Jo Willmott: Simple Guide

Examples of primary purpose clauses

σωθεῖσα δ', ὡς ἀν καὶ σὺ κοινωνῆς τύχης, σώσω σ' ἐς Ἑλλάδ'. ἀλλὰ πρός σε δεξιᾶς σὲ καὶ σὲ ἱκνοῦμαι, σὲ δὲ φίλης παρηίδος, γονάτων τε καὶ τῶν ἐν δόμοισι φιλτάτων μητρὸς πατρός τε καὶ τέκνων ὅτῳ κυρεῖ.

Once I've been rescued I will save you too and take you to Greece so that you can share in my good luck. Now, I beseech you, by your right hand, I beseech you and you too, and you by your dear cheek, and by your knees, and by your loved ones at home - your mother, your father, and children if you have them.

Euripides Iphigenia in Tauris 1069-73

στῆσόν με κἀξίδρυσον, ὡς πυθώμεθα ὅπου ποτ' ἐσμέν· μανθάνειν γὰρ ἥκομεν ξένοι πρὸς ἀστῶν, ἃν δ' ἀκούσωμεν τελεῖν.

Stand me there and let me rest, so that we can find out where we are. We have come as foreigners to learn from the citizens, and to do what we are told.

Sophocles Oedipus at Colonus 11-13

τίπτε δεδάκρυσαι, Πατρόκλεες, ἠΰτε κούρη νηπίη, ἡ θ' ἀμα μητρὶ θέουσ' ἀνελέσθαι ἀνώγει εἰανοῦ ἀπτομένη, καί τ' ἐσσυμένην κατερύκει, δακρυόεσσα δέ μιν ποτιδέρκεται, ὀφρ' ἀνέληται·

Patroclus, why are you crying like a young girl, who runs to her mother and asks her to pick her up, clutching at her dress, and stops her as she rushes past, and looks at her tearfully until she picks her up?

Homer Iliad 16.7-10

δεῖ δ' ὑμᾶς, ὧ ἄνδρες Ἀθηναῖοι, ἐξ ἀρχῆς τῶν πραγμάτων ἀπάντων ἀκοῦσαι, ἵν' εἰδῆτε πρῶτον μὲν ὧ τρόπῳ ὑμῖν ἡ δημοκρατία κατελύθη καὶ ὑφ' ὅτου, ἔπειτα ὧ τρόπῳ οἱ ἄνδρες ὑπ' Ἁγοράτου ἀπέθανον, καὶ δὴ ὅ τι ἀποθνήσκειν μέλλοντες ἐπέσκηψαν·

Gentlemen of Athens, you must hear everything from the beginning so that you can know first the way in which democracy was dissolved, and at whose hands it was done, and secondly the way in which these men died at the hands of Agoratus and what their instructions were at the point of death.

Lysias Against Agoratus 13.3

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άξιοῖ γοῦν ἀργύριον λαμβάνειν ὁ δῆμος καὶ ἄδων καὶ τρέχων καὶ ὀρχούμενος καὶ πλέων ἐν ταῖς ναυσίν, ἵνα αὐτός τε ἔχῃ καὶ οἱ πλούσιοι πενέστεροι γίγνωνται.

The people certainly think it reasonable to take money for singing, running, dancing and sailing in ships, so that they have money and the wealthy become poorer.

Xenophon Constitution of the Athenians 1.13

τεύχεα δ' ἀλλήλοις ἐπαμείψομεν, ὄφρα καὶ οἵδε γνῶσιν ὅτι ξεῖνοι πατρώϊοι εὐχόμεθ' εἶναι.

And let us make exchange of armour, each with the other, that these men too may know that we declare ourselves to be friends from our fathers' days.

Homer Iliad 6.230-231

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Homer Iliad 6.230-231

εἵματα δ' ἐνθάδ' ἐγὼ πέμψω καὶ σῖτον ἄπαντα ἔδμεναι, ὡς ἂν μή σε κατατρύχη καὶ ἑταίρους.

raiment will I send hither and all his food to eat, that he be not the ruin of thee and of thy men.

Homer Odyssey 16.85-86