

A Feature Analysis of To-Infinitive Sentences

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Abstract

The article examines the study of infinitive and its usage in sentences reveal another aspect of verb infinitives. By explaining the importance of infinitives in clauses, correct ways of applying infinitives in sentences, and the grammatical, syntax analysis of to-infinitive clauses with obvious and clear examples, this manual is intended for the explanation of to-infinitive.

Keywords: verb, noun, infinitive, clause, construction, grammar, sentence.

I. INTRODUCTION

Verb is a part of speech used to describe an action or to convey a subject in action. Examples of verbs: run, go, study, sleep, etc. In many languages, a verb can be inflected to describe a specific tense, voice, or mood. There are also verbs that must agree with a specific gender, argument, or person. Verbs play a crucial role in English grammar and have many functions. A verb must have its own tense. Present - indicates that the action is being performed at that time. The past tense indicates that the action has already taken place, and the future tense indicates that the action will take place at a later time (in the future). A verb has a vital role in any sentence. There are two main functions that verbs can play: verbs that move the subject and other verbs that give more explanation to the same subject. Normally, it is commonly said that there are five basic forms of verb in English grammar. They all help 'Verb' to be used in different grammatical categories [1]. This type of infinitive begins with "to". Complementary clauses are of two types, with or without: The first type is a direct complement clause, and the second is a complement clause. Both types are considered throughout the study, so the term is usually (but not always) used in the plural. It is important to know that this is not a preposition "to" because no noun (phrase) comes after it. Rather, it is the infinitive "to". It is argued that it can be called an infinite modal. This study supports the argument for 'to' as a modal because, given the structure, it precedes the bare verb form just like modals. Another argument states that "Infinitive constructions allow some modality to be signaled, that is, events can be presented in a way that requires either permission or ability." Here Miller mentions the term "infinite constructions" in general [2]. It can be seen that the non-finite participles can be grouped under the superordinate term "non-finite". Thus, the claim also applies to infinitive clauses.

1. Ali wanted [to talk to Jafar]. (necessity)
2. Ali wanted [to be allowed to take part in the party]. (permission)
3. Ali wanted Jafar [to be able to take part in the party]. (ability)

II. METHODS

English verbs have two main forms: finite and non-finite. How to use them correctly is very important for non-native English learners when learning English. Infinitive is a verb form that

names the action of the verb without any other specification etc. The infinitive also has two types of infinitive - to (to-infinitive) and to (bare infinitive) without an infinitive. "He always comes to help me", where to is an infinitive with help to. "I saw him leave the house" is an infinitive with leave the house to or a bare infinitive. We don't say "I saw her to leave the house", because the verb see is followed by a bare infinitive.

The infinitive is a unit consisting of the perfect and simple form of any verb performs one function in a sentence. The simple form of the infinitive verb is to +, although the to can be dropped when the infinitive follows a certain verb. Let, help, make, have, see, watch, hear, feel, noun and objective pronouns are used with simple verbs only, to.

The tense of the infinitive expresses the time relative to the main (or main) verb. If the action expressed by the infinitive is at the same time as or after the time expressed by the main verb, the indefinite or continuous/progressive forms should be used [3].

1. He seems to know the truth. (= He seems to know the truth. The simple form indicates simultaneous action, but for the progressive form, knowing was not possible, because know is a state verb that is not used in the progressive form.)
2. He seemed to know the truth. (= He seems to know the truth.)
3. He seems to be working hard at math.
(= He seems to be working hard at math. The progressive form shows action at the same time as appearance.)
4. Nice to meet you. (Happy and dating now.)
5. He was lucky to win \$1,000. (Both luck and success are in the past.)
6. It was reported that more fish were being raised on that farm.
(= It was reported that the farm was producing more fish.)
7. The country is famous for its natural resources.
(= It is known that the country is famous for its natural resources.)
8. He seems to have done a lot of homework.
(The perfect form indicates the action.)

In general, the perfect form and the perfect progressive form refer to the previous action or state, and the progressive form refers to the action or state that happened at the same time as the predicative verb or the predicative verb. The simple form of the infinitive also has a time indicator. Usually, if the verb itself does not normally have a progressive tense, the progressive form instead expresses an action or state at the same time.

III. RESULTS

The to-infinitive construction has been a part of English grammar for centuries. It originated from the Old English form of the infinitive, which was a single word without the "to" particle. Over time, the "to" particle was added to the infinitive to mark it as a distinct grammatical form. In Middle English, the to-infinitive construction became more common and was used in a variety of ways, including as a subject, object, or complement in a sentence. By the Early Modern English period, the to-infinitive had become an established feature of the language and was used extensively in both spoken and written forms. Today, to-infinitive sentences are a common feature of modern English grammar and are used in a wide range of contexts and situations. They are an essential part of the language and are used by speakers and writers of all levels and abilities.

To-infinitive sentences are a common type of sentence structure in English grammar. They consist of the infinitive form of a verb preceded by the word "to." These sentences can serve various functions in a sentence, such as subjects, objects, complements, or modifiers. To-

infinitive sentences are often used to express purpose, intention, or result. They can also be used after certain verbs, such as “agree”, “decide” and “hope”[4].

IV. DISCUSSION

A very important thing to remember about infinitives is that infinitives never take the place of a verb or form a sentence or become the predicate of a sentence. Sometimes it's hard to remember because there are so many verb adjectives in the infinitive. The infinitive can be used as a noun, adjective or adverb in many cases. The infinitive used as a noun performs several functions. It can serve as subject, direct object and objective complement. The infinitive to is used as an adjective, modifying a noun, and the infinitive is used as an adverb, modifying verbs, adjectives, and adverbs. When the infinitive is used with the words 'to' or to +, the infinitive is called a complete infinitive. To + infinitive = complete infinitive.

1. Infinitive is used as a noun

Infinitives used as nouns act as subjects, direct objects, or complements. Cook and Sutter (1980) point out in their book *The Framework of Grammar* that the infinitive as a noun can act as the subject, object or complement of sentences. The infinitive retains the noun of the verb, as does the gerund, describing actions and situations rather than naming persons, places, things, and ideas.

2. Infinitive function as a subject

The infinitive works without prefixing "it" as the subject. For example:

To cooperate is the least you can do.

To avoid confusion, another way to distinguish between the infinitive "to" and the preposition "to" is their ability to allow complement ellipsis. The infinitive complement 'to' can be ellipsised. The first answer to (B) below omits the infinitive complement 'to', but the second answer is incorrectly constructed because the preposition 'to' should not have a complement.

(4) Answer: Do you want to go to the zoo?

B: No, I don't want to.

* No, I don't want to go.

A very important aspect of non-finite clauses is the absence of tense, and participle clauses belong to non-finite clauses. comes to the conclusion that as can be seen in the following two example sentences.

(5) They tried to [arrive early].

(6) They try to [arrive early].

The parenthetical parts in both sentences above are to-infinitive clauses, both sentences have the same sentence pattern, the first sentence is past and the second is present. It can be easily seen that the sentences in parentheses do not indicate tense and this proves the researcher's claim. Although this type of tenseless subjunctive always begins with "to", there are three types of tenseless tense clauses. Of this, Declerk mentions two types: the present infinitive (to do), which expresses simultaneity with the time of the upper participle, and the perfect infinitive (to have done), which expresses the past. As for the third type, it is shown that the continuous infinitive (to be done) is another form of non-dividing clauses[5]. To-infinitive clauses do not require any special punctuation when they are used as the direct object of a verb. However, if the to-infinitive clause is used at the beginning of a sentence, it is often followed by a comma. For example: "To be honest, I don't really like sushi." In this sentence, "to be honest" is the to-infinitive clause that functions as an introductory phrase, and it is followed by a comma. Additionally, if the to-infinitive clause is used to provide additional information about the subject of the sentence, it can be set off by commas. For example: "My sister, who loves to

dance, is taking ballet lessons." In this sentence, "who loves to dance" is the to-infinitive clause that provides additional information about "my sister," and it is set off by commas.

V. CONCLUSION

To-infinitive sentences are a versatile and important part of the English language. They can be used to express purpose, result, preference, obligation, and more. Understanding how to use them correctly can greatly improve your writing and communication skills. Remember to always use the correct form of the verb and to pay attention to the context in which the sentence is being used. With practice, you can become proficient in using to-infinitive sentences effectively in your writing and speech.

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