

The standard way to express purpose is with a purpose conjunction (like ὥς or ἵνα) followed by the subjunctive or optative. For example:

οὔτε χρημάτων ἔνεκα ἔπραξα ταῦτα, ἵνα πλούσιος ἐκ πένητος γένωμαι
(Lysias Speeches 1.4)

The choice of mood depends on the tense of the verb in the main clause: the so-called 'sequence of tenses'. When the verb in the main clause refers to the **present** (primary sequence), the verb of the purpose clause will be in the **subjunctive**. When the verb refers to the **past** (secondary or historic sequence), the verb in the purpose clause will *usually* be in the **optative**, but can be in the **subjunctive**. According to the grammar books the subjunctive is used in past time when the speaker wishes to be particularly 'vivid'.

In Lysias 1 we only find purpose clauses where the main clause refers to past time. In each example the subjunctive is used rather than the optative. For example:

προϊόντος δὲ τοῦ χρόνου, ὧ ἄνδρες, ἦκον μὲν ἀπροσδοκήτως ἐξ ἀγροῦ, μετὰ δὲ τὸ δεῖπνον τὸ παιδίον ἐβόα καὶ ἐδυσκόλαινεν ὑπὸ τῆς θεραπαίνης ἐπίτηδες λυπούμενον, ἵνα ταῦτα ποιῇ.
(Lysias Speeches 1.11)

The negative used in purpose clauses is μή:

ἵνα δὲ μή, ὅποτε λοῦσθαι δέοι, κινδυνεύῃ κατὰ τῆς κλίμακος καταβαίνουσα, ἐγὼ μὲν ἄνω διητώμην, αἱ δὲ γυναῖκες κάτω.
(Lysias Speeches 1.9)

Purpose can also be expressed by the future participle. For example:

καὶ οὕτως ἤδη συνειθισμένον ἦν, ὥστε πολλάκις ἡ γυνὴ ἀπῆει κάτω καθευδήσουσα ὡς τὸ παιδίον, ἵνα τὸν τιτθὸν αὐτῷ διδῶ καὶ μὴ βοᾷ.
(Lysias Speeches 1.10)