



## Unit 45 – Leaving out Auxiliaries & To-infinitives (*I might (be).. He didn't expect to..*)

A) Auxiliary verbs (be, would, could, will, etc.) can be used by themselves to shorten the verb clauses that follow them in order to avoid repeating unnecessary information or when the context of the sentence is clear:

-> I'm not sure if I can meet you at 6pm but I think I **can**. (*..can meet you at 6pm*)

-> **Would** any of you like to stay after class to review for the exam? -> I **would**. (*..would like to stay..*)

**Note:** -> If there are more than two auxiliary verbs in the previous clause or sentence, it is sometimes possible to shorten the auxiliary verb(s) to avoid repeating the main verb again:

-> They **should have been** here by now. B: Yes, they **should have**.

B) We can use 'do' rather than repeat the main verb when there is no auxiliary in the previous clause or sentence:

-> Jeff **gets up** at 6am for his morning routine, and I **do** as well. (instead of: *..I get up at 6am as well*)

-> Jessica **didn't arrive** on time because of the weather and I **didn't** either. (*..I didn't arrive on time either*)

When the '**be verb**' is the main verb of the previous clause or sentence, we can shorten using the be verb only:

-> **A:** Justin **is** practicing basketball after school today. **B:** He always **is**. He loves it!

Also, when **have** (or **have got**) is the main verb of the previous clause or sentence, we can use **have** or **do**:

-> **A:** Do we **have** a holiday next Friday? **B:** Yes, we **have**. *or:* Yes, we **do**.

However, 'Did you **have** a shower?' -> Yes, I **had one**. *or:* Yes, I **did**. (*when describing actions*)

C) If the 'be verb' is used as an auxiliary verb in the previous clause, a be verb can also be used after a modal:

-> **A:** **Are** you coming over tonight for dinner? **B:** I might. (*casual*) *or:* I might **be**.

Also, if a 'be verb' is used as the main verb in the previous clause or sentence:

-> **A:** Sue **is** volunteering at the dog shelter today. **B:** I thought she **might (be)**.

D) A **to-infinitive** clause can sometimes be shortened to just 'to' when the context of the sentence is clear:

-> **A:** Would you like **to join** us for lunch? **B:** Sure, I'd love **to!** (*..to join you for lunch*)

-> Mark **got the job** although he really didn't expect **to!** (*..to get the job*)

**Note:** -> When the 'be verb' is used in the previous clause or sentence, the to-infinitive form of 'be' is used:

-> Mark **was** chosen for the job although he didn't expect **to be**. (*..to be chosen for the job*)

E) A to-infinitive clause that follows certain nouns or adjectives can be left out or shortened to 'to':

-> I'd love to go skydiving with you but I'm just too **afraid (to)**. (*..afraid to go skydiving with you*)

**Also:** **chance, delighted, determined, idea, opportunity, plans, promise, suggestion, willing**

With certain verbs we can also leave out the to-infinitive or use 'to':

-> Waking up early every day has never been easy for me but I'll **try (to)**. (*..try to wake up early*)

**Also:** **agree, ask, begin, refuse, start, try**

**Note:** -> certain verbs require a complement (a phrase that completes the meaning of the verb) and therefore

'to' cannot be left out: -> **A:** Would you like to join us tonight to celebrate? **B:** Oh, I'd **love to!** (*not: Oh, I'd love*)

**Also:** **advise, afford, be able, choose, deserve, expect, fail, hate, hope, intend, love, mean, need, prefer, used**

F) When *want, like, or would like* follow an **if- / wh-clause**, we can often leave out the **to-infinitive** or use **to**:

-> You can drop by my house this weekend **if you'd like (to)**. (*..like to drop by..*)

-> It's my day-off today. I'm finally free to do **whatever I want (to)**! (*..to do*)

**Note:** -> 'to' is included after 'if-clauses' / 'wh-clauses' in the negative form when using **want, would like** and **like**:

-> How about going out for lunch today? But it's okay if you don't really **want to**.

-> Would you like to go to a musical sometime? However, I can understand if you **wouldn't like to**.

-> Watching action movies can be violent. I can understand if you **don't like to**. *not: don't like*

Note that in clauses other than **if-clauses** and **wh-clauses**, we must include 'to':

-> We had planned to travel this weekend and we still **hope to**.

-> I think we've discussed everything we **need to**. Do you have any further questions?



## Unit 45 – Exercises:

45.1 – Make the response by B shorter. Be sure to write alternative responses as well. **(45-A)**

- A:** Can you give me a discount on this suit? **B:** Yes, I can.
- A:** At that price, you could have bought an original! **B:** \_\_\_\_\_. *or:* \_\_\_\_\_.
- A:** Where is Kelly? She is always on time. She couldn't have known about the meeting today.  
**B:** \_\_\_\_\_. *or:* \_\_\_\_\_.
- A:** Are you surprised that it's snowing so early this year? **B:** \_\_\_\_\_.
- A:** Have you finished your test already? That was quick! **B:** \_\_\_\_\_.
- A:** Will you be free tomorrow afternoon? **B:** \_\_\_\_\_. *or:* \_\_\_\_\_.
- A:** This traffic is awful! We should've just taken the subway. **B:** \_\_\_\_\_. *or:* \_\_\_\_\_.
- A:** Have you ever been to *Central Park* in New York? **B:** \_\_\_\_\_. *or:* \_\_\_\_\_.

45.2 – Complete the sentences with an appropriate form of **be**, **do** or **have**. Write **have done** where possible. Write brackets around words if they can be omitted. **(45-B/C)**

- A:** I've got my driver's license with me. Will that be enough to pick up the tickets? **B:** It should **(be)**.
- A:** Do you still have those pictures of our trip to London? **B:** Yes, I think I \_\_\_\_\_.
- Everyone helped prepare for the dinner and it was good that they \_\_\_\_\_. We had a lot to do!
- Have you seen Mark? He had been coming to this gym for months but lately he \_\_\_\_\_.
- A:** It's really getting expensive to eat a 100% organic diet. **B:** Yes, I'm sure it must \_\_\_\_\_.
- Oh I hope you don't have to leave yet, but be sure to thank the hosts of the party when you \_\_\_\_\_.
- A:** Has my package from Amazon arrived yet? It's been two weeks. **B:** No, I don't think it \_\_\_\_\_.
- A:** When do you expect to finish the program? **B:** I will \_\_\_\_\_ the majority of the coding by this Friday.

45.3 – Replace the italicized part of each sentence with a word from the box + **to** or **to be**. **(45-D)**

expect / afraid / used / afford / delighted / claim

- Dan studied hard for his exam and got an 'A' although he didn't really *think that he would*. **expect to**.
- We asked Gina to come on the rollercoaster but she told us she was too *uneasy with heights*. \_\_\_\_\_.
- A:** Would you like to come with us to the fair this Saturday? **B:** Oh, I'd be so *happy to join you!* \_\_\_\_\_!
- Modern technology makes money transfers easier than they *were before the rise of digital banking*. \_\_\_\_\_.
- I'd love to join you again for dinner at that nice restaurant but I just can't spend that type of money. \_\_\_\_\_.
- There is only one leader in this industry although many companies say that they are. \_\_\_\_\_.

45.4 – Complete the sentences with **to** if it is necessary. Write **(to)** if it is optional or can be omitted. **(45-E)**

- We haven't done anything adventurous like climb a mountain but one day we'd love **to**.
- I know that Mike says he doesn't want to pay for the damages, but he already agreed \_\_\_\_\_.
- Carol works harder than anyone and should be named the recipient of this award. She really deserves \_\_\_\_\_.
- A:** Would you like a window seat on your flight, sir? **B:** I'd certainly prefer \_\_\_\_\_.
- A:** Should we review the script one more time before the performance? **B:** Sure, it'd be a good idea \_\_\_\_\_.
- I'm so proud of Michael! We thought it was risky to open his own business but he was determined \_\_\_\_\_.
- Mom didn't need to return to work but she chose \_\_\_\_\_. I think she really loves her job as a nurse.

45.5 – Correct the following sentences *if necessary*. If the sentence is already correct, leave as is. **(45-F)**

- We can leave earlier for the beach tomorrow morning if you'd like. -> **correct or 'like to'**
- Would you like to stay overnight with us? Although it's certainly fine if you don't want. -> \_\_\_\_\_.
- A:** Would you like to meet tomorrow? **B:** Sure! We can meet whenever you'd like. -> \_\_\_\_\_.
- A:** Can we try that new French café across town? **B:** Sure, if you'd like. -> \_\_\_\_\_.
- A:** Would it be alright if Jonathan comes too? **B:** Absolutely as long as he wants to. -> \_\_\_\_\_.
- A:** Do you want to use the bathroom before we leave? **B:** No I don't need. -> \_\_\_\_\_.