From Zero to the National Greek Exam:
An Introduction for Everyone

a workshop at the
American Classical League
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This workshop provides materials and instruction for teachers who wish to begin introducing ancient Greek to their students. The presentation neither requires nor expects any prior knowledge of Greek. The "Introduction to Greek" level of the National Greek Exam has a syllabus designed to be accessible for study only a day or two a week or outside regular class time. The workshop provides the information necessary for participants to prepare their students to compete on this exam.

The presentation has three components:
1. a survey of, and frequently-asked-questions about, the Greek language
2. a survey of the cultural information on the "Introduction to Greek" syllabus
3. practice with the grammar and syntax on the Introduction to Greek syllabus.

All the information in this packet and other materials are available for free download at www.dramata.com (you will be redirected to the site's current location).

μὴ φοβεῖσθε
"Fear not!"
Luke 2.10

This Packet Contains

- National Greek Exam: information and Syllabus: Introduction to Greek Exam (pp. 3-5)
- Frequently Asked Questions about Ancient Greek (pp. 6-11)
    - Historical Overview of Greece
    - Types of Greek from Linear B to Modern Greek
    - Typing and Printing Greek
    - Textbooks and Resources for Beginning Greek
- A survey of the cultural information on the syllabus for the "Introduction to Greek" level of the National Greek Exam (sections II and III) (p. 12)
    - Greek Geography
    - Historical Events and People
- A survey of the language information on the syllabus for the "Introduction to Greek" level of the National Greek Exam (sections I and V) (pp. 13-36)
    - The Alphabet
    - Overview of Greek Grammar
    - Understanding Greek text
        - Verbs
        - Nouns
        - Prepositions
    - Derivatives for the "Introduction to Greek" level of the National Greek Exam (section IV) (p. 37)
- Vocabulary lists (pp. 38-45)

National Greek Exam: <u>Syllabus</u>: Introduction to Greek Exam

I. <u>Alphabet</u>
Know Attic Greek alphabet, in correct order, upper and lower case; rough breathing
Know names of all letters
Be able to transliterate Greek letters into English equivalents, and vice versa
Be able to transform lower case to upper case, and vice versa
Be able to give preceding and following letters of the alphabet

II. <u>Geography</u>
Know location of:
> Athens, Sparta, Thebes, Troy, Delphi, Olympia, Corinth, Mycenae, Alexandria, Crete, Sicily, Rhodes, Euboea, Aegean Sea, Ionian Sea, Black Sea, Adriatic Sea, Nile, Hellespont.

III. <u>Historical Events and People</u>
Know relative dates and historical importance of:
> Pericles; Darius; Xerxes; Philip of Macedon, Alexander the Great
> Socrates, Plato; Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides; Herodotus, Thucydides
> Thermopylae, Marathon, Artemisium
> Persian Wars; Athenian Empire; Peloponnesian War

Know three Architectural Orders – Ionic, Doric, Corinthian

IV. <u>Derivatives</u>
Know derivatives of the following prepositions and prefixes: ἀμφί, ἀντί, ἀπό, διά, δυσ-, ἐκ, ἐν, ἐπί, εὐ-, μετά, παν- , περί, πρό, πρός, σύν, ὑπέρ, ὑπό

V. <u>Understanding Greek text</u>
Know noun/adjective endings
> 1st and 2nd declension   all cases   singular and plural

Know verb endings   present
> Indicative   active   1st, 2nd, 3rd person   singular and plural

Should be able to understand easy sentences, including prepositional phrases and adjectives

ACL/NJCL National Greek Exam

RESULTS OF THE 2011 ACL/NJCL NATIONAL GREEK EXAMINATION

The National Greek Examination in 2011 enrolled 1769 students from 154 schools. Typically over 50% earn purple, blue, red, or green ribbons. The battery of six examinations consisted of five Attic Greek exams (Introduction 412, Beginning 741, Intermediate 360, Prose 88, Tragedy 28) and a Homeric Greek exam (*Odyssey* 140*).

THE 2012 ACL/NJCL NATIONAL GREEK EXAMINATION

The next National Greek Examination will be administered Monday-Saturday, 5-10 March 2012. Entrants will pay $4.00 for *each* examination (Foreign - $5.00 per exam) chosen from the battery. An entrant may not cross levels in Attic Greek (take both Beginning and Intermediate Attic) but s/he may take an Attic and a non-Attic examination (Intermediate Attic and *Odyssey*), so long as s/he pays $4.00 for each examination taken. In addition, **only the Attic Prose exam may be taken for two years in a row**.

Applications will be accepted only from teachers; others should call Dr. Deb Davies before ordering and explain any special circumstances. **Applications must be postmarked** *no later than* **Tuesday, 17 January 2012.** The entry application from the teacher should include total payment. If there is no alternative and the NGE office must bill a school system, a handling fee of $10.00 will be added to the bill.

Copies of the 2012 National Greek Examination will be mailed by the beginning of March to the designated examiner, but **NOT** to the teacher who mailed the application. If the examinations are not received by the 1st of March 2012, please contact The American Classical League (see below).

Schools which, for reasons of vacation or other schedule conflicts, wish to administer the examinations during the week of 20 February 2012, should so note on the application so that the NGE office will know when to expect the answer sheets back. All answer sheets must be postmarked no later than Monday, 12 March 2012.

OPPORTUNITY FOR SCHOLARSHIP

In 2012, high-school seniors who earn purple or blue ribbons in upper level exams will be eligible to apply for one **scholarship** in the amount of **$1,000**. The scholarship will be paid to the winner's college or university on condition that s/he earn six credits of Greek during the school year. The winner will be selected by the NLE/NGE Scholarship Committee, chaired by Ephy Howard, Troy, AL. Teachers of eligible students will receive application forms in the mail by early May, 2012. Winners will be announced at the ACL Institute in June 2012, and notified directly thereafter by mail.

Dates and amounts preliminary and subject to change.

5-10 MARCH 2012
νοῦν μέγ᾽ ἄριστος καὶ γλῶτταν

High-school and college/university students enrolled in 1st year (elementary), 2nd year (intermediate), or 3rd year (advanced) Attic or Homeric Greek are invited to enter the 28th ACL/NJCL National Greek Examination.

The usual sequence of exams is **Introduction to Greek** (intended for high school students learning in a non-traditional environment), Beginning Attic (for high schools only), Intermediate Attic, Attic Prose (which may be repeated for 2 years) and Attic Tragedy. Homeric Greek can be taken in any year. Students should take the exam that most closely matches their experience. All difficult vocabulary or syntax will be given as applicable to each level. Summaries of each passage will be provided. It is suggested that you review the syllabi before ordering any exam.

Each examination will last 50 minutes. Each examination will contain 40 questions, with multiple-choice answers. For each of the forty questions on an examination, there will be as many as four answers, one of them correct, the others distracters.

All passages printed in the above examinations should be treated as sight passages. Accordingly, students entering the NGE would best prepare themselves by reading sight passages from the authors mentioned in the syllabi, and reading them for both comprehension and grammatical analysis.

Syllabi Available
You may request syllabi from The American Classical League (address below). If, after review, you have any questions regarding the syllabi contents, please contact Deb Davies (see below).

Previous Examinations Available
A packet of the entire set of the 2011 examinations, with the answers, costs $10.00 (postage included) and will be sent after 14 March 2011 (see application blank). Any of the individual examinations for the five years before 2011 are also available at $2.00 each. You must specify the exam(s) and level(s) you want. Make check payable to the "The American Classical League". (See below)

For information regarding examination and syllabi contents, contact: Dr. Deb Davies, Chair, 123 Argilla Rd., Andover, MA 01810-4622; 978-749-9446; ddavies@brooksschool.org

To request previous examinations, syllabi or an application, contact: ACL/NJCL National Greek Examination, The American Classical League, Miami University, 422 Wells Mill Dr., Oxford, OH 45056, 513-529-7741 • Fax 513-529-7742 •

http://nge.aclclassics.org/

Historical Overview of Greece

Reference works frequently refer to various historical periods without mentioning the rough dates or order of these periods, so here is a very brief overview of the principal historical stages of Greek history.

- **The Bronze Age** (3000-1200 BC)
  - This is, broadly speaking, the period and world behind the myths of the Trojan War. Other than such myths told in later times, we know of this period only through archaeological remains.
  - During this time lived a people now called the Minoans (although no one knows what they were called at the time). They left behind many spectacular buildings and beautiful art, especially on the island of Crete. They spoke a non-Greek language which has not been identified.
  - Greeks of this period are usually referred to as Mycenaeans, referring to the city of Mycenae, home of Agamemnon and one of the most powerful Greek cities of the time.
  - No literature survives from this time period. Documents are the only writing to survive (see Linear B in "Types of Greek" p.8).
- **Dark Age** (1200-700 BC)
  - For unknown reasons, crises afflict people all around the Mediterranean area. Archaeology indicates much depopulation, movement, and poverty.
  - No Greek writing of any sort survives from this period. Stories about the Bronze Age are told orally.
- **Archaic Period** (700-500 BC)
  - Greece recovers from the Dark Age. Cities like Athens, Sparta, Corinth and Thebes become powerful and prosperous. These cities are often best known for the powerful "tyrants" which ruled during this time.
  - The Greek alphabet appears for the first time. The *Iliad*, *Odyssey*, Hesiod, and other poems, which had been recited orally over the years, are now written down. Fragments remain of "lyric poets" such as Sappho and Archilochus. Aesop supposedly lived during this time.
- **Classical Period** (500-323 BC)
  - Athens establishes the first democracy. The Greeks repel the Persian attacks of Darius and Xerxes (490-480 BC). Pericles guides the Athenian empire and has the Parthenon built. Athens and Sparta fight the Peloponnesian War (431-404 BC). Shortly after Alexander the Great (356-323 BC) dies, Macedonians take over Athens and end the democracy.
  - Most famous Greek literature comes from Athens during this era: the tragedies of Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides, the comedies of Aristophanes, the historical writings of Herodotus, Thucydides and Xenophon, the philosophical writings of Plato and Aristotle, and almost all Greek oratory.
- **Hellenistic Period** (323-30 BC)
  - Following the death of Alexander the Great, various peoples around the Mediterranean attempt to recreate and control the empire he built. Macedonian and Greek culture dominate the methods of empire-building during this period.

Cleopatra VII was the last Hellenistic ruler and her suicide in 30 BC in the wake of Octavian/Augustus' attack marks the end of this era.
- o Apollonius of Rhodes' *Argonautica* (his Medea influenced Virgil's Dido) survives, as does much scholarly poetry which influenced Catullus, Horace, Ovid, and others. Some Greek New Comedy (models for Plautus and Terence) survives. The Hebrew Bible is translated into Greek (known as the Septuagint).

- **Roman Period** (196 BC – AD 476)
  - o Greece is "liberated" and made a province of the Roman empire. By the end, the capital of the empire has moved to the Greek city of Byzantium (as "Constantinople") in AD 330.
  - o Polybius (2nd century BC) writes an account of Rome's domination of the Mediterranean. Diodorus Siculus (1st century BC) compiles a world history. Dionysius of Halicarnassus (1st century BC) writes scholarship and Roman history. Plutarch (2nd century AD) writes his "Parallel Lives" of famous Greeks and Romans plus many more essays. Lucian writes his satirical essays. The earliest surviving novels and much scientific writing come from this period. The New Testament is written and compiled.

- **Byzantine Period** (AD 330-1453)
  - o While the Western part of the Roman empire splinters and becomes Medieval Europe, the Greek-speaking Eastern part of the empire continues, headed by the Orthodox church.
  - o A range of complex literature survives from this period, the most famous of which is probably Procopius' *Secret History*.

- **Turkish Ottoman Period** (1453-1821)
  - o In 1453, the Ottomans sack Byzantium/Constantinople (now Istanbul) and Greece becomes part of the Ottoman empire. This is the grimmest time in Greece since the Dark Age. Europeans begin looting antiquities from the land.

- **Modern Period** (1821-present)
  - o Greeks declare their independence. Modern Greece is now an independent democracy. Prominent authors of the modern period include Constantine Cavafy and Nikos Kazantzakis.

Types of Greek

Greek has one of the longest written records of any language in the world. Of all the languages of the world past and present, only two have written examples from the second millennium BC and continue as living languages today: Chinese and Greek. The story of Greek is thus the story of a long historical evolution.

Linear B: This is the earliest surviving written Greek of any kind, from about 1500 to 1000 BC. It is found on clay tablets carved in wedge-like characters called "cuneiform." The documents in this script are accounting records of various sorts (inventories, packing lists, etc). There are no stories or narratives of any kind, but there are some interesting names (e.g., Athena, Achilles).

Homeric Greek or **Epic Greek**: These terms refer to the dialect of Greek used in the *Iliad*, *Odyssey*, the writings of Hesiod, and some other similar poems. This Greek differs from later Greek much as Shakespearean English differs from modern English. These were the first writings recorded in the Greek alphabet.

Ionic and other dialects: Especially prior to the Classical Period, speakers in different areas used different dialects and wrote their dialects as they spoke them. Most literature in these other dialects is fragmentary. The history of Herodotus and the writings of Hippocrates are the most important complete works written in Ionic Greek, named for the region of Ionia (now southwestern Turkey), the home of this dialect.

Classical Greek or **Attic Greek**: These terms refer to the Greek used in Athens during the Classical Period. Thus this is the Greek of all Greek drama and oratory, and most history and philosophy.

Koine **Greek** and **Biblical Greek**: In the Hellenistic period, many non-Greeks (including the Romans) began to learn Greek. Consequently, there developed a sort of standardized Attic Greek which Greek speakers everywhere could learn and use. This is called *koine* ("common") Greek. The most famous text in *koine* Greek is the New Testament. Sometimes *koine* is treated as something wildly different from Classical Greek, but at the beginning and intermediate level Classical and *koine* are effectively the same. Even at the advanced level, the differences are minor unless you are doing specialized scholarly work.

Byzantine Greek: Most surviving Byzantine Greek is a later, complex, and elite version of Classical Greek.

Kathareuousa: When Greece regained its independence in the 19th century, some Greek elites and scholars wanted to restore Classical Greek as the language of the modern country. This restored language was called *kathereuousa* "purified," and as late as the 1980's was in official use in Greece.

Demotic and **Modern Greek**: Despite the efforts of the purists, Greek continued to evolve. Even while official documents were in *kathereuousa*, most people spoke Demotic or "popular" Greek, which is now the official language of modern Greece. In view of the fact that Greek has been

evolving for several thousand years, it is remarkably close to Ancient Greek. Modern Greek differs from ancient Greek primarily in three ways: (1) the sound of several letters has shifted, so the language sounds different (2) colloquialisms have changed, and (3) the word order has stabilized and some complex syntax has shifted, in ways often parallel to English. Because of the shifts in pronunciation, Modern Greek uses only one of the accents and breathings found in texts of ancient Greek.

While there is a wealth of study of Greek down to the first century AD, because of the fierce political debates about language use in Greece in the 19th and 20th centuries (principally *kathereuoousa* vs. demotic), study of the last two thousand years of Greek has only recently been able to advance relatively free of partisan debate. The standard starting place for the history of the entire language is now Geoffrey Horrocks, *Greek: A History of the Language and its Speakers*, 2nd ed. (Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010) ISBN 978-1405134156. This is a mammoth and detailed study, aimed primarily at linguists, but it does include examples of Greek from every period, region and type, in the original, but also translitered and translated, with explanations about what is distinct to each type. Horrocks also includes historical surveys to put the changes in the language in context.

TYPING AND PRINTING GREEK

Computer technology has stabilized sufficiently that typing, printing, and transmitting digital texts in Ancient Greek is a straightforward process.

Two Important Notes:
- Almost all computers, font systems, etc. include the basic Greek alphabet and the vowels with acute (/) accents: α ά β γ etc., called "monotonic" Greek. This set is designed for Modern Greek but is not sufficient for typing ancient Greek, which has additional accents and breathing marks. You will need "polytonic" Greek to type the characters for ancient Greek.
- As computers developed, a number of programs were created to type ancient Greek. Unfortunately, most of these programs were incompatible with each other, making it difficult to send documents in Greek to other users, post them online, etc. To avoid this problem, use a system with a **Unicode** font!

Greek in **Unicode**

Unicode is a worldwide standard character set capable of handling many non-English languages. Unicode includes a full set of characters for polytonic Greek. Unicode does not depend on a specific program or font. ANY Unicode font will display the same characters, whether on a PC, Apple, web page, or any other digital platform.

You need two components to use Unicode comfortably:
- a Unicode font. Windows comes with Palatino Linotype, a Unicode font which displays ancient Greek very well. Apple systems also incorporate the ability to read Unicode fonts. A number of Unicode fonts are available for free download. Any Unicode font will display polytonic Greek characters properly.
- a utility program to input polytonic Greek from your computer keyboard. Visit http://wiki.digitalclassicist.org/Greek_Keyboards_(Unicode) for a clear, compact introduction and links. Determine what you need and what works best for you.

Greek pdfs

A very useful tool in sending Greek documents electronically is the pdf ("portable document format," created by Adobe Acrobat). pdf has become the standard format for sending documents and forms of all kinds electronically and posting them to web sites. pdf's imbed fonts, so the person downloading the document does not need any specific Greek font or program on their computer to read the document correctly.
- You need a reasonably up-to-date Acrobat Reader (free, and standard with most systems and browsers).
- To create a pdf, most word-processing programs include a utility to "print" a pdf or you can download any number of free utilities (e.g., www.pdf995.com).

TEXTBOOKS AND RESOURCES FOR BEGINNING GREEK

alphabetical by author:

- Maurice Balme and Gilbert Lawall. *Athenaze: An Introduction to Ancient Greek*. 2 vols., rev. ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003. ISBN 978-0195149562 & 978-0195056228.
  - o Marketed as a reading approach, this is a widely-used textbook, but it is much more complex and difficult to use than it may at first appear.
- Nina Barclay. *Eucleides' World: An Exploratory Introduction to Ancient Greek to Accompany Ecce Romani*. CANE (Classical Association of New England), 2002. ISBN: 978-1934971208.
  - o A useful introduction to the language, beginning with the alphabet in stages and working up to simple readings. The topics are matched to the cultural material in *Ecce Romani* but not dependent on it. Available at http://www.canepress.org/
- Erikk Geannikis, Andrew Romiti and P.T. Wilford. *Greek Paradigm Handbook*. Newburyport: Focus, 2008. ISBN 978-158510-3072.
  - o A handy 4½" x 5 ½" spiral-bound set of reference charts.
- JACT. *Reading Greek*. 2nd ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007. ISBN (Grammar and Exercises) 978-052106985-28, (Text and Vocabulary) 978-052106985-11, An Independent Study Guide 978-052106985-04, (*Speaking Greek* CD) 978-0521-728966.
  - o This British reading system has separate volumes for the texts, grammar and other materials.
- T. Davina McClain. *Graphic Greek Grammar*. Wauconda, IL: Bolchazy-Carducci, 2005. ISBN 978-0865165977
  - o Six laminated cards which outline Greek grammar. Inflections are highlighted in red. Includes everything from basic verb forms to basic syntax.
- Anne H. Groton. *From Alpha to Omega: An Introduction to Classical Greek*. 3rd ed. Newburyport, MA: Focus, 2000. ISBN 978-1585100347.
  - o This textbook is full of very detailed explanations, so it actually serves as a useful reference grammar for teachers.
- C. Peckett and A.D. Munday. *Thrasymachus: Greek through Reading*. London: Duckworth, 2009. 978-0862921392.
  - o A recent reading approach.
- Louise Pratt. *The Essentials of Greek Grammar: A Reference for Intermediate Readers of Attic Greek*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2010. ISBN 978-086141435.
  - o A compact set of paradigms and grammatical information.
- J.K. Rowling. Ἄρειος Πότηρ καὶ ἡ του φιλοσόφου λίθος. Andrew Wilson, trans. London: Bloomsbury, 2004. ISBN 1-582234-826x
  - o *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* translated into Classical Greek!
- C.W. Shelmerdine. *Introduction to Greek*. 2nd ed. Newburyport, MA: Focus, 2008. ISBN 978-1585101849.
  - o A compact, clear introduction to the language. See http://www.dramata.com for supplements as well.
- Mathew D. Webb. *Getting to Know Greek* and *Activitates Pro Liberis Vol. 5: Ancient Greek Language and Culture Activities*.
  - o An excellent collection of materials and information for beginning Greek, geared toward grades 5-8. Available at http://www.ascaniusyci.org/store/gtkg-main.htm
- http://www.perseus.tufts.edu A wonderful site with many Greek texts, grammatical links, on-line lexicon, translations, but slow and cumbersome.

Greek Geography, Historical Events and People
(Introduction to Greek Exam Syllabus II and III)

II. Geography
- Most any map of the ancient Mediterranean will mark the required locations: Athens, Sparta, Thebes, Troy, Delphi, Olympia, Corinth, Mycenae, Alexandria, Crete, Sicily, Rhodes, Euboea, Aegean Sea, Ionian Sea, Black Sea, Adriatic Sea, Nile, Hellespont.
- I have found the clearest and most helpful maps are those printed on the inside covers of Barry B. Powell, *Classical Myth*, 7th ed., (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall 2011), ISBN 978-0205176076, also printed in Ian Morris and Barry B. Powell, *The Greeks: History, Culture, and Society*, 2nd ed., (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 2009) ISBN 978-0205697342, or in any previous edition of these books.

III. Historical Events and People
- The Greek historian Herodotus tells the story of Darius, Xerxes, and the Persian Wars.
- The Greek historian Thucydides tells the stories of Pericles, the Athenian Empire, and the Peloponnesian War.
- Virtually any decent reference work will have basic, reliable information about the above, plus the three architectural orders (Ionic, Doric, Corinthian). For example,
    - Wikipedia has entries for all these items. The Perseus Project (http//:perseus.tufts.edu) includes a solid historical overview of ancient Greece by Thomas Martin, and an analogous print version is available: *Ancient Greece: From Prehistoric to Hellenistic Times*, updated ed. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2000), ISBN 0300084935.
    - Other books on Greek history and culture include Morris & Powell (see above under Geography), Sarah B. Pomeroy, Stanley M. Burstein, Walter Donlan, and Jennifer Tolbert Roberts, *A Brief History of Ancient Greece: Politics, Society and Culture*, 2nd ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009), ISBN 978-0195372359 and Jenifer Neils, *The British Museum Concise Introduction to Ancient Greece* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan, 2008), ISBN 978-0472033294.

THE GREEK ALPHABET
(Introduction to Greek Exam Syllabus I)

Greek has one of the most famous and admired writing systems in human history. Although it looks exotic, it is really one of the most straightforward and clear systems for recording a language ever developed. It is, after all, a direct ancestor of the alphabet you are reading right now. For a simple, illustrated survey of the letters from Hebrew to modern English (including the Greek and Roman alphabets along the way), see Don Robb and Annne Smith, *Ox, House, Stick: The History of Our Alphabet* (Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2007), ISBN 978-1570916090.

Upper Case and Lower Case Letters

Like modern English, Greek has a complete set of upper case and lower case letters. The upper case letters came first, beginning as letters carved in stone, clay, wood, or metal. Thus they consist mostly of straight lines easy for carving (think of the capital delta, Δ).

Until the Hellenistic period, the Greeks used only capital letters. Two developments brought about lower case letters. First, more and more writing was done on papyrus with pens, as opposed to being carved. Naturally, as people wrote more on paper, they shaped the letters in ways that made them easier to write, which meant being more curved and easier to connect (e.g., the small delta, δ).

Thus upper case letters are really carving letters and lower case letters are really cursive letters.

Modern printed editions of ancient Greek texts use almost exclusively lower case (cursive) letters, because printed editions began as little more than reproductions of manuscripts, which used cursive writing.

Imagine if English were printed in a cursive script all the time.
Imagine if English were printed in a cursive script all the time.

This is why printed Greek texts can look like chicken scratch, but once you know the alphabet, it is just like reading someone's handwriting.

Printed editions of ancient Greek texts use capital letters for only two reasons: (1) to indicate a proper name or (2) to indicate the beginning of a direct quote.

NOTES:
- Since early Greeks never used lower case letters, they never had reason to think of whether a name should be capitalized, personified, etc. Thus an ancient text can never distinguish between "truth" and "Truth," even if a modern printed edition or translation does.
- A capital letter indicates the beginning of a quote, but finding the end of a quotation can be difficult. Sometimes modern editors add quotation marks to make ancient texts easier to read.
- Some texts capitalize the first letter of every paragraph, but this has no meaning.

The Ancient Greek Alphabet
(Introduction to Greek Exam Syllabus I)
Names and Sounds of the Letters

Letter	name	sound
A α	alpha	ah
B β	beta	b
Γ γ	gamma	g
γγ		ng
Δ δ	delta	d
E ε	epsilon	eh
Z ζ	zeta	z (or sd)
H η	eta	ay
Θ θ	theta	th
I ι	iota	ih
K κ	kappa	k
Λ λ	lambda	l
M μ	mu	m
N ν	nu	n
Ξ ξ	xi	x (ks)
O o	omicron	oh
Π π	pi	p
P ρ	rho	r
Σ σ ς	sigma*	s
T τ	tau	t
Y υ	upsilon	uy
Φ φ	phi	ph
X χ	chi	kh
Ψ ψ	psi	ps
Ω ω	omega	ohh
ʽ (rough breathing)	h	

*Sigma: the ς–type sigma appears only at the end of words. The σ–type sigma appears everywhere else. This is another holdover from cursive handwriting. Some texts now use c ("lunate sigma") in all places.

Nina Barclay's *Eucleides' World* has the music to sing the names of the Greek letters to either "Itsy Bitsy Spider" or "Frères Jacques"!

The Ancient Greek Alphabet and Transliteration
(Introduction to Greek Exam Syllabus I)

Greek	Latinized	Restored
A α	a	a
αι	**ae**	**ai**
B β	b	b
Γ γ	g	g
γγ	ng	ng
Δ δ	d	d
E ε	e	e
Z ζ	z	z
H η	e	e
Θ θ	th	th
I ι	i	i
K κ	**c**	**k**
Λ λ	l	l
M μ	m	m
N ν	n	n
Ξ, ξ	x	x
O o	o	o
-ος	**-us**	**-os**
Π π	p	p
P ρ	r	r
Σ σ ς	s	s
T τ	t	t
Y υ	y	y
ευ	eu	eu
ου	**u**	**ou**
Φ φ	ph	ph
X χ	**ch**	**kh**
Ψ ψ	ps	ps
Ω ω	o	o
ʽ (rough breathing)	h	h
ῥ	rh	rh

For example:

Αισχυλος	Aeschylus	Aiskhylos
Θουκυδιδης	Thucydides	Thoukydides

SPELL IT LIKE IT SOUNDS!

Some basic principles about the ancient Greek alphabet:
- Greeks spelled words the way they pronounced them
- If they changed the pronunciation of a word, they changed the spelling to match.

Consider the verb "record" (reCORD) and the noun "record" (RECord), which are spelled alike but pronounced differently in English.

In Greek, such words would be spelled according to their pronunciations: "rikórd" and "rékerd"

Imagine these examples in English:
- If anyone pronounced "going" as "gonna," they would spell it "gonna."
- Homophones like "but" and "butt" would both be spelled "but," even though they have different meanings.

Therefore, the surest and most straightforward way to become comfortable reading and writing Greek is to sound out the words and match the sounds to the letters on the page.

But Isn't It Hard? aka "It's All Greek to Me"
The mere mention of Greek is enough to send some people into a panic. You may hear horror stories about spelling changes, an impossible myriad of forms, and so on. Ninety percent of the quirks that cause people trouble result from not knowing or not applying this basic principle: spell it like it sounds. Strangely, and unhelpfully, beginning Greek textbooks almost never make this basic point.

In English, of course, we are used to somewhat stable spellings and pronunciations that vary from their spellings. In Greek, pronunciation and spelling always match. Think of English literature where dialects and individual speech patterns are represented. If your students can read *Huckleberry Finn*, they can read Greek!

This principle also explains why dialects sometimes matter when reading Greek. Prior to the Hellenistic period, at least, Greeks simply wrote to match they way they pronounced the language. If one person contracted their vowels, they wrote their vowels contracted. If another person did not contract their vowels, they left their vowels uncontracted.

While reading texts this way takes a little getting used to, there is a great side benefit! Greek writers record every sound and bit of personality, every "um" and "uh." This is in part what makes Greek drama, Plato's dialogues, Demosthenes' oratory, and Herodotus' storytelling so compelling: you can hear every voice and detail.

VOWELS IN GREEK

Greek has roughly the same five vowels as English:

α "ah"

ε "eh"

ι "ih"

o "o"

υ "uy"

Short	Long
α "ah"	η "ay" or $\bar{\alpha}$ "aah"
ε "eh"	η "ay"
ι "ih"	$\bar{\iota}$ "ee"
o "oh"	ω "ohh"
υ "uy"	$\bar{\upsilon}$ "ooh"

Greek texts never display macrons over α, ι or υ. Only a lexicon or grammar shows them.

Speakers of ancient Greek, especially Attic, did not like to say two vowel sounds in a row. Consequently, if two vowels come together, they tended to merge them into one (called a "diphthong," Greek for "double sound") or to contract them.

A vowel + ι or υ forms a **diphthong**.

$\alpha + \iota = \alpha\iota$ "eye" $\qquad\qquad\qquad$ $\alpha + \upsilon = \alpha\upsilon$ "ow!"

$\bar{\alpha} + \iota = \bar{\alpha}\iota$ "aah" usually written α_ι

$\varepsilon + \iota = \varepsilon\iota$ "ay" $\qquad\qquad\qquad$ $\varepsilon + \upsilon = \varepsilon\upsilon$ "eu"

$\eta + \iota = \eta\iota$ "ay" usually written η

o + ι = oι "oy" $\qquad\qquad\qquad$ o + υ = oυ "oo"

$\omega + \iota = \omega\iota$ "oh" usually written ω_ι

$\upsilon + \iota = \upsilon\iota$ "wee"

α, ε and o **contract** with each other (in Attic Greek, and so also in *koine*).

$\alpha + \alpha = \alpha$	$\alpha + \varepsilon = \alpha$	$\alpha + o = \omega$
$\varepsilon + \alpha = \eta$	$\varepsilon + \varepsilon = \varepsilon\iota$	$\varepsilon + o = o\upsilon$
o + α = ω	o + ε = oυ	o + o = oυ

CONSONANTS IN GREEK

Labial	Dental	Palatal	
π p	τ t	κ k	= unvoiced
β b	δ d	γ g	= voiced
ϕ ph	θ th	χ kh	= + '
ψ ps	σ s	ξ ks	= + σ
μ m	ν n	γκ, γγ, γχ, γξ ng	= nasals
	λ l	ϱ r	= liquids

One leftover: ζ = σδ

NOTE: In Greek, you <u>never</u> write πσ, ϕσ, κσ, γσ, and so on. If you ever add a σ to a π, for example, you automatically write ψ. Similarly, the combinations τσ, δσ, etc., do not occur. If you add σ to τ, you write (and say) only a σ.

Alphabet Algebra:

long ε =

$\tau + \sigma =$

short ω =

$\tau + ' =$

$\alpha + o =$

$\pi + voice =$

$\varepsilon + \varepsilon =$

$\phi + \sigma =$

$o + o =$

$\gamma + \sigma =$

$\varepsilon + o =$

$\kappa + ' =$

18

ACCENTS, BREATHINGS, AND PUNCTUATION

When foreigners started learning Greek in the Hellenistic period, Greek scholars developed additional symbols to help non-Greeks understand the language. Modern printed editions, following medieval manuscripts, use the following:

Breathings
- Greek does not use a separate letter for the 'h' sound. As we saw earlier, Greek has the aspirated consonants ϕ, θ, and χ to indicate this sound.
- If a word begins with aspiration but not one with one of these consonants, however, the aspirated consonants are no help, so Greek uses two symbols to indicate aspiration or lack of it.

' = no aspiration: ὀ = "o" ("smooth" breathing)
' = aspiration: ὁ = "ho" ("rough" breathing)

A Greek word that begins with a vowel must bear one of these two breathing marks. The breathing will appear over the second vowel in a diphthong.

It can happen that only a breathing marks the difference between words. For example:
> αὐτον (auton) = "him"   αὐτην (autēn) = "her"
> αὑτον (hauton) = "himself" αὑτην (hautēn) = "herself"

Accents
Most words in Greek display an accent. Most scholars believe that in antiquity the accent reflected a raised pitch on the accented sound, but by the middle of the Roman period, it indicated stress. Although there is only one type of accent, you will potentially see three different symbols on a Greek word:

- / "acute" marks the accented vowel sound of a word.
- \ "grave" marks an unaccented vowel; the symbol is used only to mark a vowel which normally bears an acute accent but which becomes unaccented in practice (see p.25).
- ˆ "circumflex" appears over a long vowel or diphthong to indicate that the first part of the long sound is accented (while the second part is not):
  - óo = ῶ, óυ = οῦ.
    - For a diphthong, the accent is always printed over the second letter, even if the first sound of the diphthong actually bears the accent.
  - If the second sound bears the accent, it appears as an acute:
  - oó = ώ, oύ = ού.

Accents

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  - If the second sound bears the accent, it appears as an acute:
  - oó = ώ, oύ = ού.

Placing the accent

The most common rule governing the placement of the accent on a word is that of "recessive accent." This means the accent tries to recede as far back ("left") as possible, but it cannot normally recede more than the length of three short vowel sounds:

- λίπετε (lípete) but λιπέτω (lipétō = λιπέτοο lipétoo);
- δῶρον (dÔron = δόορον dóoron) but δώρου (dÓrou = δοόρου doórou).

Some words accent according to other rules, but **remember**: the accent is always written out, so just say it where it appears.

Punctuation

Greek uses four marks of punctuation:

- full stop . (period)
- half stop · (colon; Greek for "limb"; ~ semi-colon)
- pause , (comma; Greek for "stamp mark")
- question mark ;

RECOGNIZING GREEK WORDS

The two columns below show the same words printed entirely in capitals (on the left) and in lower case (on the right). Each of these Greek words comes into English with little or no change. Can you recognize the English word? One note of caution: Sometimes the meaning of the English word is slightly different from the meaning of the Greek word. Thanks to Tom Sienkewicz for this list.

ΜΑΝΙΑ	μανία
ΣΚΕΛΕΤΟΝ	σκελετόν
ΚΛΙΜΑΞ	κλῖμαξ
ΚΡΙΣΙΣ	κρίσις
ΔΡΑΜΑ	δρᾶμα
ΔΟΓΜΑ	δόγμα
ΚΟΣΜΟΣ	κόσμος
ΚΡΑΤΗΡ	κρατήρ
ΓΕΝΕΣΙΣ	γένεσις
ΑΡΩΜΑ	ἄρωμα
ΑΥΤΟΜΑΤΟΝ	αὐτόματον
ΑΡΜΟΝΙΑ	ἁρμονία
ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑ	ἱστορία
ΑΝΑΡΧΙΑ	ἀναρχία
ΑΜΝΗΣΙΑ	ἀμνησία
ΘΕΟΛΟΓΙΑ	θεολογία
ΦΙΛΟΣΟΦΙΑ	φιλοσοφία
ΥΠΟΘΕΣΙΣ	ὑπόθεσις
ΧΑΡΑΚΤΗΡ	χαρακτήρ
ΒΟΤΑΝΗ	βοτάνη
ΑΜΟΙΒΗ	ἀμοιβή
ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ	δημοκρατία
ΤΥΡΑΝΝΙΑ	τυραννία
ΓΕΩΜΕΤΡΙΑ	γεωμετρία
ΔΙΠΛΩΜΑ	δίπλωμα
ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ	ἄγγελος
ΑΘΛΗΤΗΣ	ἀθλητής
ΑΙΘΙΟΠΙΑ	Αἰθιοπία
ΠΝΕΥΥΟΝΙΑ	πνευμονία
ἹΠΠΟΠΟΤΑΜΟΣ	ἱπποπόταμος
ΨΥΧΟΛΟΓΙΑ	ψυχολογία
ΨΕΥΔΩΝΥΜΟΣ	ψευδώνυμος

OVERVIEW OF GREEK GRAMMAR
(Introduction to Greek Exam Syllabus V)

Parts of Speech in Greek

Greek has much the same parts of speech as English or Latin:

- VERBS
- NOUNS
- ADJECTIVES
- PRONOUNS
- PREPOSITIONS
- CONJUNCTIONS
- ADVERBS
- INTERJECTIONS and PARTICLES
  - As noted earlier, Greek texts normally write out every interjection and verbal grunt that a speaker says.

Some hints about Greek words:

Words beginning with ρ or υ always have a rough breathing:

- ῥο = rho, ῥύθμος = rhythmos ("rhythm")
- ὑπέρ = hyper "above" (➔ English "hyper")

Greek words can end in a limited number of ways:

- with a vowel sound
- with the sounds –ν (n), -ρ (r), or –ς (s)
  - this includes ξ (ks) or ψ (ps)
- the only exceptions are the words ἐκ (ek) "out of, from" and οὐκ (ouk) "not"
- If any other consonant would otherwise end a word, it simply disappears.
- If a word ends with -σι (-si), especially when the next word begins with a vowel, it can add an additional –ν (n) to make pronunciation easier.
  - For example: λύου<u>σι</u> τοὺς ἵππους (lyou<u>si</u> tous hippous) but λύου<u>σιν</u> ἵππους (lyou<u>sin</u> hippous).

Remember the cardinal rule:
SPELL IT LIKE IT SOUNDS!

OVERVIEW OF GREEK VERBS

Greek verbs have generally the same attributes as Latin verbs.

- **Person**: 1st, 2nd, 3rd
- **Number**: Singular, Plural
  - There is a dual, but it is rare
- **Tense**: Present, Imperfect, Future, Aorist, Perfect, Pluperfect
  - There is a Future Perfect tense, but it is very rare.
  - The Aorist tense refers to a single action, usually in the past. In Latin, the Perfect tense covers the meanings of both the Aorist and Perfect in Greek. For example, in Latin, *fēcimus* can mean either "we did" or "we have done." In Greek, the Aorist would mean "we did" and the Perfect "we have done."
- **Mood**: Indicative, Participle, Infinitive, Imperative, Subjunctive, Optative
  - Only the indicative mood has all the tenses.
  - Greek has participles only in the Present, Future, Aorist and Perfect tenses. Unlike Latin, it has participles in all voices for each tense.
  - The infinitive, imperative, subjunctive and optative moods exist primarily in the present and aorist tenses. Other tenses are either extremely rare or do not exist.
  - Like the Latin Subjunctive, the Greek Subjunctive has a hortatory/jussive use. When it appears in a dependent clause, it rarely has any special meaning.
  - The Optative expresses wish (cf. Latin *optāre*) or potential. In dependent clauses, it replaces the subjunctive in past tenses, again only rarely with any special meaning. (Remember that in Latin the Sequence of Tenses calls for the Imperfect or Pluperfect Subjunctive with main verbs in the past tense; Greek uses the Optative the same way Latin uses the Imperfect and Pluperfect Subjunctive.)
- **Voice**: Active, Middle, Passive
  - The Middle voice means the action of the verb affects the subject in some way. For example, "I buy a drink" is active but "I buy myself a drink" in Greek would be in the Middle voice.
  - One way to think of the Passive voice in Greek is as a specialized case of the Middle Voice. Purely passive constructions in Greek are relatively rare until the end of the Classical period, but by the time of the New Testament, they are important.

Conjugations and the Organization of Greek verb endings

Whereas Latin has four conjugations based on thematic vowels (ā, ē, e, ī) and some verbs with no thematic vowel (e.g., *sum esse*; *ferō, ferre*), all verbs in Greek are a mix of a single thematic conjugation and an athematic conjugation:

- -ω ("omega" or "-ō") thematic conjugation (thematic vowel º/ₑ)
  - The name refers to the 1ˢᵗ person singular ending (the exact equivalent of the –ō ending for Latin verbs).
- -μι (*-mi*) athematic conjugation
  - The name refers to the 1ˢᵗ person singular ending (the analogue of the –m ending for Latin verbs).

The personal endings of Greek verbs in the indicative fall into six groups, organized as follows:

- <u>Primary</u> (present, future, perfect tenses; subjunctive mood)
  - 1. -ω ("omega" or "-ō") conjugation active:
    - **–ω –εις –ει –ομεν –ετε –ουσι(ν) [-ō –eis -ei –omen –ete –ousi(n)]**
    - **<u>The Introduction to Greek level of the National Greek Exam tests only this set of endings.</u>**
    - Most verbs use these endings in the present tense.
    - All verbs use these endings in the future tense, subjunctive mood and, with small changes, the perfect tense.
  - 2. -μι (*-mi*) conjugation active: –μι –ς –σι –μεν –τε –ασι(ν)
    - Some verbs use these endings in the present tense.
  - 3. Middle Voice: –μαι –σαι –ται –μεθα –σθε –νται
    - All verbs use these same endings for primary tenses in the Middle Voice.
- <u>Secondary</u> (imperfect, aorist, pluperfect tenses; optative mood)
  - 4. -ω ("omega" or "-ō") conjugation active: –ον –ες –ε –ομεν –ετε –ον
    - Most verbs use these endings in the imperfect tense.
    - Some verbs use these endings in the aorist tense.
  - 5. -μι (*-mi*) conjugation active: –ν –ς – –μεν –τε –σαν
    - Some verbs use these endings in the imperfect and/or aorist tenses.
    - Most verbs use a variation of these endings in the aorist tense.
    - All verbs use these endings for the pluperfect.
    - All verbs use a variation of these endings for an intransitive version of the aorist and for the optative mood.
  - 6. Middle Voice: –μην –σο –το –μεθα –σθε –ντο
    - All verbs use these same endings for secondary tenses in the Middle Voice.

⇨ Greek does not have a unique set of endings to mark passive constructions.

Frequency of Greek Tenses, Moods and Voices

Anne Mahoney, "The Forms You *Really* Need to Know," *Classical Outlook* 81 (2004) 101-105.

Tenses
- Present (46.7%)
- Aorist (28.0%)
- Imperfect (13.2%)
- Perfect (6.4%)
- Future (4.8%)
- Pluperfect (0.8%)
- Future Perfect (0.1%)

Moods
- Indicative (41.6%)
- Participle (30.6%)
- Infinitive (13.4%)
- Subjunctive (5.7%)
- Imperative (3.9%)
- Optative (2.8%)

Voices
- Active (85.5%)
- Middle (10.2%)
- Passive (4.3%)

OVERVIEW OF GREEK NOUNS, PRONOUNS AND ADJECTIVES

Greek nouns, pronouns, and adjectives have generally the same attributes as in Latin.

- **Gender**: masculine, feminine, neuter
- **Number**: Singular, Plural
  - There is a dual, but it is rare.
- **Case**:
  - Nominative
    - Subject
  - Genitive
    - possession, separation, generally = "of"
  - Dative
    - indirect object, means/instrument, location (time/space)
  - Accusative
    - direct object
  - Vocative
    - direct address, prayer

Greek has no Ablative case. The functions of the Ablative in Latin appear in other cases:
- Means/Instrument ➔ Dative
- Locative ➔ Dative
- Separation ➔ Genitive

Beyond the core functions listed above, Greek tends to use prepositions rather than just the case form of a noun. Prepositions govern the Genitive, Dative and Accusative cases according to the following pattern:

Separation	Location	Motion
away from, out of	in, at	towards, into
➔ Genitive	➔ Dative	➔ Accusative

Greek nouns fall into three declensions.

Like Latin nouns, Greek adjectives must agree with their nouns in gender, number and case (but not declension).

UNDERSTANDING A GREEK TEXT
(Introduction to Greek Exam Syllabus V)

VERBS
<u>Present Indicative Active</u>

Regular Greek verbs use the following endings to designate person and number:

-ω (-ō) "I"	-ομεν (-omen) "we"
-εις (-eis) "you"	-ετε (-ete) "you, y'all"
-ει (-ei) "s/he, it, etc."	-ουσι(ν) "ousi(n)" "they, etc."

A lexicon or vocabulary lists Greek verbs in their first person singular present indicative active form. (Unlike for Latin verbs, the infinitive is not listed.)

λαμβάνω (lambánō) take

λαμβάνω (lambánō) I take	λαμβάνομεν (lambánomen) we take
λαμβάνεις (lambáneis) you take	λαμβάνετε (lambánete) y'all take
λαμβάνει (lambánei) s/he takes	λαμβάνουσι(ν) (lambánousi[n]) they take

<u>Accenting Greek verbs:</u>
Greek verbs accent recessively (see p. 19 above). For present indicative active forms, this means:
- The accent is always acute (/).
- The acute accent always appears over the last vowel of the verb's stem (-α- in the above example).

<u>Other types of verbs:</u>
The overwhelming majority of Greek verbs follow the above pattern. If a verb is not listed with the –ω ending, it is irregular in one or more of three ways:
- If it ends in –μαι (-mai), the verb is deponent, having forms only in the middle and/or passive voices.
- If it ends in –μι (-mi), the verb uses endings of the –μι (-mi) conjugation in the present tense.
- If it ends in –α (-a), the verb is defective and has no present tense.
- In Attic and *koine* Greek, verbs with stems ending in -α (a), -ε (e) or –o (o) (and thus with entries ending in –άω, -έω or -όω) contract these vowels with the thematic vowel (following the chart on page 17), but such verbs (called "contract verbs") are omitted here.

NOUNS
2nd Declension

Greek has a definite article "the," which operates like an adjective, agreeing with its noun in gender, number and case.

The masculine forms resemble the endings of the 2nd Declension:

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	ὁ (ho)	οἱ (hoi)
Genitive	τοῦ (tou)	τῶν (tōn)
Dative	τῷ (tōi)	τοῖς (tois)
Accusative	τόν (ton)	τούς (tous)

The particle ὦ "ō" regularly precedes noun(s) in the vocative case.

Nouns of the 2nd Declension use endings similar to the article:

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	-ος (-os)	-οι (-oi)
Genitive	-ου (-ou)	-ων (-ōn)
Dative	-ῳ (-ōi)	-οις (-ois)
Accusative	-ον (-on)	-ους (-ous)
Vocative	-ε (-e)	-οι (-oi)

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	λόγος (lógos)	λόγοι (lógoi)
Genitive	λόγου (lógou)	λόγων (lógōn)
Dative	λόγῳ (lógōi)	λόγοις (lógois)
Accusative	λόγον (lógon)	λόγους (lógous)
Vocative	λόγε (lóge)	λόγοι (lógoi)

In a lexicon or vocabulary, a Greek noun is listed as:
- nominative singular: -ος
- genitive singular ending: -ου
- nominative singular of the article which corresponds to its gender: ὁ
- meaning

Thus

λόγος –ου ὁ word

Feminine nouns in this declension are identical with masculine nouns.

NOUNS
2nd Declension neuter

As in Latin, neuter nouns in Greek follow two basic rules:
- the nominative, accusative and vocative singular must be identical
- the nominative, accusative and vocative plural must end in –α (-a).

The neuter article thus becomes:

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	τό (to)	τά (ta)
Genitive	τοῦ (tou)	τῶν (tōn)
Dative	τῷ (tōi)	τοῖς (tois)
Accusative	τό (to)	τά (ta)

The particle ὦ "ō" regularly precedes noun(s) in the vocative case.

Nouns of the 2nd Declension use endings similar to the article:

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	-ον (-on)	-α (-a)
Genitive	-ου (-ou)	-ων (-ōn)
Dative	-ῳ (-ōi)	-οις (-ois)
Accusative	-ον (-on)	-α (-a)
Vocative	-ον (-on)	-α (-a)

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	ἔργον (érgon)	ἔργα (érga)
Genitive	ἔργου (érgou)	ἔργων (érgōn)
Dative	ἔργῳ (érgōi)	ἔργοις (érgois)
Accusative	ἔργον (érgon)	ἔργα (érga)
Vocative	ἔργον (érgon)	ἔργα (érga)

In a lexicon or vocabulary, such a Greek noun is listed as:
- nominative singular: -ον
- genitive singular ending: -ου
- nominative singular of the article which corresponds to its gender: τό
- meaning

Thus
ἔργον –ου τό deed

NOUNS
1ˢᵗ Declension

Greek has a definite article "the," which operates like an adjective, agreeing with its noun in gender, number and case.

The feminine forms resemble the endings of the 1ˢᵗ Declension:

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	ἡ (hē)	αἱ (hai)
Genitive	τῆς (tēs)	τῶν (tōn)
Dative	τῇ (tēi)	ταῖς (tais)
Accusative	τήν (tēn)	τάς (tas)

The particle ὦ "ō" regularly precedes noun(s) in the vocative case.

Nouns of the 1ˢᵗ Declension use endings similar to the article:

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	-η (-ē)	-αι (-ai)
Genitive	-ης (-ēs)	-ων (-ōn)
Dative	-η (-ēi)	-αις (-ais)
Accusative	-ην (-ēn)	-ας (-as)

Vocative = Nominative

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	νίκη (níkē)	νῖκαι (níkai)
Genitive	νίκης (níkēs)	νικῶν (níkōn)
Dative	νίκη (níkēi)	νίκαις (níkais)
Accusative	νίκην (níkēn)	νίκας (níkas)

Vocative = Nominative

In a lexicon or vocabulary, such a Greek noun is listed as:
- nominative singular: -η
- genitive singular ending: -ης
- nominative singular of the article which corresponds to its gender: ἡ
- meaning

Thus

νίκη –ης ἡ victory

NOUNS
1st Declension variations

The 1st Declension has subgroups of nouns with small differences in their endings. These variations affect only the singular forms. The changes have no affect on the meaning, the article, or any adjectives modifying these nouns.

A few nouns have a short α (a) in their nominative and accusative singular:

δόξα –ης ἡ opinion, glory

	Singular
Nominative	δόξ*α* (dóksa)
Genitive	δόξης (dóksēs)
Dative	δόξη (dóksēi)
Accusative	δόξ*αν* (dóksan)
Vocative = Nominative	

Nouns with stems which end in –η (-ē) –ι (-i) or –ρ (-r) change their η (ē) to a long α (a). Often the α (a) in the nominative and accusative singular will be short, but this short vowel will not be apparent except in a lexicon.

βία –ας ἡ force

	Singular
Nominative	βί*α* (bía)
Genitive	βί*ας* (bías)
Dative	βί*α* (bías)
Accusative	βί*αν* (bían)
Vocative = Nominative	

πέτρᾰ –ας ἡ rock

	Singular
Nominative	πέτρᾰ (pétra)
Genitive	πέτρας (pétras)
Dative	πέτρᾳ (pétrai)
Accusative	πέτρᾰν (pétran)
Vocative = Nominative	

Masculine nouns in the 1st declension have -ης (-ēs) in the nominative, –ου (-ou) in the genitive, and α (a) in the vocative:

πολίτης –ου ὁ citizen

	Singular
Nominative	πολίτ*ης* (polítēs)
Genitive	πολίτ*ου* (polítou)
Dative	πολίτη (polítēi)
Accusative	πολίτην (polítēn)
Vocative	πολῖτ*α* (políta)

There are no neuter nouns in this declension.

ACCENTING GREEK NOUNS

The placement of accents on nouns shifts more than on verbs. First, note the following two rules:

- The endings –αι and –οι count as a single short vowel sound when determining the position of the accent (rather than as a long diphthong).
    - This is a general rule in Greek, but for purposes of the Introduction to Greek Exam, it affects only the nominative/vocative plural endings for masculine and feminine nouns in the 1st and 2nd declension.
- The accent on the genitive plural of first declension nouns is always a circumflex on the ending: -ῶν.
    - This is because of a hidden contraction of an -α- in the stem, e.g.:
        νικάοον (nikáoon) ➔ νικάων (nikáōn) ➔ νικῶν (nikÔn).

All of the noun paradigms on the previous pages follow the rules of recessive accent, just like verbs. Here are some other examples:

σκήνη –ης ἡ tongue, language

	Singular
Nominative	σκήνη
Genitive	σκήνης
Dative	σκήνῃ
Accusative	σκήνην
Vocative	= Nominative

	Plural
Nominative	σκῆναι
Genitive	σκηνῶν
Dative	σκήναις
Accusative	σκήνας
Vocative	= Nominative

δῶρον –ου τό gift

	Singular
Nominative	δῶρον
Genitive	δώρου
Dative	δώρῳ
Accusative	= Nominative
Vocative	= Nominative

	Plural
Nominative	δῶρα
Genitive	δώρων
Dative	δώροις
Accusative	= Nominative
Vocative	= Nominative

ἄνθρωπος –ου ὁ human

	Singular		Plural
Nominative	ἄνθρωπος	Nominative	ἄνθρωποι
Genitive	ἀνθρώπου	Genitive	ἀνθρώπων
Dative	ἀνθρώπῳ	Dative	ἀνθρώποις
Accusative	ἄνθρωπον	Accusative	ἀνθρώπους
Vocative	ἄνθρωπε	Vocative	= Nominative

Note: ἄνθρωπος violates a general rule of accent placement by receding more than three short-vowel-sounds. This happens with some nouns, usually because the accent was fixed when the word had a different form (here, probably ἄνδρωψ) and the accent stayed in place after the word changed pronunciation.

Some nouns carry their accent on the last syllable rather than letting it recede, showing a pattern that resembles that of the definite article:

- The nominative and accusative endings bear an acute (/) accent.
- The genitive and dative endings bear a circumflex (^) accent.

The Definite Article

	Masculine		Feminine		Neuter	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Nom	ὁ (ho)	οἱ (hoi)	ἡ (hē)	αἱ (hai)	τό (to)	τά (ta)
Gen	τοῦ (tou)	τῶν (tōn)	τῆς (tēs)	τῶν (tōn)	τοῦ (tou)	τῶν (tōn)
Dat	τῷ (tōi)	τοῖς (tois)	τῇ (tēi)	ταῖς (tais)	τῷ (tōi)	τοῖς (tois)
Acc	τόν (ton)	τούς (tous)	τήν (tēn)	τάς (tas)	τό (to)	τά (ta)

τιμή –ῆς ἡ honor

Singular

Nominative	τιμή (bam)
Genitive	τιμῆς (squeak)
Dative	τιμῇ (squeak)
Accusative	τιμήν (bam)
Vocative	τιμή (bam)

Plural

Nominative	τιμαί (bam)
Genitive	τιμῶν (squeak)
Dative	τιμαῖς (squeak)
Accusative	τιμάς (bam)
Vocative	τιμαί (bam)

θεός –οῦ ὁ god

Singular

Nominative	θεός (bam)
Genitive	θεοῦ (squeak)
Dative	θεῷ (squeak)
Accusative	θεόν (bam)
Vocative	θεέ (bam)

Plural

Nominative	θεοί (bam)
Genitive	θεῶν (squeak)
Dative	θεοῖς (squeak)
Accusative	θεούς (bam)
Vocative	θεοί (bam)

The "bam-squeak-squeak-bam-bam" pattern can serve as a mnemonic device for remembering the accents (bam = acute, squeak = circumflex, derived from the sound chalk makes when writing these accents on the board).

It is extremely rare for the accent to affect the form or meaning of a noun, so you need to know accent rules for nouns and adjectives primarily when writing Greek rather than just reading.

ADJECTIVES
1ˢᵗ and 2ⁿᵈ Declension

Like Latin adjectives, Greek adjectives agree with their nouns in gender, number and case. Greek adjectives use the same endings and follow the same accent rules as nouns.

> NB: Because adjectives do not have the hidden -α- in their stem, when they use 1ˢᵗ Declension endings, they do not have a circumflex accent on the genitive plural ending.

Like Latin –*us* –*a* –*um* adjectives, most Greek adjectives use the endings of the 1ˢᵗ and 2ⁿᵈ Declension.

σοφός -ή -όν (sophós –é –ón) wise
    means
- the adjective uses 2ⁿᵈ declension masculine endings to modify masculine nouns
    ○ cf. λόγος –ου ὁ word
- the adjective uses 1ˢᵗ declension feminine endings to modify feminine nouns
    ○ cf. νίκη –ης ἡ victory
- the adjective uses 2ⁿᵈ declension neuter endings to modify neuter nouns
    ○ cf. ἔργον –ου τό deed

If the stem of the adjective ends in –η (-ē) –ι (-i) or –ρ (-r), like 1ˢᵗ Declension nouns, they change their η (ē) to a long α (a) in the singular.

μικρός -ά -όν (mikrós –é –ón) small
    means
- the adjective uses 2ⁿᵈ declension masculine endings to modify masculine nouns
    ○ cf. λόγος –ου ὁ word
- the adjective uses 1ˢᵗ declension feminine endings to modify feminine nouns
    ○ cf. βία –ας ἡ force
- the adjective uses 2ⁿᵈ declension neuter endings to modify neuter nouns
    ○ cf. ἔργον –ου τό deed

Some adjectives use 2ⁿᵈ Declension endings at all times.

ἄδικος -ον (ádikos –on) wrong, unjust
    means
- the adjective uses 2ⁿᵈ declension masculine endings to modify masculine or feminine nouns
    ○ cf. λόγος –ου ὁ word
- the adjective uses 2ⁿᵈ declension neuter endings to modify neuter nouns
    ○ cf. ἔργον –ου τό deed

WORD ORDER

Classical Greek allows any order for the subject, object and verb:

ὁ λόγος λαμβάνει τὸ ἔργον. (hō logos lambánei to érgon)
τὸ ἔργον λαμβάνει ὁ λόγος. (to érgon lambánei hō logos)
λαμβάνει τὸ ἔργον ὁ λόγος. (lambánei to érgon hō logos)
λαμβάνει ὁ λόγος τὸ ἔργον. (lambánei hō logos to érgon)
ὁ λόγος τὸ ἔργον λαμβάνει. (hō logos to érgon lambánei)
τὸ ἔργον ὁ λόγος λαμβάνει. (to érgon hō logos lambánei)
= "The word takes the deed."

Unlike English, which prefers Subject-Verb-Object or Latin, which prefers Subject-Object-Verb, Classical Greek has no default word order for these elements.

THE GRAVE (\\) ACCENT
- Notice in the above sentences that the accent on the definite article τό (tó) appears with a grave accent, as τὸ (tò). When the last syllable of a word (or, in this case, a single-syllable word) has an acute accent and another word follows in the sentence, the accent changes to grave (\\). This indicates that the accent effectively is nullified when speaking, but the grave accent marks where the accent belongs. This is ONLY use of the grave accent.
- In practice, this means that the definite article and other words with acute accents on their final syllables will almost always appear in texts bearing grave accents, but in paradigms will have the original acute accent.
- This change to a grave accent has no effect on the form or meaning of the word.

ATTRIBUTIVE AND PREDICATE POSITION
Greek is much more particular about the placement of adjectives and predicate nouns. Any adjective or phrase (1) immediately after the definite article and/or (2) immediately before a noun is in the attributive position and modifies the noun:
- ὁ σοφὸς λόγος (hō sophòs lógos) = "the wise word"
- ὁ λόγος ὁ σοφὸς (hō lógos hō sophòs) = "the wise word"
- σοφὸς λόγος (sophòs lógos) = "a wise word"
- ὁ σοφός (hō sophòs) = "the wise ('man' understood)"

In any other place, the adjective is in the predicate position and translates as if using the verb "be":
- ὁ λόγος σοφός (hō lógos sophós) = "the word (is) wise"
- λόγος σοφός (lógos sophós) = "the word (is) wise"
- σοφὸς ὁ ἄνθρωπος (sophòs hō ánthrōpos) = "the man (is) wise"

Prepositions/Prefixes
(prepositions which also serve as prefixes to Greek verbs)

Normal form (before consonants)	before vowels	+ case	general meaning
ἀμφί	ἀμφ′	+ acc.	around
ἀνά	ἀν′	+ acc.	up
ἀντί	ἀντ′/ἀνθ′	+ gen.	back
ἀπό	ἀπ′/ἀφ′	+ gen.	from
διά	δι′	+ gen, acc.	through
εἰς		+ acc.	into
ἐκ	ἐξ	+ gen	out of
ἐν, ἐγ-, ἐμ-		+ dat	in
ἐπί	ἐπ′/ἐφ′	+ gen, dat, acc	on
κατά	κατ′/καθ′	+ gen, acc	down
μετά	μετ′/μεθ′	+ gen, acc	with, after
παρά	παρ′	+ gen, dat, acc	beside
περί		+ gen, acc	around
πρό	o can contract	+ gen	before
πρός		+ gen, dat, acc	toward
σύν, συγ-, συμ-, συλ-		+ dat	with
ὑπέρ		+ gen, acc	above
ὑπό	ὑπ′/ὑφ′	+ gen, dat, acc	under

NOTES: ἐν and σύν, <u>only when prefixes</u>, assimilate with the first consonant of the verb. So they become ἐμ- and συμ- before a labial (π, β, φ, ψ), ἐγ- and συγ- before a palatal (κ, γ, χ, ξ), συλ- before λ. For example, ἐν + βάλλω = ἐμβάλλω, σύν + λαμβάνω = συλλαμβάνω.

The prepositions ἀντί, ἀπό, ἐπί, κατά, μετά, ὑπό drop their final vowel before a word or verb stem beginning with a vowel. If the following vowel also has a rough breathing, then the final π or τ aspirates (φ, θ). For example: ἀπὸ χώρας, ἀπ′ ἐκκλησίας, ἀφ′ Ἑλλάδος.

DERIVATIVES
(Introduction to Greek Exam Syllabus IV)

The syllabus calls for knowing derivatives of the following prepositions and prefixes.

	transliterated	meaning	example
ἀμφί	amphi	around, both	amphibian
ἀντί	anti	opposite	antibiotic
ἀπό	apo	from	apology, apostle
διά	dia	through	diabolical, diameter
δυσ-	dys	difficult, abnormal	dysfunction, dyslexic
ἐκ	ec	out of, from	eclectic, eclipse
ἐν	en	in, inside	enthusiasm, endocrine
ἐπί	epi	on, at, next to	epicenter, epilogue
εὐ-	eu, ev	well, good	eulogy, evangelical
μετά	meta	past, change	metaphor, metamorphosis
παν-	pan	all	pandemic, panorama
περί	peri	around	periscope
πρό	pro	before, in front	problem, proboscis
πρός	pros	near, in front	prosthetic, proselytize
σύν	syn	with	synchronize, symbol
ὑπέρ	hyper (super)	over, above	hyperbole, hypertext
ὑπό	hypo	under, below	hypodermic

CORE VOCABULARY

Common Verbs in Greek
regular -ω verbs only

ἀγγέλλω announce
ἀγορεύω say, proclaim
ἄγω lead, bring
ἀείδω (Attic ᾄδω) sing
ἀθροίζω muster
αἴρω raise
αἰσχύνω dishonor
ἀκούω hear
ἁμαρτάνω make a mistake, miss the target
ἀμείβω change
ἀμύνω ward off
ἀνάγω lead up
ἀναλαμβάνω pick up
ἀναβαίνω board, cross
ἀναγιγνώσκω recognize
ἀνέχω hold up
ἀναγκάζω force, compel
ἀνοίγνυμι open up
ἀπαλλάττω release, escape
ἀπαγγέλλω announce
ἀπάγω carry off
ἀποβαίνω step from
ἀπέχω keep away
ἀποθνήσκω die
ἀποκτείνω kill
ἀπολαμβάνω take from
ἀπολείπω leave behind
ἀπολύω set free from
ἀποπέμπω send away
ἀποπλέω sail away
ἀποστέλλω send away
ἀποφαίνω display
ἅπτω join (mid: touch)
ἀρέσκω please
ἁρπάζω snatch
ἄρχω rule
αὐξάνω increase
βαίνω walk
βάλλω throw
βασιλεύω be king, rule, reign
βιάζω, βιάω force, compel
βλάπτω hurt

βλέπω see
βουλεύω deliberate
γιγνώσκω come to know, learn
γράφω write
δακρύω cry
δείδω fear
διαβαίνω step across
διαβάλλω throw across
διαλέγω discuss
διαλύω dissolve
διαπράττω pass over, accomplish
διατρίβω consume, spend time
διαφέρω carry on, make a difference
διαφεύγω escape
διαφθείρω destroy
διδάσκω teach
δικάζω judge
διώκω pursue
ἐγείρω wake up
ἐθέλω wish
εἰσάγω lead
εἰσφέρω carry into, pay taxes
ἐξάγω lead out
ἐκβάλλω throw out
ἐξελέγχω refute
ἐκλείπω leave out
ἐκπέμπω send out
ἐκπίπτω fall out
ἐκτείνω stretch out
ἐκφέρω carry out
ἐλαύνω drive
ἐλέγχω refute
ἐλπίζω hope for
ἐμβάλλω throw in
ἐμπίπτω fall on
ἐντυγχάνω meet with
ἐξετάζω examine
ἐπείγω press hard (mid: hurry)
ἐπαγγέλλω announce
ἐπάγω bring on
ἐπιβάλλω throw on

ἐπιβουλεύω plan against
ἐπέχω hold on to
ἐπιτρέπω entrust
ἐπιφέρω put upon
ἐσθίω eat
εὑρίσκω find
ἔχω have, hold
ἥκω have come, be present
θάπτω bury
θαυμάζω be in awe
θεραπεύω serve
θνῄσκω die
θύω sacrifice
ἱδρύω make sit down, seat
κάμνω work
καταβαίνω step down
καταγιγνώσκω have prejudice, charge
κατάγω lead down
καταλαμβάνω take hold of
καταλείπω leave behind
καταλύω put down
καταπλήττω strike down
κατασκευάζω equip
καταστρέφω subdue
καταφεύγω flee for refuge
κατέχω restrain
κελεύω order
κινδυνεύω risk
κλέπτω steal
κλίνω bend
κολάζω punish
κομίζω bring
κόπτω cut
κρίνω judge, decide
κρύπτω hide
κτείνω kill
κωλύω prevent
λαγχάνω obtain by a lottery
λαμβάνω take
λανθάνω do without being noticed
λέγω say, speak
λείπω leave
λύω loosen, destroy
μανθάνω learn
μέλλω intend, going to
μένω stay
μεταβάλλω change

μεταπέμπω summon
μετέχω be involved (+ *gen.*)
μιμνήσκω remind
νέμω distribute
νομίζω consider
ὀνομάζω call by name
ὀργίζω make angry
ὀφείλω owe
παιδεύω educate
παραγγέλλω transmit
παρέχω provide
παραλαμβάνω receive
παρασκευάζω prepare
πάττω sprinkle
πάσχω suffer, experience
παύω stop
πείθω persuade
πειράζω test
πέμπω send
πέρθω destroy
πίνω drink
πίπτω fall
πιστεύω trust
πλήττω strike
πολιτεύω participate in government or politics
πορεύω carry, march
πράττω do
προάγω lead on
προσαγορεύω greet
προσάγω put before
προσέχω hold to, offer
προσήκω have arrived
προσλαμβάνω take or receive besides
προσπίπτω fall upon, strike against
προστάττω place at
προσφέρω bring to
σημαίνω show
σπεύδω hurry
σπουδάζω hurry
στέλλω send
στρατεύω do military service
στρατοπεδεύω encamp
στρέφω turn
συνάγω bring together
συνάπτω bind together
συλλαμβάνω collect
συμβαίνω happen, agree with
συμβάλλω throw together

συμβουλεύω advise
συμφέρω benefit (+ *dat.*)
συντάττω arrange
σφάζω kill
σῴζω save
τάττω arrange
τείνω stretch
τέμνω cut
τεύχω build
τίκτω give birth
τρέπω turn
τρέφω nourish
τρέχω run
τρίβω rub
τυγχάνω happen (+ *part.*) hit, meet, have (+ *gen.*)
ὑβρίζω insult, offend, disrespect
ὑπερβάλλω excel

ὑπακούω listen to
ὑπάρχω begin, exist
ὑπολαμβάνω take up
ὑπομένω stay behind, survive
φαίνω show, appear
φάσκω claim
φέρω carry
φεύγω flee, run away
φθάνω anticipate
φθείρω destroy
φράζω tell
φροντίζω think
φυλάττω guard
φύω produce
χαίρω be happy
ψεύδω lie, cheat
ψηφίζω vote

Common Nouns in Greek
organized by declension and paradigm

1st Declension

<u>νίκη –ης, ἡ victory</u>
ἀγάπη –ης, ἡ love, charity
ἀδελφή -ῆς, ἡ sister
ἀνάγκη –ης, ἡ necessity
ἀρετή -ῆς, ἡ excellence
ἀρχή -ῆς, ἡ beginning, rule
ἄτη –ης, ἡ blindness, destruction
βουλή -ῆς, ἡ plan, council
γνώμη –ης, ἡ thought, intelligence, opinion
διαθήκη –ης, ἡ arrangement
δικαιοσύνη –ης, ἡ justice
δίκη –ης, ἡ justice, lawsuit
εἰρήνη -ης, ἡ peace
ἐπιστήμη -ης, ἡ knowledge
ἐπιστολή -ῆς, ἡ message, letter
ἡδονή -ῆς, ἡ pleasure
κεφαλή -ῆς, ἡ head
κώμη –ης, ἡ village
λίμνη –ης, ἡ pool, swamp
μάχη –ης, ἡ battle
μηχανή -ῆς, ἡ device
μνήμη –ης, ἡ memory
νίκη –ης, ἡ victory
νύμφη –ης, ἡ bride
ὀργή -ῆς, ἡ anger
ὁρμή -ῆς, ἡ attack
παρασκευή -ῆς, ἡ preparation
πύλη –ης, ἡ gate
ῥώμη –ης, ἡ strength
σελήνη –ης, ἡ moon
σκήνη –ης, ἡ tent, stage
σπονδή -ῆς, ἡ libation
σπουδή -ῆς, ἡ eagerness
συγγνώμη –ης, ἡ pardon
συνθήκη –ης, ἡ composition, contract
σχολή -ῆς, ἡ leisure
τελευτή -ῆς, ἡ completion, death
τέχνη –ης, ἡ art, skill
τιμή -ῆς, ἡ value
τροφή -ῆς, ἡ nourishment, food
τύχη –ης, ἡ luck
ὑπερβολή -ῆς, ἡ excess

φυγή -ῆς, ἡ escape
φυλακή -ῆς, ἡ guard
φυλή -ῆς, ἡ race, tribe
φωνή -ῆς, ἡ sound, voice
ψυχή -ῆς, ἡ breath

βία –ας, ἡ force
ἀγορά, -ᾶς, ἡ market place
αἰτία -ας, ἡ cause
ἀπορία -ας, ἡ helplessness
βασιλεία –ας, ἡ kingdom
βία –ας, ἡ force
ἐκκλησία –ας, ἡ assembly
ἐλευθερία –ας, ἡ freedom
ἐξουσία –ας, ἡ authority
ἑσπέρα –ας, ἡ evening
ἡμέρα –ας, ἡ day
θεά -ᾶς, ἡ goddess
ἡλικία -ας, ἡ time of life, age
ἡσυχία –ας, ἡ quiet
θύρα –ας, ἡ door
θυσία –ας, ἡ sacrifice
ἱστορία –ας, ἡ inquiry
καρδία –ας, ἡ heart
μανία –ας, ἡ insanity
μαρτυρία –ας, ἡ witness, testimony, evidence
ναυμαχία –ας, ἡ sea battle
οἰκία –ας, ἡ house, household
οὐσία –ας, ἡ substance, property
πολιορκία –ας, ἡ siege
πολιτεία –ας, ἡ constitution, citizenship,
          republic
πορεία –ας, ἡ journey
προθυμία –ας, ἡ eagerness
σοφία –ας, ἡ wisdom
στρατεία –ας, ἡ expedition, campaign
στρατία –ας, ἡ army
συμμαχία –ας, ἡ alliance
συμφορά -ᾶς, ἡ accident
σωτηρία –ας, ἡ safety
τιμωρία –ας, ἡ help, vengeance
φιλία –ας, ἡ love, friendship
φρουρά -ᾶς, ἡ guard
χρεία –ας, ἡ use
χώρα –ας, ἡ land
ὥρα –ας, ἡ season

δόξα –ης, ἡ glory, opinion
γλῶττα –ης, ἡ tongue, language
δίαιτα –ης, ἡ lifestyle
δόξα –ης, ἡ glory, opinion
θάλαττα –ης, ἡ the sea

πέτρα –ας, ἡ rock
ἀλήθεια -ας, ἡ truth
ἀσφάλεια –ας, ἡ security
βοήθεια –ας, ἡ help
γαῖα –ας, ἡ earth
διάνοια –ας, ἡ thought, intention
ἐπιμέλεια –ας, ἡ care, attention
εὔνοια –ας, ἡ good-will
μοῖρα -ας, ἡ fate
πέτρα –ας, ἡ rock
πρόνοια –ας, ἡ foresight

πολίτης –ου, ὁ citizen
δεσπότης -ου, ὁ master
δικαστής –οῦ, ὁ judge, juror
ἔτης -ου, ὁ kin, cousin
ἰδιώτης –ου, ὁ a private person, an individual
κριτής –ου, ὁ judge
οἰκέτης –ου, ὁ servant
ὁπλίτης –ου, ὁ heavily-armed soldier, hoplite
ποιητής –οῦ, ὁ creator, poet
πολίτης –ου, ὁ citizen
πρεσβευτής –οῦ, ὁ ambassador
προφήτης –ου, ὁ prophet
στρατιώτης –ου, ὁ soldier

2ⁿᵈ Declension

λόγος –ου, ὁ word
ἄγγελος –ου, ὁ messenger, angel
ἀδελφός –οῦ, ὁ brother
αἰχμάλωτος -ου, ὁ prisoner of war
ἄνεμος –ου, ὁ wind
ἄνθρωπος -ου, ὁ/ἡ human being
ἀριθμός –οῦ, ὁ number
βίβλος –ου, ἡ book
βίος –ου, ὁ life
βροτός –οῦ, ὁ mortal
βωμός –οῦ, ὁ altar
γάμος –ου, ὁ wedding, marriage
δῆμος -ου, ὁ people
δόλος –ου, ὁ trick
δοῦλος -ου, ὁ slave
ἔλεγος –ου, ὁ a lament
ἐνιαυτός –οῦ, ὁ year
ἑταῖρος -ου, ὁ companion
ἥλιος –ου, ὁ sun
ἤπειρος –ου, ἡ the land
θάνατος –ου, ὁ death
θεός –οῦ, ὁ god
θέρμος –ου, ὁ heat
θρόνος –ου, ὁ seat
θυμός –οῦ, ὁ soul, spirit
ἰατρός –οῦ, ὁ doctor
ἵππος –ου, ὁ horse
καιρός –οῦ, ὁ the right time
καρπός –οῦ, ὁ fruit
κίνδυνος –ου, ὁ danger
κόλπος –ου, ὁ womb, bay
κόσμος –ου, ὁ order
κύκλος –ου, ὁ circle
κύριος –ου, ὁ lord, master
λίθος –ου, ὁ stone
λιμός –οῦ, ὁ or ἡ hunger
λόγος –ου, ὁ word
λόφος –ου, ὁ crest (esp. of a helmet), mane,
        ridge
μισθός –οῦ, ὁ pay
μῦθος –ου, ὁ story
νεκρός –οῦ, ὁ corpse
νόμος –ου, ὁ custom, law
νόσος –ου, ὁ disease
ξένος –ου, ὁ foreigner, stranger
οἶκος –ου, ὁ house

ὅρκος –ου, ὁ oath
ὄρος, ὄρους, ὁ mountain, hill
ὅρος, ὅρου, ὁ boundary
οὐρανός –οῦ, ὁ sky, heaven
ὀφθαλμός –οῦ, ὁ eye
ὄχλος –ου, ὁ crowd, mob
πλοῦτος –ου, ὁ wealth
πόλεμος –ου, ὁ war
πόνος –ου, ὁ work
ποταμός –οῦ, ὁ river
πρόγονος –ου, ὁ ancestor
ῥύθμος –ου, ὁ rhythm
σῖτος –ου, ὁ grain
στόλος –ου, ὁ expedition
στρατηγός –οῦ, ὁ general
στρατός –οῦ, ὁ army
ταῦρος –ου, ὁ bull
τάφος –ου, ὁ tomb
τόπος –ου, ὁ place, topic
τρόπος –ου, ὁ way
τύραννος –ου, ὁ ruler, tyrant
υἱός –οῦ, ὁ son
ὕπνος –ου, ὁ sleep
φόβος –ου, ὁ fear
φόνος –ου, ὁ slaughter
χρόνος –ου, ὁ time
χρυσός –οῦ, ὁ gold

(feminine nouns)
νῆσος –ου, ἡ island
ὁδός –οῦ, ἡ road
παρθένος –ου, ἡ girl
ψῆφος –ου, ἡ vote

ἔργον –ου, τό work, deed
ἆθλον –ου, τό prize
ἀργύριον -ου, τό silver, a silver coin
δεῖπνον –ου, τό feast
δένδρον –ου, τό tree
δικαστήριον –ου, τό court
δῶρον –ου, τό gift
ἔργον –ου, τό work
ἱερόν –οῦ, τό temple
μέγαρον –ου, τό a large room
ξύλον –ου, τό wood
ὅπλον –ου, τό weapon, tool
πεδίον –ου, τό plain

πλοῖον –ου, τό ship
πρόσωπον –ου, τό face
πτερόν –οῦ, τό wing
σημεῖον –ου, τό sign
στάδιον –ου, τό *stade* = roughly 1/8 of a mile
στέρνον –ου, τό chest
στρατόπεδον –ου, τό camp
τάλαντον –ου, τό an amount of silver
              worth 600 drachma
τεκμήριον –ου, τό evidence
τέκνον –ου, τό child
τόξον –ου, τό bow
φάρμακον –ου, τό drug
χωρίον –ου, τό place

Common Adjectives in Greek
organized by paradigm

<u>σοφός -ή -όν wise</u>
ἀγαθός -ή -όν good
αἰσχρός -ή -όν disgraceful
ἄλλος –η –ον other
βασιλικός –ή --όν royal, kingly
βέλτιστος –η –ον best
γύμνος –η –ον naked
δειλός -ή -όν cowardly
δεινός –ή -όν awesome
δῆλος -η -ον clear
δυνατός -ή -όν able
ἕκαστος –η –ον each
ἐκεῖνος –η –ον that
ἐμός -ή -όν my, mine
ἐρῆμος –η –ον deserted
ἔσχατος –η –ον last
ἕτοιμος or ἑτοῖμος –η –ον ready
ἥκιστος -η –ον least
θαυμαστός –ή -όν awesome
ἱκανός -ή -όν sufficient
ἴσος –η –ον equal
κακός -ή -όν bad
καλός -ή -όν beautiful
κενός -ή -όν empty
κοινός -ή -όν common
κράτιστος –η -ον strongest
λευκός -ή -όν white
λοιπός –ή -όν remaining
μέσος –η -ον middle

μόνος –η –ον alone, single
ναυτικός -ή -όν naval
νόμιμος –η –ον customary
ὀλίγος –η –ον few
ὅλος –η –ον whole
ὁπόσος –η –ον as many as
ὀρθός –η –ον straight
ὅσος –η –ον however much
πεζός -ή -όν on foot
πιστός -ή -όν faithful
πλεῖστος –η –ον most
πολιτικός -ή -όν political
πρῶτος –η –ον first
σός –ή –όν your, yours
σοφός -ή -όν wise
τέταρτος –η –ον fourth
τρίτος –η –ον third
ὕπατος –η –ον highest, the top of
ὑψηλός -ή -όν high
φαῦλος –η –ον trivial
φίλος –η –ον beloved, dear
χαλεπός -ή -όν difficult
χρήσιμος –η –ον useful
χρηστός -ή -όν useful

<u>Two termination</u>
ἄδικος –ον unjust
ἀδύνατος –ον impossible

ἀθάνατος -ον immortal
παράδοξος –ον contrary to expectation,
      paradoxical
πρόθυμος –ον eager
σύγκλητος –ον specially called
σύμμαχος –ον allied

μικρός -ά -όν small
ἄθλιος –α –ον wretched
ἀθρόος –α –ον crowded
αἴτιος –α –ον responsible, guilty
ἄκρος –α –ον top
ἀλλότριος –α –ον someone else's
ἀμφότερος –α –ον both
ἀναγκαῖος –α –ον necessary
ἀνδρεῖος –α –ον manly, brave
ἄξιος –α –ον worthy
ἄπειρος –α –ον inexperienced, ignorant
ἄριστος –η –ον best
ἀρχαῖος –α –ον ancient
βάρβαρος –α –ον foreign, barbarous
βασίλειος –α –ον kingly, royal
βέβαιος –α –ον firm
δεξιός -ά -όν right
δεύτερος –α –ον second
διακόσιοι –αι –α two hundred
δίκαιος –α –ον just
δῖος –α –ον divine
δισχίλιοι –αι –α two thousand
ἑκάτερος –α –ον each of two
ἐλεύθερος –α –ον free
ἐναντίος –α –ον opposite
ἔνιοι –αι –α some
ἐπιτήδειος –α –ον convenient
ἕτερος –α –ον other
ἐχθρός –ά -όν hated
ἡμέτερος –α –ον our
θεῖος –α –ον divine
ἴδιος –α –ον one's own
ἱερός –ᾱ -ον holy
ἰσχυρός -ά -όν strong
καθαρός -ά -όν pure
λαμπρός -ά -όν bright
μακρός -ά -όν long
μικρός -ά -όν small
μυρίος –α –ον countless
νέος –α –ον young

οἰκεῖος –α –ον domestic
οἶος –α –ον such a kind
ὅμοιος –α –ον or ὁμοῖος –α –ον like
ὁποῖος –α –ον of what sort
παλαιός –ά –όν old
παραπλήσιος –α –ον resembling
πάτριος –α –ον of or belonging to one's father
πεντακόσιοι –αι –α five hundred
πηρός -ά -όν disabled
πλησίος –α –ον near
πλούσιος –α –ον rich
ποῖος –α –ον what sort of?
πολέμιος –α –ον hostile (m.pl.: the enemy)
πονηρός –α –ον evil, painful
πότερος –α –ον which of the two?
ποτός –η –ον drinkable
πρότερος –α –ον before
ῥάδιος –α –ον easy
σφέτερος –α –ον their (own)
τελευταῖος –α –ον last, final
τετρακόσιοι –αι –α four hundred
τριακόσιοι –αι –α, three hundred
ὑμέτερος –α –ον your, yours
ὕστερος –α –ον following
φανερός –ά -όν clear
φίλιος –α –ον friendly, dear
χίλιοι –αι –α a thousand