

Review 2.9: Uses of the infinitive

The Infinitive is a verbal noun. While in English we need to substitute the *gerund* whenever an infinitive would require a preposition, the Greek infinitive may be fully declined. By itself it serves as Subject and Direct Object; for the Accusative with preposition, and for the Genitive and Dative it requires the neuter article in the corresponding cases (Articular Infinitive).

Uses of the infinitive we have found	
In the <i>Nominative</i> Subject of an impersonal verb	οὐκ ἔξεστι ψεύδεσθαι (It) is not permitted to lie. or: Lying is not permitted
In the <i>Accusative</i> Complementary infinitive	ἠθέλομεν ἀγαθοποιεῖν We were willing to act righteously
Acc with a preposition	πρὸς τὸ φιλεῖν in order to love
In the <i>Genitive</i>	ἐλπίς τοῦ μανθάνειν the desire to learn ("of learning")
In the <i>Dative</i>	τῷ φεύγειν by fleeing