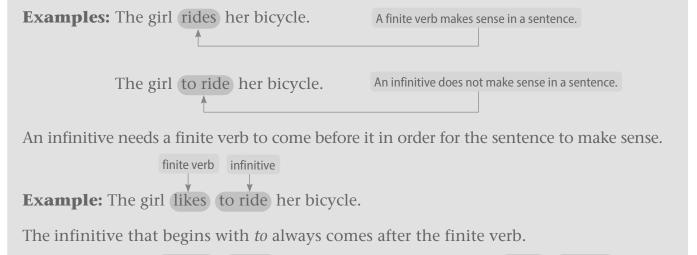
Non-finite verbs: infinitives

A **finite verb** makes sense in a sentence. A **non-finite verb** does not make sense in a sentence. An **infinitive** is a type of non-finite verb. The infinitive form of the verb starts with *to*, for example *to* ride.



Examples: Lena decides (to ride) her bike. The toddler needs (to sleep).

finite verb infinitive

1. Circle the finite verbs and underline the infinitives in the following sentences. The first one has been done for you.

finite verb infinitive

- a) Jackson decided to sing in the concert.
- b) Marie loves to play in the park.
- c) Amos needs to go home now.
- d) The soccer team plans to tour next year.
- e) Hannah chose to work in the holidays.
- 2. Choose the correct infinitive from the list below to complete the sentences. The first one has been done for you.

attend ★ pass ★ tidy ★ leave ★ meet

- a) Martie chose to tidy her room.
- b) We hope _____ our cousin.
- c) Luyolo plans ______ his exams.
- d) Josi decided _____ the party early.
- e) The community wants _____ the meeting.



Non-finite verbs: participles

The present participles and past participles are types of non-finite verbs.

We form the **present participle** by adding *-ing* to a verb.

Example: $ride + -ing = rid\underline{ing}$, $walk + -ing = walk\underline{ing}$, $shout + -ing = shout\underline{ing}$

For a present participle to make sense it needs to have an auxiliary verb before it. To form a finite verb with the present participle we need to add an auxiliary verb.

Example: She is walking to the shops.

auxiliary verb present participle

We form the **past participle** by adding *-ed*, *-en* or *-t* to a verb.

Example: scratch + -ed =scratched; eat + -en =eaten; learn + -t =learnt.

For a past participle to make sense it needs to have an auxiliary verb before it. To form a finite verb with the past participle we need to use the auxiliary verb *have*.

Example: The cat has scratched the chair.

auxiliary verb past participle

1. Fill in the missing present participles and past participles in the table below. The first one has been done for you.

Infinitive	Present participle	Past participle
a) to bark	The dog is <u>barking</u> .	The dog has <u>barked</u> .
b) to decide	The man is	The man has
c) to choose	The voter is	The voter has
d) to laugh	The child is	The child has
e) to scratch	The cat is	The cat has



Note

The auxiliary verb must agree with the subject and be in the right tense. **Example:** The dog is barking. The dogs are barking.

2. Write out the present participles and past participles in the following news report. Next to each participle write *present* participle or past participle.

The school is trying everything to help the learners improve their marks. After school the teachers are helping the children with their homework. The school board has decided to help learners raise funds for extra weekend classes. When we spoke to the class teacher, she reported her class has raised R1 200.

a)	
1 \	
b)	
c)	
<u>d</u>)	
u_{j}	



Hint

Irregular verbs change their form in the past tense. Their past participle forms are also irregular. **Example:** teach – taught – had taught.