

Review of the Uses of the Infinitive

A. Without the Definite Article — “SOAPER” (FGG 16):

1. **S**ubject of an impersonal verb (e.g., δεῖ or ἔξεσσι).
2. Direct **O**bject of a verb (usually a verb expressing want, wish, desire, command, request, praying, etc.)
3. **A**ppositional with the demonstrative pronoun.
4. **P**urpose (usually with verbs expressing movement or doing).
5. **E**pexegetical with or “explaining” certain nouns or adjectives.
6. **R**esult, with infinitive following the conjunction ὥστε.

B. With the Definite Article — “Articular Infinitive” (FGG 17)

Note: The definite article is always neuter singular.

1. With the neuter singular nominative article the infinitive can be the subject of the verb ἐσσι (the Present Indicative Active 3rd singular of εἶμι).
2. With six prepositions followed by the article in the governed case with the infinitive, the infinitive becomes the verb of a subordinate clause whose “time” is determined by the preposition and the verb of the main sentence.

μετὰ + τὸ + infinitive [e.g. λύσαι] “After he loosed/had loosed. . . .”

πρὸ + τοῦ + infinitive “Before he looses/loosed. . . .”

διὰ + τὸ + infinitive “Because he looses/loosed/had loosed. . . .”

πρὸς + τὸ + infinitive “In order to loose. . . .”

εἰς + τὸ + infinitive “In order to loose. . . .”

ἐν + τῷ + infinitive “While he looses/was loosing. . . .”