Verbs and prepositions

Preposition + -ing after a verb

Si después de una palabra como **to** o **in** viene otra acción, el verbo suele acabar en **-ing**: look forward to meeting (tener ganas de conocer).

Ejemplo resuelto / Worked example

I look forward **to** meeting you and succeeded **in** finding the address. / Tengo ganas de verte y conseguí encontrar la dirección.

Complete the gap with the preposition. Keep the -ing form after it.

01. Tengo muchas ganas de verte.
I am looking forward _____ seeing you.

02. Tengo muchas ganas de conocer al equipo.
I am looking forward _____ meeting the team.

03. Tengo muchas ganas de empezar el curso.
I am looking forward _____ starting the course.

04. Tengo muchas ganas de recibir noticias.
I am looking forward _____ hearing from you.

05. Tengo muchas ganas de visitar el museo.
I am looking forward _____ visiting the museum.

06. El equipo consiguió terminar el trabajo a tiempo.
The team succeeded _____ finishing the work on time.

07. El equipo consiguió resolver el problema a tiempo.
The team succeeded _____ solving the problem on time.

08. El equipo consiguió encontrar una solución a tiempo.
The team succeeded _____ finding a solution on time.

09. El equipo consiguió llegar a un acuerdo a tiempo.
The team succeeded _____ reaching an agreement on time.

10. El equipo consiguió reducir los gastos a tiempo.
The team succeeded _____ reducing the costs on time.

11. Insistieron en comprobar todas las ventanas antes de salir.
They insisted _____ checking all the windows before leaving.

12. Insistieron en hablar con la directora antes de salir.
They insisted _____ speaking to the headteacher before leaving.

13. Insistieron en pagar por adelantado antes de salir.
They insisted _____ paying in advance before leaving.

14. Insistieron en recibir una respuesta antes de salir.
They insisted _____ receiving an answer before leaving.

15. Insistieron en guardar una copia antes de salir.
They insisted _____ keeping a copy before leaving.

16. Se disculpó por interrumpir la reunión.
He apologised _____ interrupting the meeting.

17. Se disculpó por llegar tarde.
He apologised _____ arriving late.

18. Se disculpó por no llamar antes.
He apologised _____ not calling earlier.

19. Se disculpó por romper la taza.
He apologised _____ breaking the cup.

20. Se disculpó por haber enviado el archivo equivocado.
He apologised _____ sending the wrong file.

Preposition + -ing

Continue. Complete only the gap in English.

21. Sueño con vivir junto al mar algún día.
I dream _____ living by the sea one day.

22. Sueño con abrir mi propio negocio algún día.
I dream _____ opening my own business one day.

23. Sueño con recorrer Escocia en tren algún día.
I dream _____ travelling around Scotland by train one day.

24. Sueño con aprender japonés algún día.
I dream _____ learning Japanese one day.

25. Sueño con escribir una novela algún día.
I dream _____ writing a novel one day.

26. El personal se opuso a trabajar los domingos.
The staff objected _____ working on Sundays.

27. El personal se opuso a reducir el descanso.
The staff objected _____ reducing the break.

28. El personal se opuso a cambiar el sistema.
The staff objected _____ changing the system.

29. El personal se opuso a cerrar la entrada lateral.
The staff objected _____ closing the side entrance.

30. El personal se opuso a trasladar la oficina.
The staff objected _____ moving the office.

31. Se preocuparon por dejar sola a la niña toda la noche.
They worried _____ leaving the child alone all night.

32. Se preocuparon por perder el último tren toda la noche.
They worried _____ missing the last train all night.

33. Se preocuparon por llegar tarde al aeropuerto toda la noche.
They worried _____ arriving late at the airport all night.

34. Se preocuparon por no encontrar el hotel toda la noche.
They worried _____ not finding the hotel all night.

35. Se preocuparon por equivocarse de carretera toda la noche.
They worried _____ taking the wrong road all night.

36. La lluvia nos impidió jugar fuera.
The rain stopped us _____ playing outside.

37. La lluvia nos impidió hacer la excursión.
The rain stopped us _____ going on the excursion.

38. La lluvia nos impidió llegar a tiempo.
The rain stopped us _____ arriving on time.

39. La lluvia nos impidió usar el campo.
The rain stopped us _____ using the field.

40. La lluvia nos impidió terminar el trabajo exterior.
The rain stopped us _____ finishing the outdoor work.

Answer key

Complete sentences. The verb preposition is shown in bold; (no preposition) marks direct-object patterns.

01. I am looking forward **to** seeing you.
02. I am looking forward **to** meeting the team.
03. I am looking forward **to** starting the course.
04. I am looking forward **to** hearing from you.
05. I am looking forward **to** visiting the museum.
06. The team succeeded **in** finishing the work on time.
07. The team succeeded **in** solving the problem on time.
08. The team succeeded **in** finding a solution on time.
09. The team succeeded **in** reaching an agreement on time.
10. The team succeeded **in** reducing the costs on time.
11. They insisted **on** checking all the windows before leaving.
12. They insisted **on** speaking to the headteacher before leaving.
13. They insisted **on** paying in advance before leaving.
14. They insisted **on** receiving an answer before leaving.
15. They insisted **on** keeping a copy before leaving.
16. He apologised **for** interrupting the meeting.
17. He apologised **for** arriving late.
18. He apologised **for** not calling earlier.
19. He apologised **for** breaking the cup.
20. He apologised **for** sending the wrong file.
21. I dream **of** living by the sea one day.
22. I dream **of** opening my own business one day.
23. I dream **of** travelling around Scotland by train one day.
24. I dream **of** learning Japanese one day.
25. I dream **of** writing a novel one day.
26. The staff objected **to** working on Sundays.
27. The staff objected **to** reducing the break.
28. The staff objected **to** changing the system.
29. The staff objected **to** closing the side entrance.
30. The staff objected **to** moving the office.
31. They worried **about** leaving the child alone all night.
32. They worried **about** missing the last train all night.
33. They worried **about** arriving late at the airport all night.
34. They worried **about** not finding the hotel all night.
35. They worried **about** taking the wrong road all night.
36. The rain stopped us **from** playing outside.
37. The rain stopped us **from** going on the excursion.
38. The rain stopped us **from** arriving on time.
39. The rain stopped us **from** using the field.
40. The rain stopped us **from** finishing the outdoor work.