

VERBALS. Verbal constructions.

Ex. 1. Choose between the infinitive and the ing-form to use it as subject in the following sentences:

1. I did it because ... on living in the country would have been too much of a problem, (*to go*)
2. There was no ... how his father would react to the news, (*to tell*)
3. You know, her ... cleverer than her husband was half the trouble, (*to be*)
4. Not .. home, in fact, seemed lately to become the pattern of his life, (*to go*)
5. I belonged to neither groups, and ... was to take sides, (*to speak*)
6. There is no ... how long he would have continued on the subject if his attention had not been distracted by a man who appeared on the deck, (*to know*)
7. ... her upset would have been an understatement, she was beside herself with anger, (*to call*)
8. There was no ... the sound, (*to mistake*)
9. We were in the offices, and ... to his room meant going right through the place, (*to get*)
10. Just ... silent together like that helps, (*to be*)
11. Just ... my trouble would have been in bad taste, (*to mention*)
12. Let us admit that ... with us is the thing that we cannot do without, (*to read*)
13. ... away for a weekend demanded a degree of will and organization, (*to get*)
14. She felt exhilarated, there was no ... it. (*to deny*)
15. Though it was fine, ... outside at a small table, eating, was not a tempting prospect, (*to sit*)

Ex. 5. Choose between the infinitive and the ing-form as part of a compound verbal predicate in the following sentences:

1. I seem ... my life saying good-bye, (*to spend*)
2. I left the clothes lying wherever they happened (*to fall*)
3. She waited while Johnson went round ... hands with everybody, (*to shake*)
4. When they chanced ... she always gave him a friendly smile. (*to meet*)
5. As I stood ... on the corner of the street, Gerald Sutton came by. (*to wait*)
6. Caro sat ... the side of her glass, (*to stroke*)
7. I happened ... into her in the library, (*to run*)
8. Then a cricket ball came ... through the window and rolled underneath the piano, (*to smash*)
9. The print seemed ... before his eyes, (*to blur*)
10. I find plenty to do. I have a very nice neighbour. We go ..and ... together, {*to*

fish, to sail)

11. Tom never seemed ... his mother to know what he had been doing, *(to want)*

12. I woke abruptly from sleep and sat up *(to listen)*

13. Martha was out ... her friend, *(to meet)*

14. He doesn't seem ... what love means, *(to know)*

15. Dick considered her suggestion and appeared ... it acceptable. *(to find)*

16. Her office turned out ... in one of the back streets, *(to be)*

17. So I sat ... at the diary, as at a blank space in a crossword puzzle, *(to stare)*

18. Jimmy proved ... a good teacher, *(to be)*

19. "So what?" she eyed me curiously. There seemed ... a faint foreign accent in her voice, *(to be)*

20. I sat ... from time to time that he would just go away, *(to wish)*

Ex. 6. Use the required form of the infinitive in its function of part of a compound verbal predicate:

1. He seemed ... all the friendliness he had shown at our previous meeting, *(to lose)*

2. "I happen ... her lawyer and she telephoned to me," I said to the man. *(to be)*

3. It became clear that Charles was still idle. He seemed ... scarcely any law. *(to read)*

4. The cat seems ... missing for about three weeks, *(to be)*

5. He appeared ... that they had had the first serious difference of opinion in the whole of their married life, *(to forget)*

6. "Dr Salt, what do you think you're doing?" "People seem ... me that for days," said Dr Salt mildly, *(to ask)*

7. Not going home, in fact, seemed lately ... the pattern of his life, *(to become)*

8. My mother thought that his hobbies would get him nowhere. In this she turned out ... wrong, *(to be)*

9. It seemed ... in the room. The floor, the chairs, the desk were covered in drifts of white. It was torn paper, *(to snow)*

10. She leant far over the banister and strained her ears. All the family seemed ... at once, *(to talk)*