

Fun with Infinitives!¹

The following examples demonstrate how the articulated infinitive and the infinitive with prepositions should be translated.

INFINITIVE OF TIME:

1. πρὶν τοῦ ἢ πρό τοῦ = “before”
πρὸ τοῦ βλέπειν αὐτόν. = Before he sees.
2. ἐν τῷ = “when/while”
ἐν τῷ βλέπειν αὐτόν. = When he sees.
3. μετὰ τό + accusative = “after”
μετὰ τὸ βλέπειν αὐτόν. = After he sees.
4. ἕως τοῦ = “until”
ἕως τοῦ βλέπειν αὐτόν. = Until he sees.

INFINITIVE OF PURPOSE/RESULT:

τοῦ, εἰς τό, πρὸς τό, ὥστε, ἢ ὡς = “in order that”
τοῦ βλέπειν αὐτόν. = In order that he sees.

CAUSAL INFINITIVE:

διὰ + accusative = “because” (cause)
διὰ τὸ βλέπειν αὐτόν. = Because he sees.

¹This handout was constructed using William D. Mounce, *Basics of Biblical Greek* (297-298) and David Allen Black, *It's Still Greek to Me* (116-118). See also N. Clayton Croy, *A Primer of Biblical Greek* (145-147).