



ENGLISH GRAMMAR 2 INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

Unit 65 – Adjective + to ...

tienganh



Adjective + to ...

HARD TO UNDERSTAND

A

Compare sentences (a) and (b):

James doesn't speak clearly.

- (a) It is hard to understand **him**.
- (b) **He** is hard to understand.

Sentences (a) and (b) have the same meaning. Note that we say:

- EX1: He is **hard to understand**. (not He is hard to understand him)

❖ We use other adjectives in the same way. For example:

easy	nice	safe	cheap	exciting	impossible
difficult	good	dangerous	expensive	interesting	

- EX2: Do you think it is **safe to drink** this water?
Do you think this water **is safe to drink?** (not to drink it)
- EX3: The exam questions were very hard. It was **impossible to answer** them.
The exam questions were very hard. They were **impossible to answer**. (not to answer them)
- EX4: Nicola has lots of interesting ideas. It's **interesting to talk to** her.
Nicola is **interesting to talk to**. (not to talk to her)

We also use this structure with **adjective + noun**:

- EX5: This is a **difficult question to answer**. (not to answer it)

Adjective + to ...

SORRY TO ... / SURPRISED TO ... ETC.

C

You can use **adjective + to ...** to say how somebody reacts to something:

- EX9: I'm sorry to hear that your mother isn't well.

We use other adjectives in the same way. For example:

glad pleased relieved surprised amazed sad
disappointed

- EX10: Was Julia **surprised to see** you?
- EX11: It was a long and tiring journey. We were **glad to get** home.

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Adjective + to ...

THE FIRST TO KNOW

D

You can use **to ...** after **the next / the last / the only / the first / the second** (etc.):

- EX12: **The next train to arrive** at platform 4 will be the 10.50 to Liverpool.
- EX13: Everybody was late except me. I was **the only one to arrive** on time.
- EX14: If I have any more news, you will be **the first to know**. (= the first person to know.)

Adjective + to ...

IT'S BOUND TO HAPPEN

E

You can say that something is *sure/likely/bound to happen*:

- EX15: Carla is a very good student. She's **bound to pass** the exam.
(= she is sure to pass)
- EX16: It's possible I'll win the lottery one day, but it's not **likely to happen**.
(= it's not probable)

Adjective + to ...

BÀI TẬP NHANH

Select the best answer.

Carla is a very good student.

She _____ the exam.

- A. would pass
- B. is to pass
- C. is bound to pass**
- D. should be passing

Adjective + to ...

TÓM TẮT

1. Một số tính từ như **easy, nice, safe, cheap, exciting, impossible, difficult, good, dangerous, expensive, interesting** có thể được đặt trước **“to + infinitive”** - *Do you think it is **safe to drink** this water?*
2. Chúng ta cũng có thể dùng **“adjective + noun”** trước **“to infinitive”** - *This is **a difficult question to answer**.*
3. Chúng ta cũng có thể dùng một số tính từ **kind, generous, careless, silly, stupid, inconsiderate, unfair, typical** trong cấu trúc **“it’s + adj + of + somebody + to infinitive”** - *I think it was **unfair of him to criticize me**.*
4. Để diễn tả cách một người phản ứng với một sự việc, chúng ta có thể dùng cấu trúc **“adj + to infinitive”** - *Was Julia **surprised to see** you?*
5. Sau **the next / the last / the only / the first / the second** chúng ta dùng **“to infinitive”** - *Everybody was late except me. I was **the only one to arrive** on time.*
6. Để diễn tả ý một việc gì đó chắc chắn / có khả năng xảy ra, chúng ta cũng có thể dùng **“be + sure/likely/bound to happen”** - *Carla is a very good student. She’s **bound to pass** the exam.*