Gerund vs. Infinitive

Fill in the blanks with an infinitive or gerund.

1. The store has a special department ................................ customer complaints.

   to handle

   handling

   Either could be used here

2. The politician tried ................................ public support for the plan.

   generating

   to generate

   Either could be used here

3. She often used ................................ into the distance.

© www.englishgrammar.org
Gerund vs. Infinitive

to gaze

gazing

to gazing

4. Steps should be taken ________________ corruption in the government.
to abolish
abolishing
Either could be used here

5. The grain was separated from the stalk by ________________
beating
beat
Gerund vs. Infinitive

6. Farmers raise millions of edible seed plants ..................... the nation.

to feed

feeding

to feeding

7. People lined the streets ............................. the returning heroes.

to cheer

cheering

to cheering
Gerund vs. Infinitive

8. One needs a special license to drive a cab.

   driving
   to drive
   to driving

9. Moles have the habit of borrowing in the earth.

   borrowing
   to borrow
   borrow

10. When and where did the practice of shaking hands originate?

    to shake
Gerund vs. Infinitive

of shaking

to shaking

11. The radio audience was hoaxed into ......................... that Martians had landed.

believe

believing

Either could be used here

Answers

The store has a special department to handle / handling customer complaints.
The politician tried to generate public support for the plan.
She often used to gaze into the distance.
Steps should be taken to abolish corruption in the government.
The grain was separated from the stalk by beating.
Farmers raise millions of edible seed plants to feed the nation.
People lined the streets to cheer the returning heroes.
One needs a special license to drive a cab.
Moles have the habit of borrowing in the earth.
Gerund vs. Infinitive

When and where did the practice of shaking hands originate?
The radio audience was hoaxed into believing that Martians had landed.