

[Sir Thomas L. Heath, *The Thirteen Books of Euclid's Elements* (2nd edition), p. 276 (1925).]

[Heath's commentary on Euclid, *Elements*, Book I, Proposition 13.]

17. **let the angle  $EBD$  be added to each**, literally “let the angle  $EBD$  be added (so as to be) common,” κοινῇ προσκεῖσθω ἢ ὑπὸ  $EB\Delta$ . Similarly κοινῇ ἀφαιρεθήσθω is used of subtracting a straight line or angle from each of two others. “Let the common angle  $EBD$  be added” is clearly an inaccurate translation, for the angle is not common before it is added, i.e. the κοινῇ is proleptic. “Let the common angle be *subtracted*” as a translation of κοινῇ ἀφαιρεθήσθω would be less unsatisfactory, it is true, but, as it is desirable to use corresponding words when translating the two expressions, it seems hopeless to attempt to keep the word “common,” and I have therefore said “to each” and “from each” simply.