

THE INFINITIVE.

136. When an infinitive depends upon a verb, a noun, an adjective or an adverb, it is usually preceded by a preposition.
: Il aime *à* manger des oranges

137. The following verbs take the infinitive without a preposition :

devoir	(= must, owe)	oser	(= dare)
entendre	(= hear)	pouvoir	(= can, be able)
faire	(= make, do)	savoir	(= know how to)
falloir	(= be necessary)	sentir	(= feel)
laisser	(= let, allow)	voir	(= hear)
		vouloir	(= wish).

 Verbs of motion follow the same rule.

Nous *allons* ôter l'écorce de nos oranges.

Venez cueillir des oranges avec moi.

 Verbs of wishing and thinking usually take the infinitive without any preposition.

The principal are :

affirmer	(= affirm)	croire	(= believe)
aimer mieux	(= prefer)	désirer	(= desire)
compter	(= expect)	préférer	(= prefer)

138. When the English preposition *to* can be changed into : in order to or for the purpose of: it is translated in French by *pour*.

: Je le fais *pour* plaire à mes amis.

(= I do it *to* please my friends).

On le dit *pour* vous tromper.

(= They say it *to* deceive you).

139. Preposition *à* is used after the following verbs, if these verbs have an infinitive for their complement :

accoutumer	(= accustom)	enseigner	(= teach)
aider	(= assist)	exhorter	(= exhort)
aimer	(= like)	gagner	(= earn, gain)
apprendre	(= learn)	hésiter	(= hesitate)
aspirer	(= aspire)	inviter	(= invite)
(s) attendre	(= expect)	(se) mettre	(= begin, set to)
avoir	(= have)	montrer	(= show how to)
chercher	(= seek)	parvenir	(= succeed)
consentir	(= consent)	pencher	(= incline)
conspirer	(= conspire)	penser	(= think)
déterminer	(= determine)	(se) plaire	(= delight)
employer	(= use)	(se) résoudre	(= decide)
encourager	(= encourage)	tenir	(= be anxious)
(s) engager	(= bend one self)	travailler	(= work).