



Explain The Difference **Answers**

What is the difference in meaning between the following sentences?

1

A I forgot to buy some milk this morning → I didn't buy the milk because I didn't remember to do this

B I forgot buying some milk this morning → I bought some milk this morning but I don't have memory of this

2

A We went on to live in Spain → We lived in a different country at the time of the story then moved to Spain after

B We went on living in Spain → We were living in Spain at the time of the story and continued living in Spain too

3

A I quit to become healthier → I stopped something (e.g. smoking) in order to become healthier

B I quit becoming healthier → I stopped trying to be a healthier person so took up bad habits again (e.g. sugary foods)

4

A She regretted to inform me we didn't have our offer accepted → We didn't know about this rejection until the end of this sentence, it's the first time we're hearing about it

B She regretted informing me we didn't have our offer accepted → We were told about the rejection a long time ago but the lady who told us this bad news still feels guilty about it

5

A I remembered to write the email to Bob → I had a checklist of things to do, one task was to write an email to Bob and I did this

B I remembered writing the email to Bob → I'm thinking back to the past about a time I wrote an email to Bob

6

A We tried to improve our English skills → It is difficult to improve our skills but we have tried to do this

B We tried improving our English skills → Improving our English skills is a solution to a problem. E.g, I couldn't communicate with a client so I tried improving my English skills.

7

A She finally stopped talking → She was talking for a long time and finally stopped and became silent

B She finally stopped to talk → She was doing another activity (e.g. working) and finally stopped this activity to start talking to me

8

A We need to do our hair → I would like to do something to my hair (e.g. wash and style)

B We need our hair doing → I would like another person to do something to my hair (e.g. a hairdresser)

9

A She meant to tell me about Sally but she forgot → She had the intention in the past of telling me about Sally but she forgot to do that. Now, she is going to tell me about Sally.

B Telling me about Sally meant I was in on the story → She told me about Sally a long time ago and as a result, I am aware of the story and all the consequences