

Unit 56 **Infinitive or -ing?(1) - like, would like etc.**

a

like	hate	enjoy	can't bear
dislike	love	mind	can't stand

These verbs and expressions are often followed by **-ing**:

- I **enjoy being** alone.
- Ann **hates flying**.
- Why do you **dislike living** here?
- Tom **doesn't mind working** at night.
- I **don't like people shouting** at me.

After **love** and **can't bear**, you can use **-ing** or **to + infinitive**:

- I **love meeting** people. *or* I **love to meet** people.
- She **can't bear being** alone. *or* She **can't bear to be** alone.

b Like

Often it doesn't matter whether you say 'I like **doing**' or 'I like **to do**'. For

- I **like getting** up early. *or* I **like to get** up early.

We usually say 'I like **doing**' when 'like' means 'enjoy':

- Do you **like cooking**? (= do you enjoy it?)
- I **don't like driving**. (= I don't enjoy it.)

When 'like' does not mean 'enjoy', we use 'I like **to do**'. **I like to do something** = I find it is good or right to do something:

- I **like to wash my hair twice a week**. (This doesn't mean that I enjoy it; it means that I think it is a good thing to do.)
- Tom **likes to do the washing-up immediately after the meal**.

c **Would like** is followed by **to + infinitive**:

- I **would like to be** rich.
- **Would you like to come** to a party?