La leçon se déroule en anglais. Elle est suivie d’un entretien en français

“[...] Infinitival to derives historically from the preposition to and [...] while it has clearly gone a syntactic change such that in this use it is no longer a preposition, certain aspects of its infinitival subordinator use reflect its origin”.

Comment.
Candidates will use relevant examples from the following corpus in order to address the above topic.
Excerpt n°1
General Petraeus has declined to say who was taking the American equipment, probably because many countries in the gulf region are hesitant to be publicly identified as accepting American military aid and the troops that come with it.

*New York Times*, 31/01/2010

Excerpt n°2
Slowly, Miranda moved toward the snake. She reached out to touch her, then pulled back her hands. "I can't..." She'd ceased to believe the snake would bite her, but she still didn't want to feel the scaly skin and the powerful jaws that held her deadly fangs.


Excerpt n°3
If you are new in the area your estate agent will be pleased to recommend a firm whom they know to be reputable.


Excerpt n°4
Twenty years ago, California Cabernet Sauvignons were some of the biggest tannin offenders, as winemakers strove to make massive wines that would last. Tannin meant longevity, and if the wine was harsh and unpleasant when young, consumers would just have to wait.

*San Francisco Chronicle*, 20/02/2003

Excerpt n°5
Miraculously, a state trooper was cruising by. In the suburbs. A state trooper who stopped to find out why anyone in their right mind would run in front of a moving vehicle.


Excerpt n°6
The newspaper calls upon true patriots to celebrate their national day by making a disparaging remark about English cricket and overcooking a variety of meats on semi-hygienic barbecues.

*Australia's thrill for the grill*, BBC News, 24/01/2009

Excerpt n°7
In Kabul, Brahimi refuses to be drawn into a discussion about Iraq or any other conflict than the one at hand: Afghanistan. And here, he has one main regret. "In hindsight," he says, "I would have liked for us to have gone much slower."

*Christian Science Monitor*, 23/04/2003

Excerpt n°8
Senator Harry Reid, the majority leader, said he would move ahead on only some elements agreed to by both parties, and seek to move those rapidly through the Senate.


Excerpt n°9
The irony is that under Mr Nozoe, Fujitsu was a model of corporate reform. He actively sought to restructure the bloated company, which has roughly 175,000 employees and around $50 billion in annual revenue, but makes meagre profits.

*The Economist*, 11/03/2010

Excerpt n°10
When I had my first exhibition I was very nervous, and for many reasons it was difficult for me to look at the photographs from my past because I knew they would bring back memories, both happy and unhappy.

*Intelligent Life* blog, 17/03/2010

Excerpt n°11
These incentives have become a huge factor in choosing where to shoot a film. Hollywood types are used to going on location, says Amy Lemisch, the director of the California Film Commission, a state body that tries to retain film production.

*The Economist*, 11/03/2010
Excerpt n°12
Some regretted the loss of great Phoenix roles: "I felt he got cheated and I got cheated," says John Pinto, 25, of Chicago. Other fans suspended belief. "I was waiting for him to come back to life," says Gabrielle Brechner, 17, a senior at Manhattan's Dalton School, "the way they always do in the movies."

Time, 15/11/1993

Excerpt n°13
For confirmation I visited him in prison, where in protest against his incarceration he had put himself in solitary confinement, and found him to be sandy-haired, bullet-headed and verbose, yet with a redeeming sense of humour; his passionate denials of having played any part in the Ayr murder were too convincing to have been invented.


Excerpt n°14
Marveling that "only in America" could a Jewish baker's son aspire to help lead his nation, an awed Joseph Lieberman called on Americans last night "to overcome the differences that are still between us[... ] and to help every American claim the possibilities of their own God-given lives."


Excerpt n°15
For all the ups and downs, and more downs, that white-collar workers here have lived through, they have always managed to put on a brave face, assuring one another that the American auto industry will come back stronger than ever. But now that resolve has given way to grim resignation, as General Motors, Ford Motor and Chrysler have announced wave upon wave of job cuts.

New York Times, 17/02/2009

Excerpt n°16
At Yale, where they did their graduate work, they came to believe they were destined for research positions at one of the other Ivys, at least until the market for academics headed south and they had to take what they could get -- the pickings even slimmer for a couple -- and that turned out to be a huge state university in Indiana. Betrayed. That was how they felt. Why go to Cornell, to Yale, if Indiana was your reward? But they'd had little choice but to hunker down and make the best of their wretched timing,

R. Russo, That old Cape magic, Random, 2009

Excerpt n°17
One poll showed that 50% of the British public was unconvinced by the verdict. Another showed that only 10% of the public trusted the government to tell the truth. In the report, Lord Hutton, the Establishment judge whom Blair chose to head the probe, chided Kelly for leaking to reporters his disquiet that the government had oversold evidence of Iraq's WMD.

Time, 09/02/2004

Excerpt n°18
Mixon also is quoted in the report as saying he planned to move away to "a better area, get a job, and hopefully in about two or three years get my own business, raise my kids in a responsible way." "I wish I could fix or make up for what happened," Mixon was quoted as saying. "But I can't, so I am going to attempt to make the best out of it and learn as much as possible to help me when I get out."

San Francisco Chronicle, 24/03/2009

Excerpt n°19
We know this week the Obama administration, the president is to sign the stimulus bill. We also anticipate this week the administration will be addressing the issue of foreclosures. And we have a whole lot of e-mails asking about that right after this.

CNN Newsroom, 15/02/2009

Excerpt n°20
To be honest," Coady says, "I can't say they're these kinds of players because they're from Boston or New England. To say that would be stupid. I like guys who want to win, and you find people like that all over the world, in all walks of life."

Chicago Sun-Times, 14/03/1999