

Practice Test Topic 35: Verb patterns

ACTIVITY 1

Put the verbs in brackets into a correct form (infinitive or *-ing* form)

1. When the painter felt the ladder (begin) (slip) he grabbed the gutter (save) himself from (fall).
2. The snow kept (fall) and the workmen grew tired of (try) (keep) the roads clear.
3. He offered (lend) me the money. I didn't like (take) it but I had no alternative.
4. What was in the letter? I don't know. I didn't like (open) it as it wasn't addressed to me.
5. - Do you remember (hear) the bombs (drop)?
- No, in the last war I was too young (realise) what was happening.
6. - Did you remember (book) seats for the theatre tomorrow?
- Yes, I have the tickets here. Would you like (keep) them? I am inclined (lose) theatre tickets.
7. Try (avoid) (be) late. He hates (be) kept (wait).
8. I didn't know how (get) to your house so I stopped (ask) the way.
9. I wish my refrigerator would stop (make) that horrible noise. You can't hear anyone (speak).
10. This book tells you how (win) at games without actually (cheat).
11. The enemy began (fire). He felt bullets (strike) the wall behind him.
12. He heard the clock (strike) six and knew that it was time for him (get) up.
13. I can hear the bell (ring) but nobody seems (be coming) (open) the door.
14. Did you advise him (go) to the police? No, I didn't want (give) any advice on such a difficult matter.
15. He wanted (put) my chameleon on a tartan rug and (watch) it (change) colour.

16. It is easy (see) animals on the road in daylight but sometimes at night it is very difficult (avoid) (hit) them.
17. The fire seems (be) out. It can't be quite out: I can hear the wood (crackle).
18. I caught him (climb) over my wall. I asked him (explain) but he refused (say) anything, so in the end I had (let) him (go).
19. When at last I succeeded in (convince) him that I wanted (get) home quickly he put his foot on the accelerator and I felt the car (leap) forward.
20. I'm not used to (drive) on the left. When you see anyone else (do) it, you'll find it quite easy (do) yourself.
21. We are considering (hire) a boat for a week's cruise on the Thames.
22. My doctor recommends (take) shorter, more frequent holiday.
23. Although I generally prefer (be) frank to (be) secretive, on this particular occasion I prefer (keep) my opinion of Denys to myself.
24. I'm glad Zena is learning to relax. I saw her yesterday evening quietly (read) a book. All I'd ever seen her (do) before was (open) one to flip through the pages.
25. I regret (say) that Sheila didn't get the headmistress's post she applied for. She now regrets (apply) for it, because the application took up a lot of time.

ANSWER KEY

ACTIVITY 1

Put the verbs in brackets into a correct form (infinitive or *-ing* form)

1. When the painter felt the ladder beginning to slip he grabbed the gutter to save himself from from falling.
2. The snow kept falling and the workmen grew tired of trying to keep the roads clear.
3. He offered to lend me the money. I didn't like to take/taking it but I had no alternative.
4. What was in the letter? I don't know. I didn't like to open/opening it as it wasn't addressed to me.
5. - Do you remember hearing the bombs dropping¹?
- No, in the last war I was too young to realise what was happening.
6. - Did you remember to book seats for the theatre tomorrow?
- Yes, I have the tickets here. Would you like to keep them? I am inclined to lose theatre tickets.
7. Try to avoid being late. He hates being/to be kept waiting.
8. I didn't know how to get to your house so I stopped to ask the way.
9. I wish my refrigerator would stop making that horrible noise. You can't hear anyone speaking.
10. This book tells you how to win at games without actually cheating.
11. The enemy began firing/to fire. He felt bullets striking² the wall behind him.
12. He heard the clock strike/striking³ six and knew that it was time for him to get up.
13. I can hear the bell ringing but nobody seems to be coming to open the door.
14. Did you advise him to go to the police? No, I didn't want to give any advice on such a difficult matter.
15. He wanted to put my chameleon on a tartan rug and (to) watch it change/changing⁴ colour.
16. It is easy to see animals on the road in daylight but sometimes at night it is very difficult to avoid hitting them.
17. The fire seems to be out. It can't be quite out: I can hear the wood crackling.
18. I caught him climbing over my wall. I asked him to explain but he refused to say anything, so in the end I had to let him go.
19. When at last I succeeded in convincing him that I wanted to get home quickly he put his foot on the accelerator and I felt the car leaping forward.
20. I'm not used to driving on the left. When you see anyone else doing it, you'll find it quite easy to do yourself.
21. We are considering hiring a boat for a week's cruise on the Thames.

¹ *Dropping* emphasises duration. *Drop* could also be possible, but it emphasises completion.

² *Striking* emphasises duration. *Strike* could also be possible, but it emphasises completion.

³ See footnote 2.

⁴ See footnote 2.

22. My doctor recommends taking shorter, more frequent holiday.
23. Although I generally prefer being/to be frank to being secretive, on this particular occasion I prefer keeping/to keep my opinion of Denys to myself.
24. I'm glad Zena is learning to relax. I saw her yesterday evening quietly reading a book. All I'd ever seen her do before was opening/open/to open one to flip through the pages.
25. I regret to say that Sheila didn't get the headmistress's post she applied for. She now regrets applying for it, because the application took up a lot of time.