camera to take a few pictures. I don't see why you're so upset.  
B: Well, you *couldn't have* / *shouldn't have* been using it without my permission.
8. A: Sorry I'm late. We were playing baseball, and I didn't notice the time.  
B: You *may not have* / *couldn't have* been doing that. It's been dark for an hour!