

# Infinitive Marker + Verb

An infinitive is a verb that functions as a different part of speech (noun, adjective & adverb).

How to find the infinitive?

**To** + a **verb** = an infinitive.

"It is easy **to find** the infinitive."

**To** + a **noun** = a prepositional phrase.

"We are going **to** the **movies**."

When writing on your worksheets, try **to use** a variety of words before the infinitive marker (to) and the base form of the verb.

\* **going to...**

\* **about to...**

\* **time to...**

\* **want to...**

\* **trying to...**

\* **how to...**

\* **like to...**

# to + verb

**VIKINGS  
LOSE  
AGAIN!**



**I am going to watch  
the Vikings lose.**

# to + verb

**VIKINGS  
LOSE  
AGAIN!**



**I am about to watch  
the Vikings lose.**

# to + verb

**VIKINGS  
LOSE  
AGAIN!**



**Time to watch the  
Vikings lose.**

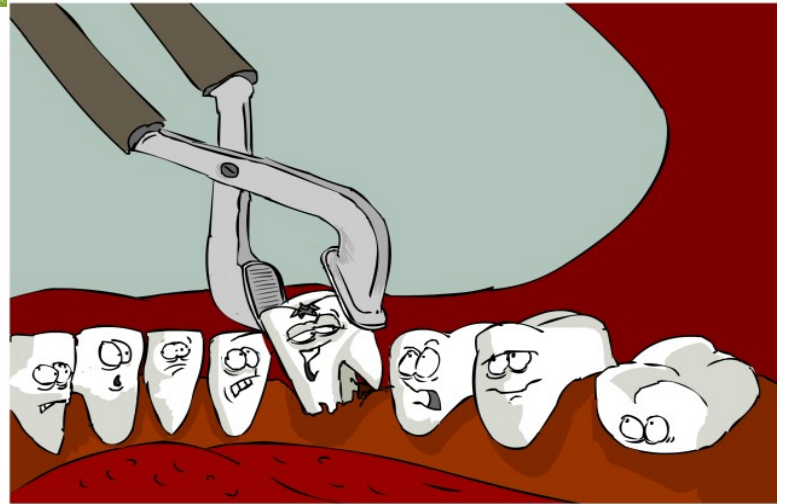
# to + verb

**VIKINGS  
LOSE  
AGAIN!**



**I want to watch the  
Vikings lose.**

# to + verb



Trying **to enjoy** a Vikings' game is like trying **to enjoy** a tooth being pulled (without anesthesia).

# to + verb

**VIKINGS  
LOSE  
AGAIN!**



**The Vikings could  
write a book on how  
to lose.**

# to + verb

**VIKINGS  
LOSE  
AGAIN!**



I like **to watch** the  
**Vikings lose.**

# to

**What part of speech is the infinitive marker (to)?**



**The infinitive means the verb no longer functions as a verb  
(*It is a noun, an adjective, or an adverb...see my file on verbals.*)**

# **to** = ~~preposition~~

*We know the **preposition** **to** comes before a **noun**, not a verb.*

*"Let's go **to** my **house**."*

*The **infinitive marker** **to** is followed by a **verb**.*

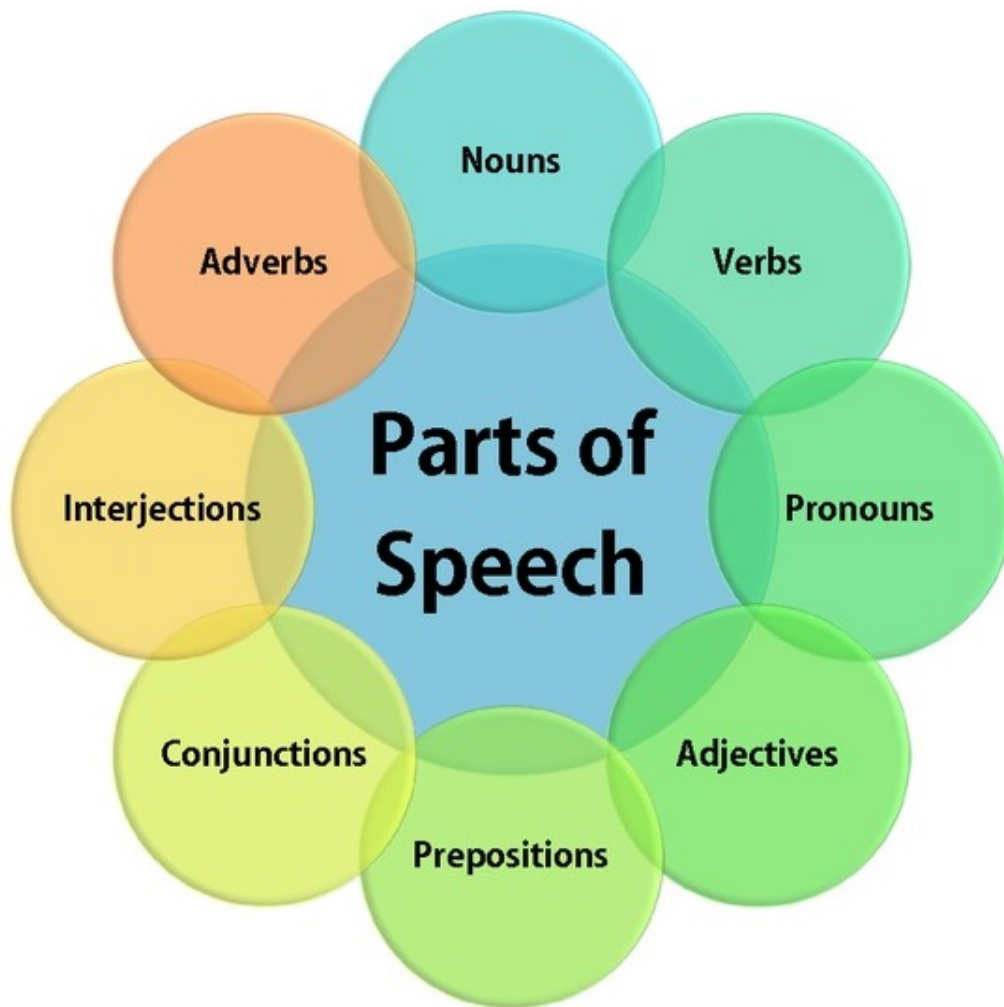
*"I always have a pen **to** **write**."*

***Write** is a verb until we put the infinitive marker before it.*

*Now, **write** is an adjective because it modifies **pen**. Remember, the **preposition** **to** is followed by a noun.*

*I don't see a logical argument for the infinitive marker **to** being a preposition.*

**Grammarians call the infinitive marker (to) a *particle* since it can not be classified with the traditional parts of speech.**



***However,  
I know what **to** really represents!***

**The infinitive marker (**to**)  
is an abbreviation for  
**turnover**.**



**On 1/24/2010,  
the Minnesota Vikings had a  
whopping five **turnovers** and  
gave the game *to the Saints*.**

