

Gustar with infinitives

In English An **infinitive** tells the meaning of a verb without naming any subject. **Infinitives** do not have any special endings, but they almost always have the word **to** before them.

to eat

to run

to play

to draw

Just like nouns, **infinitives** can be used after another verb, such as **to like**. It is also possible to have **-ing** forms of the verb following **to like**.

Jennifer likes music.

I like **to draw**.

I like **drawing**.

We all like **to swim** in cold water.

We all like **swimming**.

A Circle the verb that follows **to like** in each sentence. Then write whether it is an **infinitive** or an **-ing** form.

1. Brad likes to surf the Web.

infinitive

2. I like riding my bike.

3. We like eating at the Cuban restaurant.

4. My friends like to ski.

5. Do you like to play the guitar?

6. Albert likes fishing.

7. My best friend likes to run in the park.

8. Margarita likes reading novels.

In Spanish All **infinitives** have special endings. There are three types: those ending in **-ar**, those ending in **-er**, and those ending in **-ir**.

-ar infinitives

-er infinitives

-ir infinitives

bailar to dance

correr to run

vivir to live

Infinitives, like nouns, can be used after a verb like **gustar** to say what you and others like to do. Only infinitives can be used after this verb. Always use **gusta** (not **gustan**) with **infinitives**.

Me **gusta** el chocolate.

I like chocolate

Te **gusta** bailar.

You like to dance.

Nos **gusta** vivir aquí.

We like living here.

Le **gusta** escribir cartas.

He likes to write letters.

B Circle the verb that follows **gustar** in each sentence. Then write whether it is an **-ar**, **-er**, or **-ir** infinitive.

1. A Benito le gusta navegar por Internet.

-ar

GUSTAR WITH INFINITIVES

2. A Teresita le gusta montar en bicicleta. _____
3. Les gusta comer en el restaurante chino. _____
4. A mis amigos les gusta leer novelas. _____
5. Te gusta tocar el piano. _____
6. Me gusta salir con mis amigos. _____
7. A Asun le gusta correr por el parque. _____
8. No nos gusta ir de compras. _____

C You're being interviewed about your friends and yourself. Answer the following questions using the correct form of the verb **gustar**.

1. ¿Te gusta leer libros o ver televisión?

2. ¿A tus amigos les gusta dibujar o escuchar música?

3. ¿A tu mejor amigo le gusta bailar o cantar?

4. ¿A tus amigos les gusta hacer ejercicio o hacer la tarea?

5. ¿Qué te gusta hacer por las tardes?

6. ¿Qué no te gusta hacer?

D Translate the following sentences, then answer the questions.

- a. I like magazines.

- b. I like to read magazines.

- c. How does the form of the verb change? Does this have to do with the use of the infinitive? If so, how?

