Expressing Purpose

Purpose with to, in order to and so as to

Use **to**, **so as to**, and **in order to** to express purpose in the affirmative form.

Examples:

- He is looking for a part time job **to** save some pocket money.
- She wakes up early *in order to* be on time to work.
- They visited him **so as to** offer their condolences for the death of his wife.

Use **so as not to** and **in order not to** to express purpose in the negative form.

Examples:

- They woke up early *in order not to* be late.
- She exercises regularly *so as not to* get fat.
- He helped the new policewoman *so as not to* fail in her first mission.

Purpose with *so that*

You can also express purpose with **so that**. In this case, you generally need to use a modal.

(You can learn more about modal following the next link:

http://www.myenglishpages.com/site_php_files/grammar-lesson-modals.php)

Examples:

- He turned down the music **so that** he wouldn't disturb the neighbors.
- He got a visa **so that** he can travel to the USA.
- He decided to stay in England for a while **so that** he could practice his English.

Purpose with for

Purpose can be also expressed by using **for**. **For** may be followed by either a noun or a verb + ing.

Examples:

- \circ I stopped there **for** a chat.
- This mop is *for* cleaning the floor.