

THE INFINITIVE AND THE INFINITIVE PHRASE (p.97)

Enclose each (infinitive or infinitive phrase) in parentheses.

. . . as subject

1. (To err) is human.
2. To love should be the goal of mankind.
3. To hate is soul-consuming.
4. To walk was the jockey's way of relaxation.
5. To exist requires courage.

6. (To be in ignorance of the law) is no excuse.
7. To sleep soundly through the ringing of the alarm is perfect bliss.
8. To have loved and lost is better than not having loved at all.
9. To ride in a jeep for seven days would make one weak.
10. To wash dishes is the bane of many a housewife's existence.

. . . as direct object

11. Ryun wanted (to win).
12. Phineas wished to travel.
13. Saint-Exupery liked to fly.
14. The child learned to swim.
15. Harriet loves to cook.

16. Many children like (to buy frilly things).
17. Children love to ride spotted horses bareback in the sun.
18. Johnny refuses to surf in his new wetsuit.
19. The bells ceased to toll in the little village.
20. He wanted to hear that song again.

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. . . as subjective complement (predicate noun)

21. His ambition was (to succeed).
22. Wilma's goal was to win.
23. Our main purpose had been to see.
24. Axel's aim was to heist.
25. The President's mission had been to mediate.

26. Happiness is (to learn that there will be no school because of snow).
27. Happiness is to study infinitives.
28. Happiness is to know your college board scores are good.
29. His one desire is to beat the White Knight to the dirty clothes.
30. My wish is to sell the '28 Rolls for \$2400.

. . . as appositive

31. The Riddler's secret desire, (to sing), was finally realized.
32. His ambition, to cogitate, was soon thwarted by the small children.
33. Charles Horse's purpose, to hurt, soon became a reality.
34. The runner's goal, to break the existing record, should be realized this Saturday.
35. Dr. Schweitzer's lifelong plan, to teach and to heal, was very noble.

36. Kit accomplished his plan, (to draw well for his parents).
37. The speaker's intention, to inspire his audience, failed from the start.
38. His desire, to succeed in his chosen vocation, led him to great heights.
39. Madame Curie's ambition, to gain recognition in the field of medicine, was fulfilled.
40. Icarus' goal, to fly first, ended with his wings melting.

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... as an adjective

41. The apartment (to let) was a hovel.
42. A good book to read is *Lady Lovelock's Chatter*.
43. Now is a good time to master the subject of verbals.

... as an adverb

44. My friend came (to see me).
45. We exercise to keep healthy.
46. The visiting team came to play.

... with the sign (to) missing

47. Let (us pray).
48. Let me go with you.
49. To relax and play are important.
50. The dreamy boy wanted to sculpt and paint.

... as subject, with the expletive (it)

51. It is nice (to know you).
52. It is easy to understand infinitives.
53. It is silly not to study.

... as object of a preposition

54. He was about (to go).
55. She had no desire except to stay.

... as object of verbal

56. Wanting (to win too much), he became blind to good sportsmanship.
57. Wanting to win too much can lead to poor sportsmanship.

... in an infinitive clause

58. The country wanted (the folk groups to play better music).
59. The team wished John to be captain.

THE INFINITIVE AND THE INFINITIVE PHRASE (p.100)

Enclose each (infinitive or infinitive phrase) in parentheses.

Tell the grammatical usage of each infinitive.

1. To study medicine was his only wish.
2. To learn English seemed unimportant.
3. The homesick camper wanted to go home.
4. The rowdy guest hated to leave the party.
5. The time to study is now.

6. The historic homes to visit were pointed out to us.
7. We go to school to learn how to function as human beings.
8. The team worked hard to score.
9. To decide is the mark of a mature person.
10. Holden Caulfield wanted to quit school and work in a filling station out West.

11. To see, the blind man had an operation.
12. A very good book to read is *Raintree County*.
13. The hoods wanted to go to work by the way of the poolroom.
14. To move quickly and quietly was the cat burglar's desire.
15. To cross the desert, the camel loaded up on water.

16. To forgive is divine.
17. I have no time to spare for trivial things.
18. The attempt to kick the field goal failed.
19. The students were anxious to please the teacher.
20. He wanted to see the movie *Stalag 17* again.

THE INFINITIVE AND THE INFINITIVE PHRASE (p.101)

21. The right thing to do isn't always easy.
22. The place to find the pot of gold is just over the horizon.
23. The final will be the hardest examination to take.
24. This work was to have been completed by now.
25. All seems to be in order.

26. Lewis waited to ask the Headmaster for his permission.
27. Many adventurers went to California to seek gold.
28. To be home early, the commuter took the 4:10.
29. To live in Tahiti, a person cannot sponge off the natives.
30. To pass the course, he will have to study.

31. It is a nuisance to save trading stamps.
32. To be a professional requires great skill.
33. To occasionally split an infinitive seems perfectly natural.
34. James Bond had to go to Haiti after Mr. Big.
35. The farmer tried to grow a type of hybrid corn suited to the climate.

36. He liked to shoot off fireworks.
37. The bounty hunter's job was to track down bounties.
38. Cleopatra wanted to protect Ptolemy.
39. The ambition of the stagehand was to act.
40. MacArthur's famous vow, to return to the Philippines, was fulfilled.

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41. Hitler's mad plan was to conquer the world.
42. To play the role of Medea can prove quite challenging.
43. Arnold doesn't want to stop playing golf.
44. Leander had no alternative except to swim.
45. Try to start the exercise again.

46. To show sympathy for Jack, Jill fell down the hill.
47. To diet most effectively, a person should refrain from eating.
48. The night made the trees too dark to see.
49. He ran home to tell his mother the news of his narrow escape.
50. The suit was ready to be worn.

51. Nice is a nice town to visit.
52. The play we wanted to see just ended its season on Broadway.
53. The landlord hung out the "Apartment to Rent" sign.
54. The best suits to buy are made of Dacron and wool.
55. A good place to have lived would have been in Paris in the 1920's.

56. To be or not to be is the question.
57. The acid test is to try the crossword puzzle using a pen.
58. The undisciplined boy is learning to control himself.
59. No one should ever try to speak in class without thinking first.
60. She went to join in the search for the lost spelunker.

THE INFINITIVE AND THE INFINITIVE PHRASE (p.103)

61. Our newspaper staff tried to publish a paper that was mature and at the same time humorous.
62. After the game we were convinced that the other team had really come to play ball.
63. The best thing to do in an emergency is to keep calm and collected.
64. To run and play freely was the haunting desire of most of the children in the ward.
65. Dawkins' alternate plan, to play professional football, was thwarted when he became a Rhodes Scholar.

66. Let us pray.
67. Apparently wanting to come in the house, Bowser tore a gigantic hole in the front screen.
68. The current fad among the girls at our school is to wear green lipstick and long white eyelashes.
69. Citation's owners expected to win the triple crown in racing.
70. It is too hot to breathe.

71. It is nice to know you.
72. Betty's plan was to go to the museum as often as she could.
73. The Romantic poets were too concerned with their imaginations to be overly conscious of their minds.
74. Beware of anyone who says he has a deal to work with you.
75. To live is to suffer.

76. Hurlburt enlisted in the Marines to serve for two years and then signed for another hitch to be with his buddies.
77. The circumstances were too complicated to explain to anyone.
78. After trying to climb the Matterhorn, the fellows in our group asked only to rest and sleep and be left alone for several days.
79. The books we were given to read in health class seemed to be written by the birds and the bees.
80. To live without fear, to be free to shape our own destinies, and to pursue happiness are fundamental to the American dream.

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81. Not to study was the only alternative.
82. Matilda did not want to attend the dance with Wallaby.
83. Mallory's plan was to ascend the east wall of the mountain.
84. Wanting to gather the ferny blue wildflowers, the botanist climbed further out on the dangerous precipice.
85. We came to see the man who has the home to sell.

86. Give me two hamburgers to go.
87. The prisoner of war was happy just to breathe fresh air again.
88. Let us see what work there is for us to do.
89. To find an infinitive in a sentence is easy.
90. To do the work seemed foolish, but it had to be done.

91. A wise thing to practice is self-control.
92. To watch television constantly should be a form of punishment.
93. When the militant Hebrew king went forth to conquer the Philistines, he had Yahweh on his side.
94. The sophomore boy was so attracted to the freshman girl that he purposely tried to fail all of his subjects.
95. The ball player's main goal in life, to score the winning touchdown in the final seconds of the last game of the season in his senior year, seems to be rather impractical.

96. To fish, and swim, and loll around in the sun were the things that Huck and Jim really enjoyed.
97. The attractive girl told Dofo that it was nice to meet him, a situation which caused the boy to get very flustered.
98. The surgeon planned to tell the patient why he had to operate.
99. To enjoy the freedom one can experience in America is a divine blessing.
100. Let us leave the subject of infinitives and go on to greater things.

Answers to odd numbered questions:

THE INFINITIVE AND THE INFINITIVE PHRASE--Section Questions (page 96)

- 1) Gerunds, participles, and infinitives are the three kinds of verbals.
- 2) Verbs are used as predicates of sentences; verbals are used as nouns, adjectives, and adverbs.
- 3) Verbals may express action, may have modifiers, and may be followed by complements.
- 4) An infinitive is a verb form, usually preceded by to, that is used as a noun, adjective, or adverb.
- 5) Yes, an infinitive can have both objects and modifiers.
- 6) An infinitive phrase is a phrase containing an infinitive and any complements or modifiers it may have.
- 7) The four forms of the infinitive for the verb "to go" are: to go (present active); to be gone (present passive); to have gone (present perfect active); to have been gone (present perfect passive).
- 8) Yes, the sign of an infinitive (to) may be omitted in a sentence.
- 9) Yes, when being used as an appositive, as a non-restrictive phrase, or as an introductory modifier, the infinitive is set off by commas.

THE INFINITIVE AND THE INFINITIVE PHRASE--Sample Exercises (pages 97-99)

- 1) (To err) subject
- 2) (To love) subject
- 3) (To hate) subject
- 4) (To walk) subject
- 5) (To exist) subject
- 6) (To be in ignorance of the law) subject
- 7) (To sleep soundly through the ringing of the alarm) subject
- 8) (To have loved and lost) subject
- 9) (To ride in a jeep for seven days) subject
- 10) (To wash dishes) subject
- 11) (to win) direct object
- 12) (to travel) direct object
- 13) (to fly) direct object
- 14) (to swim) direct object
- 15) (to cook) direct object
- 16) (to buy frilly things) direct object
- 17) (to ride spotted horses bareback in the sun) direct object
- 18) (to surf in his new wetsuit) direct object
- 19) (to toll in the little village) direct object
- 20) (to hear that song again) direct object
- 21) (to succeed) predicate noun
- 22) (to win) predicate noun
- 23) (to see) predicate noun
- 24) (to heist) predicate noun
- 25) (to mediate) predicate noun
- 26) (to learn that there will be no school because of snow) predicate noun
- 27) (to study infinitives) predicate noun
- 28) (to know your college board scores are good) predicate noun
- 29) (to beat the White Knight to the dirty clothes) predicate noun
- 30) (to sell the '28 Rolls for \$2400) predicate noun
- 31) (to sing) appositive for "desire"
- 32) (to cogitate) appositive for "ambition"
- 33) (to hurt) appositive for "purpose"
- 34) (to break the existing record) appositive for "goal"
- 35) (to teach) (to heal) both appositives for "plan"
- 36) (to draw well for his parents) appositive for "plan"
- 37) (to inspire his audience) appositive for "intention"
- 38) (to succeed in his chosen vocation) appositive for "desire"
- 39) (to gain recognition in the field of medicine) appositive for "ambition"

- 40) (to fly first) appositive for “goal”
- 41) (to let) adjective modifying “apartment”
- 42) (to read) adjective modifying “book”
- 43) (to master the subject of verbals) adjective modifying “time”
- 44) (to see me) adverb modifying “came”
- 45) (to keep healthy) adverb modifying “exercise”
- 46) (to play) adverb modifying “came”
- 47) (us pray) direct object (without “to”) infinitive clause
- 48) (me go with you) direct object (without “to”) infinitive clause
- 49) (To relax) subject; (play) subject (without “to”)
- 50) (to sculpt) direct object; (paint) direct object (without “to”)
- 51) (to know you) subject (after an expletive)
- 52) (to understand infinitives) subject (after an expletive)
- 53) (not to study) subject (after an expletive)
- 54) (to go) object of the preposition “about”
- 55) (to stay) object of the preposition “except”
- 56) (to win too much) object of the participle “Wanting”
- 57) (to win too much) object of the gerund “Wanting”
- 58) (the folk groups to play better music) an infinitive clause acting as a direct object
- 59) (John to be captain) an infinitive clause acting as a direct object

THE INFINITIVE AND THE INFINITIVE PHRASE--Exercises (pages 100-104)

- 1) (To study medicine) subject
- 3) (to go home) direct object
- 5) (to study) adjective modifying “time”
- 7) (to learn (how to function as human beings)) adverb modifying “go”; object of the infinitive “to learn”
- 9) (To decide) subject
- 11) (To see) adverb modifying “had”
- 13) (to go to work by the way of the poolroom) direct object
- 15) (To cross the desert) adverb modifying “loaded”
- 17) (to spare for trivial things) adjective modifying “time”
- 19) (to please the teacher) adverb modifying “anxious”
- 21) (to do) adjective modifying “thing”
- 23) (to take) adjective modifying “examination”
- 25) (to be in order) predicate adjective
- 27) (to seek gold) adverb modifying “went”
- 29) (To live in Tahiti) adverb modifying “can...sponge”
- 31) (to save trading stamps) subject (after an expletive)
- 33) (To occasionally split an infinitive) subject
- 35) (to grow a type of hybrid corn suited to the climate) direct object
- 37) (to track down bounties) predicate noun
- 39) (to act) predicate noun
- 41) (to conquer the world) predicate noun
- 43) (to stop playing golf) direct object
- 45) (to start the exercise again) direct object
- 47) (To diet most effectively) adverb modifying “should refrain”
- 49) (to tell his mother the news of his narrow escape) adverb modifying “ran”
- 51) (to visit) adjective modifying “town”
- 53) (to Rent) adjective modifying “Apartment”
- 55) (to have lived) adjective modifying “place”
- 57) (to try the crossword puzzle using a pen) predicate noun
- 59) (to speak in class without thinking first) direct object
- 61) (to publish a paper that was mature and at the same time humorous) direct object
- 63) (to do in an emergency) adjective modifying “thing”; (to keep calm and collected) predicate noun
- 65) (to play professional football) appositive for “plan”
- 67) (to come in the house) object of the participle “wanting”

- 69) (to win the triple crown in racing) direct object
- 71) (to know you) subject (after an expletive)
- 73) (to be overly conscious of their minds) adverb modifying “too”
- 75) (To live) subject; (to suffer) predicate noun
- 77) (to explain to anyone) adverb modifying “too”
- 79) (to read) adverb modifying “were given”; (to be written by the birds and the bees) predicate adjective
- 81) (Not to study) subject
- 83) (to ascend the east wall of the mountain) predicate noun
- 85) (to see the man who has the home (to sell)) adverb modifying “came”; adjective modifying “home”
- 87) (just to breathe fresh air again) adverb modifying “happy”
- 89) (To find an infinitive in a sentence) subject
- 91) (to practice) adjective modifying “thing”
- 93) (to conquer the Philistines) adverb modifying “went forth”
- 95) (to score the winning touchdown in the final seconds of the last game of the season in his senior year) appositive for “goal”; (to be rather impractical) predicate adjective
- 97) (to meet him) subject (in noun clause “that it was nice to meet him”); (to get very flustered). adjective modifying “boy”
- 99) (To enjoy the freedom one can experience in America) subject