

From Zero to Greek:  
An Introduction to the Language for Everyone

A pre-Institute workshop at  
American Classical League  
61<sup>st</sup> Annual Institute, Durham, NH  
Holloway Commons: Cocheco Room  
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Participants in this workshop will receive information, practice, and materials for introducing and building up instruction in Greek at a school or program. No knowledge (or recollection) of Greek is required. The workshop has three components: (1) a survey of and practice with the basics of the Greek language (2) models and materials for introducing Greek, especially at the stage when it is not yet possible to offer a full class in Greek (3) instruction in preparing students for the first levels of the National Greek Exam.

Deb Davies administers the National Greek Exam (<http://nge.aclassics.org>), about which detailed information, syllabus, and more appear in this packet.

Wilfred Major (chair) and Byron Stayskal are part of the Committee for the Promotion of Greek (CPG), a subcommittee of the National Committee for the Promotion of Latin and Greek (NCLG; <http://www.promotelatin.org>).

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

μὴ φοβεῖσθε  
“Fear not!”  
Luke 2.10

## **This Packet Contains**

- Frequently Asked Questions about Ancient Greek
  - Historical Overview of Greece
  - Types of Greek from Linear B to Modern Greek
  - Typing and Printing Greek
  - Textbooks and Resources for Beginning Greek
- National Greek Exam
  - Results for the 2008 Exams
  - Information about the 2009 Exams
  - Syllabus for the Introduction to Greek Exam
- A survey of the cultural information on the syllabus for the "Introduction to Greek" level of the National Greek Exam (sections II and III)
  - 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).
  - The Alphabet
  - Overview of Greek Grammar
  - Understanding Greek text
    - Verbs
    - Nouns
    - Prepositions
    - Adverbs and Conjunctions
- Derivatives on the syllabus for the "Introduction to Greek" level of the National Greek Exam (section IV).
- National Greek Exam
  - Copy of the 2008 Introduction to Greek Exam
  - Application for 2009 Exams
- Vocabulary lists
- Sample promotional materials for Greek

## 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 (see Linear B in "Types of Greek") are the only writing to survive.
- **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. They 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.

- 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. Dionysius of Halicarnassus wrote scholarship and Roman history. Diodorus Siculus compiles a world history. The Hebrew Bible is translated into Greek (known as the Septuagint).
- **Roman Period** (196 BC – AD 476)
  - 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") c. AD 330.
  - Plutarch writes his "Parallel Lives" of famous Greeks and Romans plus many more essays. Lucian writes his satirical essays. The earliest surviving novels come from this period. The New Testament is written and compiled.
- **Byzantine Period** (AD 330-1453)
  - 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.
  - A range of complex literature survives from this period, the most famous of which is probably Procopius' *Secret History*.
- **Turkish Ottoman Period** (AD 1453-1821)
  - 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. The acrimony between Greeks and Turks continues to this day. Europeans begin looting antiquities from the land.
- **Modern Period** (1821-present)
  - Greeks declare their independence. Modern Greece is now an independent democracy.

## Types of Greek

Greek has the longest written record of any language in the Western world. Of the languages for which we have written examples from the second millennium BC (the date of the oldest written Greek), no others survive to this day. Of all the western languages spoken in the world today, we can trace none as far back as we can 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.

**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. Accents and breathings were added, for example, to help people pronounce the language correctly. 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 complex, elite version of Classical Greek.

**Katharevousa:** When Greece regained its independence, some Greek elites and scholars wanted to restore Classical Greek as the language of the modern country. This restored language was called *katharevousa* "purified," and as late as 1982 was the official language of Greece.

**Demotic and Modern Greek:** Despite the efforts of the purists, Greek continued to evolve. Even while official documents were in *katharevousa*, most people spoke Demotic or "popular"

Greek, which in 1982 finally became the official language of modern Greece. In view of the fact that Greek has been evolving for several thousand years, it is still 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, especially because of the Turkish domination, which brought in a great many loan words and (3) the word order has stabilized, using effectively the same word order as English. Because of the shifts in pronunciation, Modern Greek uses only one of the accents and breathings found in texts of ancient Greek.

## TYPING AND PRINTING GREEK

Computer technology has stabilized sufficiently that typing, printing, emailing, etc. texts in Ancient Greek is a straightforward process.

Two Warnings:

- Almost all computers, font systems, etc. include the basic Greek alphabet and the vowels with acute (/) accents:  $\alpha$   $\acute{\alpha}$   $\beta$   $\gamma$  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 a set called "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 on-line, 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 inputting Ancient Greek. Unicode does not depend on a specific program or font. ANY Unicode font will display the same characters, whether on a PC, Macintosh, web page, and so on.

You need two components to use Unicode comfortably:

- a Unicode font. Windows XP and Vista come with Palatino Linotype, a Unicode font which displays ancient Greek very well in Word, Power Point, etc. Macintosh systems now regularly include a Greek Unicode font. Web Browsers frequently include the Unicode version of Ariel. Other Unicode fonts are available for free download. Any Unicode font will display Ancient Greek characters the same way.
- a utility program to input unicode Greek from your computer keyboard. A number of programs are available, from simple, free downloads to advanced commercial programs.

Programs to input polytonic Greek:

- A number of utility programs are available so you can switch your keyboard to polytonic Greek. For Microsoft Word, I find the easiest program is **Antioch**. You can download a free version or pay to support the programmers. The free version is crippled only insofar as it sets the default font to an italic version of the programmers' font and gives you a sponsor message when you exit. The instructions tell you how to reset the font, however! <http://www.users.dircon.co.uk/~hancock/antioch.htm>
  - Helpful hint: Sometimes programs balk at cutting and pasting polytonic Greek into other programs or documents. For example, you might have trouble copying Greek from a Word document to a Power Point slide. This happens because of proprietary coding in some programs. You can strip this coding out, however, and copy Greek with a simple shortcut: (1) select the Greek you want and choose "copy" (2) in Notepad (or similar text typing program) copy the Greek (some of it will appear as boxes or other symbols; this is OK) (3) in Notepad, select the text again and choose "copy" (4) you can now paste the Greek into any other program (so long as you are using a Unicode font, the Greek will appear unchanged).
- The professional standard is **GreekKeys**. Donald Mastronarde is the world technical expert on all things Greek and he maintains an excellent, up-to-date guide at <http://ist->

socrates.berkeley.edu/~pinax/greekkeys. This site focuses on GreekKeys but includes FAQs on a number of topics for both Mac and PCs.

### Greek pdfs

Another 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 sort of Greek on their computer to read the document correctly.

- You do need a reasonably up-to-date Acrobat Reader (free, and standard with most computers and web browsers).
- Many programs now include a component that creates a pdf. There are also free programs to make basic pdf, for example PDF 995, which you can download from <http://www.pdf995.com>.



## TEXTBOOKS AND RESOURCES FOR BEGINNING GREEK

- Ascanius: The Youth Classics Institute. *Activitates Pro Liberis Vol. 5: Ancient Greek Language and Culture Activities*. Available in print or on CD from <http://www.ascaniusyci.org/publications.htm>.
  - An excellent collection of materials and information for beginning Greek, geared toward the Elementary School level.
- Maurice Balme, Gilbert Lawall. *Athenaze: An Introduction to Ancient Greek*. 2 vols. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003. ISBN 0195149564, 0195149572 .
  - 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. *Euclides' World: An Exploratory Introduction to Ancient Greek to Accompany Ecce Romani*. CANE (Classical Association of New England), 2002. Available at <http://www.caneweb.org/pubsnref/caneinstmat.pdf>, along with two other basic packets for Greek.
  - 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* but not dependent on it.
- JACT (Joint Association of Classical Teachers). *Reading Greek*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007. ISBN 978-0521698511 (Text & Vocabulary) 978-0521698528 (Grammar & Exercises) 978-0521698504 (Independent Study Guide)
  - This is the recently revised best reading approach, and the readings are excellent, but the components can still be difficult to use.
- T. Davina McClain. *Graphic Greek Grammar*. Wauconda, IL: Bolchazy-Carducci, 2005. ISBN 0-86516-597-7
  - Six laminated cards which outline Greek grammar. Inflections are highlighted in red. Includes everything from basic verb forms to basic syntax.
- E. Geannikis, A. Romiti and P.T. Wilford. *Greek Paradigm Handbook*. Newburyport: Focus, 2008. 978-1-58510-307-2
  - A handy little spiral-bound, flip-book of paradigms.
- Anne Groton. *From Alpha to Omega: A Beginning Course in Classical Greek*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Newburyport: Focus, 2000. ISBN 1-58510-034-X.
  - This textbook is full of very detailed explanations, so it actually serves as a useful reference grammar for teachers.
- Rowling, J.K. Ἄρειος Πόττηρ καὶ ἡ του φιλοσόφου λίθος. Andrew Wilson, trans. London: Bloomsbury, 2004. ISBN 1-582234-826x
  - *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* translated into Ancient Greek!
- Donald Mastronarde. *Introduction to Attic Greek*. University of California Press 1993. ISBN 0-520-07844-6
  - Another very detailed book that is more useful as a reference work than as a textbook. There are nice audio files available, however.
- <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu> A wonderful site with many Greek texts, grammatical links, on-line lexicon, translations, but slow and cumbersome.
- <http://www.greekgrammar.com> – a useful compendium of sites

## ACL/NJCL National Greek Exam

### RESULTS OF THE 2008 ACL/NJCL NATIONAL GREEK EXAMINATION

The National Greek Examination in 2008 enrolled 1680 students from 158 high schools, colleges, and universities in the US, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Of these students, 54% earned purple, blue, red, or green ribbons. The battery of six examinations consisted of five Attic Greek exams (Introduction, Beginning, Intermediate, Prose, Tragedy) and a Homeric Greek exam (*Odyssey*).

### THE 2009 ACL/NJCL NATIONAL GREEK EXAMINATION

The next National Greek Examination will be administered Monday-Saturday, 2-7 March 2009. 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, 20 January 2008.** 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 2009 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 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 2009, 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 23 February 2009, 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, 9 March 2009.

### OPPORTUNITY FOR SCHOLARSHIP

In 2009, 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, 2009. Winners will be announced at the ACL Institute in June 2009, and notified directly thereafter by mail.

**2-7 MARCH 2009**

## **νοῦν μέγ' ἄριστος καὶ γλῶσσαν**

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 26th 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 multiplechoice 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 2009 examinations, with the answers, costs \$10.00 (postage included) and will be sent after 14 March 2009 (see application blank). Any of the individual examinations for the five years before 2009 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 • info@aclclassics.org

**<http://nge.aclclassics.org/>**

## National Greek Exam: Syllabus: Introduction to Greek Exam

### **I. Alphabet**

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. Geography**

Know location of:

Athens, Sparta, Thebes, Troy, Delphi, Olympia, Corinth, Crete, Sicily, Rhodes, Aegean Sea, Ionian Sea, Black Sea, Alexandria, the Nile.

### **III. Historical Events and People**

Know relative dates and historical importance of:

Pericles; Darius, Xerxes

Persian Wars; Athenian Empire; Peloponnesian War

Alexander the Great

Know three Architectural Orders – Ionic, Doric, Corinthian

### **IV. Derivatives**

Know derivatives of the following prepositions and prefixes: ἀμφί, ἀντί, ἀπό, διά, δυσ-, ἐκ, ἐν, ἐπί, εὐ-, μετά, παν-, περί, πρό, πρόσ, συν, ὑπέρ, ὑπό

### **V. Understanding Greek text**

Know noun/adjective endings

1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> declension	all cases	singular and plural
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Know verb endings	present	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> person	singular and plural
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Should be able to understand easy sentences, including prep phrases and adjectives

## **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, Crete, Sicily, Rhodes, Aegean Sea, Ionian Sea, Black Sea, Alexandria, the Nile.
- I have found the clearest and most helpful maps are those printed on the inside covers of Barry B. Powell, *Classical Myth*, 4th edition (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall 2003), ISBN 0-13-182590-9, now also reprinted in Ian Morris and Barry B. Powell, *The Greeks: History, Culture, and Society* (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 2005) ISBN 013921156X.

### **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 necessary Greek history, plus the three architectural orders (Ionic, Doric, Corinthian). For example,
  - On-line encyclopedias like Wikipedia will have entries for all these figures. 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 Ian Morris and Barry B. Powell, *The Greeks: History, Culture, and Society* (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 2005) ISBN 013921156X (thorough but dense); Sarah Pomeroy, Stanley M. Burstein, Walter Donlan, and Jennifer Tolbert Roberts, *Ancient Greece: A Political, Social, and Cultural History* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008), ISBN 9780195308006 (also dense, but good at synthesizing historical and literary sources), and Robert Kebric, *Greek People*, 4th ed., (New York: McGraw-Hill, 2004) ISBN 0072869038 (more accessible, but idiosyncratic in coverage).

## **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 really is 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.

### **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 ancient 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**

<b>Letter</b>	<b>name</b>	<b>sound</b>
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 ο	omicron	oh
Π π	pi	p
P ρ	rho	r
Σ σ ζ	sigma	s
T τ	tau	t
Υ υ	upsilon	iy
Φ φ	phi	ph
X χ	chi	kh
Ψ ψ	psi	ps
Ω ω	omega	ohh
´	(rough breathing)	h

Sigma: the ζ-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 *Euclides' 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
Α α	a	a
αι	<b>ae</b>	<b>ai</b>
Β β	b	b
Γ γ	g	g
γγ	ng	ng
Δ δ	d	d
Ε ε	e	e
ει	<b>i</b>	<b>ei</b>
Ζ ζ	z	z
Η η	e	e
Θ θ	th	th
Ι ι	i	i
Κ κ	<b>c</b>	<b>k</b>
Λ λ	l	l
Μ μ	m	m
Ν ν	n	n
Ξ, ξ	x	x
Ο ο	o	o
-ος	<b>-us</b>	<b>-os</b>
Π π	p	p
Ρ ρ	r	r
Σ σ ζ	s	s
Τ τ	t	t
Υ υ	y	y
ου	<b>u</b>	<b>ou</b>
Φ φ	ph	ph
Χ χ	<b>ch</b>	<b>kh</b>
Ψ ψ	ps	ps
Ω ω	o	o
ˆ (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 the 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”  
 ο “o”  
 υ “u”

<u>Short</u>	<u>Long</u>
α “ah”	η “ay” or $\bar{\alpha}$ “aah”
ε “eh”	η “ay”
ι “ih”	$\bar{\iota}$ “ee”
ο “oh”	ω “ohh”
υ “u”	$\bar{\upsilon}$ “ooh”

Greek texts never display the long mark over α, ι or υ. Only a lexicon or grammar shows these marks.

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**.

α + ι = αι “eye”	α + υ = αυ “ow!”
$\bar{\alpha}$ + ι = $\bar{\alpha}\iota$ “aah” usually written α	
ε + ι = ει “ay”	ε + υ = ευ “eu”
η + ι = ηι “ay” usually written η	
ο + ι = οι “oy”	ο + υ = ου “oo”
ω + ι = ωι “oh” usually written ω	
υ + ι = υι “wee”	

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

α + α = α	α + ε = α	α + ο = ω
ε + α = η	ε + ε = ει	ε + ο = ου
ο + α = ω	ο + ε = ου	ο + ο = ου

## CONSONANTS IN GREEK

Labial	Dental	Palatal	
$\pi$ p	$\tau$ t	$\kappa$ k	= unvoiced
$\beta$ b	$\delta$ d	$\gamma$ g	= voiced
$\varphi$ ph	$\theta$ th	$\chi$ kh	= + ´
$\psi$ ps	$\sigma$ s	$\xi$ ks	= + $\sigma$
$\mu$ m	$\nu$ n	$\gamma\kappa, \gamma\gamma, \gamma\chi, \gamma\xi$ ng	= nasals
	$\lambda$ l	$\rho$ r	= liquids

One leftover:  $\zeta = \sigma\delta$

NOTE: In Greek, you never write  $\pi\sigma, \varphi\sigma, \kappa\sigma, \gamma\sigma$ , and so on. If you ever add a  $\sigma$  to a  $\pi$ , for example, you automatically write  $\psi$ . Similarly, the combinations  $\tau\sigma, \delta\sigma$ , etc., do not occur. If you add  $\sigma$  to  $\tau$ , you write (and say) only  $\sigma$ .

### Alphabet Algebra:

long  $\varepsilon =$

$\tau + \sigma =$

short  $\omega =$

$\tau + ´ =$

$\alpha + o =$

$\pi + \text{voice} =$

$\varepsilon + \varepsilon =$

$\phi + \sigma =$

$o + o =$

$\gamma + \sigma =$

$\varepsilon + o =$

$\kappa + ´ =$

## 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

- Ancient 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 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: ὄ = “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.

Sometimes only a breathing marks the difference between words. For example:

αὐτον (auton) = “him”      αὐτην (autēn) = “her”

αὐτόν (hauton) = “himself”      αὐτήν (hautēn) = “herself”

### Accents

Most words in Greek display an accent. Most scholars believe that in the Classical period the accent reflected a raised pitch on the accented syllable, 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 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 for some reason.
- ^ “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): ὂ = ὠ, ὂ = οῶ.

An accent always appears over the second letter of a diphthong. Further rules for placing an accent vary somewhat, so it is best to learn accent rules along with particular parts of speech.

### 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	ΓΕΝΟΣ	γένος
ΣΚΕΛΕΤΟΝ	σκελετόν	ΓΡΑΜΜΑ	γράμμα
ΚΛΙΜΑΞ	κλίμαξ	ΓΡΑΦΗ	γραφή
ΚΡΙΣΙΣ	κρίσις	ΠΕΤΡΑ	πέτρα
ΔΡΑΜΑ	δράμα	ΠΑΡΑΒΟΛΗ	παραβολή
ΔΟΓΜΑ	δόγμα	ΠΝΕΥΜΑ	πνεῦμα
ΚΟΣΜΟΣ	κόσμος	ΠΡΟΦΗΤΗΣ	προφήτης
ΚΡΑΤΗΡ	κρατήρ	ΣΟΦΙΑ	σοφία
ΓΕΝΕΣΙΣ	γένεσις	ΣΤΟΜΑ	στόμα
ΑΡΩΜΑ	ἄρωμα	ΦΩΣ	φῶς
ΑΥΤΟΜΑΤΟΝ	αὐτόματον	ΦΩΝΗ	φωνή
ΑΡΜΟΝΙΑ	ἁρμονία	ΨΥΧΗ	ψυχή
ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑ	ἱστορία	ΛΟΓΟΣ	λόγος
ΑΝΑΡΧΙΑ	ἀναρχία	ΧΑΡΙΣ	χάρις
ΑΜΝΗΣΙΑ	ἀμνησία	ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ	χριστός
ΘΕΟΛΟΓΙΑ	θεολογία	ΔΑΙΜΩΝ	δαίμων
ΦΙΛΟΣΟΦΙΑ	φιλοσοφία	ΖΩΗ	ζωή
ΥΠΟΘΕΣΙΣ	ὑπόθεσις	ΑΓΑΠΗ	ἀγάπη
ΧΑΡΑΚΤΗΡ	χαρακτήρ	ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ	ἄγγελος
ΒΟΤΑΝΗ	βοτάνη	ΑΔΕΛΦΟΣ	ἄδελφός
ΑΜΟΙΒΗ	ἀμοιβή	ΑΝΘΡΩΠΟΣ	ἄνθρωπος
ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ	δημοκρατία	ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ	ἀπόστολος
ΤΥΡΑΝΝΙΑ	τυραννία	ΕΘΝΟΣ	ἔθνος
ΓΕΩΜΕΤΡΙΑ	γεωμετρία	ΕΙΡΗΝΗ	εἰρήνη
ΔΙΠΛΩΜΑ	δίπλωμα	ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ	ἐκκλησία
ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ	ἄγγελος	ΕΡΓΟΝ	ἔργον
ΑΘΛΗΤΗΣ	ἄθλητής	ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ	εὐαγγέλιον
ΑΙΘΙΟΠΙΑ	Αἰθιοπία	ΟΝΟΜΑ	ὄνομα
ΠΝΕΥΜΟΝΙΑ	πνευμονία	ΟΦΘΑΛΜΟΣ	ὀφθαλμός
ΪΠΠΟΠΟΤΑΜΟΣ	ἵπποπόταμος	ΕΓΩ	ἐγώ
ΨΥΧΟΛΟΓΙΑ	ψυχολογία	ΩΣΑΝΝΑ	ὠσαννά
ΜΑΡΤΥΡΙΑ	μαρτυρία	ΙΗΣΟΥΣ	Ἰησοῦς
ΜΥΣΤΗΡΙΟΝ	μυστήριον	ΑΠΟΚΑΛΥΨΙΣ	ἀποκάλυψις
ΘΕΟΣ	θεός	ΟΙΚΟΥΜΕΝΗ	οἰκουμένη

## OVERVIEW OF GREEK GRAMMAR

### 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: λύουσι τοὺς ἵππους (lyousi tous hippous) but λύουσιν ἵππους (lyousin 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:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>
- **Number:** Singular, Plural
  - There is a dual, but it is rare
- **Tense:** Present, Imperfect, Future, Aorist, Perfect
  - There are Pluperfect and Future Perfect tenses, but they are 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.
  - A true Passive voice is rare in Greek until the end of the Classical period, but by the time of the New Testament, it is important.

## Conjugations

Greek has only two conjugations of verbs:

- -ω ("omega" or "-ō") conjugation
  - the name refers to the 1<sup>st</sup> person singular ending (the exact equivalent of the -ō ending for Latin verbs).
  - the present, imperfect, future and aorist tenses regularly use the endings of this conjugation.
- -μι (-mi) conjugation
  - the name refers to the 1<sup>st</sup> person singular ending (the analogue of the -m ending for Latin verbs).
  - only a few endings differ from the -ω conjugation (and only in the active voice).
  - the perfect, pluperfect, and aorist passive regularly use the endings of this conjugation.
  - a handful of verbs use -mi conjugation endings in the present, imperfect and aorist tenses. These are the so-called "mi-verbs."

## 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
  - 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:

<u>Separation</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Motion</u>
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

#### Present Indicative Active

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

#### Accenting Greek verbs:

Greek verbs accent according to a straightforward rule:

- if the last syllable of the form has a short vowel, the accent appears on the antepenult (third syllable from the end)
- if the last syllable of the form has a long vowel (or a diphthong), the accent appears on the penult (second syllable from the end)

For present indicative active forms, this means:

- the accent is always acute (/)
- it always appears over the last vowel of the verb's stem

#### Other types of verbs:

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 -ο (o) (and thus with entries ending in -άω, -έω or -όω) contract these vowels with the personal endings according to the chart on page 18, but such verbs (called "contract verbs") are omitted here.

## **EXERCISES ON VERBS**

### Present Indicative Active

Below are a handful of Greek verbs which are all very common and regular in the present indicative. Most also have important derivatives in English or parallels in Latin. For more about these words, see the vocabulary section at the end of the packet.

ἀγγέλλω announce	λανθάνω do without being noticed
ἄγω lead, bring	λέγω say, speak
ἀκούω hear	λείπω leave
ἀμαρτάνω make a mistake, miss the target	λύω loosen, destroy
ἀρπάζω snatch	μανθάνω learn
ἄρχω rule	μένω stay
βαίνω walk	νομίζω consider
βάλλω throw	παιδεύω educate
βλάπτω hurt	πάσχω suffer, experience
βλέπω see	παύω stop
γινώσκω come to know, learn	πείθω persuade
γράφω write	πέμπω send
δακρύω cry	πίνω drink
διδάσκω teach	πίπτω fall
διώκω pursue	πιστεύω trust
ἐθέλω wish	πράττω do
ἐλαύνω drive	στρέφω turn
ἐλέγχω refute	τείνω stretch
ἐσθίω eat	τέμνω cut
εὐρίσκω find	τίκτω give birth
ἔχω have, hold	τρέπω turn
θύω sacrifice	τρέφω nourish
κελεύω order	τρέχω run
κινδυνεύω risk	τριβω rub
κλέπτω steal	φέρω carry
κλίνω bend	φεύγω flee, run away
κολάζω punish	φθείρω destroy
κόπτω cut	φράζω tell
κρίνω judge, decide	φροντίζω think
κρύπτω hide	φυλάσσω guard
κωλύω prevent	φύω produce
λαγχάνω obtain by a lottery	χαίρω be happy
λαμβάνω take	ψεύδω lie, cheat

Translate the following forms into English.

1. λαμβάνουσι
2. ἄγουσι
3. ἄγει
4. νομίζομεν
5. ἐθέλομεν
6. ἐθέλετε
7. ἄρχετε
8. ἄρχεις
9. πίπτομεν
10. κλίνω
11. θύουσιν
12. μανθάνει
13. παιδεύουσιν
14. παιδεύομεν
15. φεύγεις
16. εὕρισκει
17. ψεύδω
18. ψεύδεις
19. ἔχουσι
20. ἔχουσιν
21. πείθετε
22. φέρομεν
23. γινώσκω
24. βλάπτω
25. πάσχομεν

Translate the following English sentences into Greek verbs.

1. I write.
2. We are writing.
3. They cut.
4. She is running away.
5. Y'all sacrifice.
6. You are making a mistake.
7. I am stealing.
8. I am eating.
9. He runs.
10. We hear.
11. We judge.
12. Y'all speak.
13. You cry.
14. I am announcing.
15. They are drinking.
16. They trust.
17. We are running.
18. She is ruling.
19. He is staying.
20. I am thinking.
21. We are wishing.
22. Y'all are happy.
23. You are happy.
24. He is speaking.
25. We are speaking.

## NOUNS

### 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

### 2<sup>nd</sup> 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  $-\alpha$  (-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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

## EXERCISES ON NOUNS

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Declension Masculine & Neuter

λόγος –ου, ὁ word

ἄγγελος –ου, ὁ messenger, angel

ἀδελφός –ου, ὁ brother

ἄνθρωπος –ου, ὁ/ἡ human being

ἀριθμός –ου, ὁ number

βίβλος –ου, ἡ book

βίος –ου, ὁ life

γάμος –ου, ὁ wedding, marriage

δῆμος –ου, ὁ people

δόλος –ου, ὁ trick

δούλος –ου, ὁ slave

ἐταῖρος –ου, ὁ companion

ἥλιος –ου, ὁ sun

θάνατος –ου, ὁ death

θεός –ου, ὁ god

θέρμος –ου, ὁ heat

θρόνος –ου, ὁ seat

θυμός –ου, ὁ soul, spirit

ιατρός –ου, ὁ doctor

ἵππος –ου, ὁ horse

καιρός –ου, ὁ the right time

καρπός –ου, ὁ fruit

κίνδυνος –ου, ὁ danger

κόσμος –ου, ὁ order

κύκλος –ου, ὁ circle

κύριος –ου, ὁ lord, master

λίθος –ου, ὁ stone

λόγος –ου, ὁ word

μῦθος –ου, ὁ story

νεκρός –ου, ὁ corpse

νόμος –ου, ὁ custom, law

ξένος –ου, ὁ foreigner, stranger

οἶκος –ου, ὁ house

ὄρκος –ου, ὁ oath

οὐρανός –ου, ὁ sky, heaven

ὀφθαλμός –ου, ὁ eye

ὄχλος –ου, ὁ crowd, mob

πλοῦτος –ου, ὁ wealth

πόλεμος –ου, ὁ war

πόνος –ου, ὁ work

ποταμός –ου, ὁ river

ῥύθμος –ου, ὁ rhythm

στρατηγός –ου, ὁ general

ταῦρος –ου, ὁ bull

τάφος –ου, ὁ tomb

τόπος –ου, ὁ place, topic

τρόπος –ου, ὁ way

τύραννος –ου, ὁ ruler, tyrant

ὑπνος –ου, ὁ sleep

φόβος –ου, ὁ fear

χρόνος –ου, ὁ time

χρυσός –ου, ὁ gold

ἔργον –ου, τό work, deed

ἀργύριον –ου, τό silver, a silver coin

δεῖπνον –ου, τό feast

δένδρον –ου, τό tree

δῶρον –ου, τό gift

ἔργον –ου, τό work

ἱερόν –ου, τό temple

μέγαρον –ου, τό a large room

ξύλον –ου, τό wood

ὄπλον –ου, τό weapon, tool

πεδῖον –ου, τό plain

πρόσωπον –ου, τό face

πτερόν –ου, τό wing

σημεῖον –ου, τό sign

στάδιον –ου, τό *stade*

= 606.75 feet = roughly 1/8 of a mile

στέρνον –ου, τό chest

τάλαντον –ου, τό

an amount of silver worth 600 drachma

τέκνον –ου, τό child

τόξον –ου, τό bow

φάρμακον –ου, τό drug

χωρίον –ου, τό place



Identify the case and number of each form, then add the appropriate form of the definite article.

1. λόγοι
2. πτεροῦ
3. ἀγγέλοις
4. δῶρα
5. ἵππων
6. θάνατον
7. ἱερόν
8. μύθους
9. ἀδελφέ
10. ταύρω
11. ῥύθμου
12. ὀφθαλμοῖς
13. ὄπλα
14. ἄνθρωποι
15. τυράννου
16. πεδίους
17. δείπνω
18. τόποι
19. θεῶν
20. ποταμοῦ
21. ἔργον
22. πολέμοις
23. ὕπνον
24. καιρῶ
25. ἥλιος

Write the correct Greek word along with the appropriate form of the definite article.

1. spirit (voc. sg.)
2. wealth (acc. sg.)
3. circle (nom. pl.)
4. wood (gen. sg.)
5. sign (acc. pl.)
6. corpse (dat. pl.)
7. child (gen. pl.)
8. life (dat. sg.)
9. brother (voc. pl.)
10. fear (acc. sg.)
11. drug (acc. pl.)
12. trick (dat. pl.)
13. place (nom. pl.)
14. danger (dat. sg.)
15. tree (gen. pl.)
16. sign (nom. pl.)
17. gold (nom. sg.)
18. silver (nom. sg.)
19. heat (gen. sg.)
20. talent (nom. pl.)
21. seat (nom. pl.)
22. work (acc. sg.)
23. sleep (dat. sg.)
24. companion (gen. pl.)
25. death (voc. sg.)

## NOUNS

### 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 ὃ "ō" regularly precedes noun(s) in the vocative case.

Nouns of the 1<sup>st</sup> Declension use endings similar to the article:

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

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	νίκη (níkē)	νικαί (níkai)
Genitive	νίκης (níkēs)	νικῶν (níkōn)
Dative	νικῇ (níkēi)	νικαῖς (níkais)
Accusative	νικῆν (níkēn)	νικᾶς (níkās)
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

### 1<sup>st</sup> Declension variations

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

A few nouns have a short  $\alpha$  (a) in their nominative and accusative singular:

#### δόξα -ης ἡ opinion

Singular

Nominative	δόξ <u>α</u> (dóksa)
Genitive	δόξ <u>ης</u> (dóksēs)
Dative	δόξ <u>ῃ</u> (dóksēi)
Accusative	δόξ <u>αν</u> (dóksan)
Vocative	= Nominative

Nouns with stems which end in  $-\eta$  ( $-\bar{e}$ )  $-\iota$  ( $-i$ ) or  $-\rho$  ( $-r$ ) change their  $\eta$  ( $\bar{e}$ ) to a long  $\alpha$  (a). Often the  $\alpha$  (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 <u>α</u> (bía)
Genitive	βί <u>ας</u> (bías)
Dative	βί <u>ᾱ</u> (bías)
Accusative	βί <u>αν</u> (bían)
Vocative	= Nominative

#### πέτρᾱ -ας ἡ rock

Singular

Nominative	πέτρ <u>ᾱ</u> (pétrā)
Genitive	πέτρ <u>ας</u> (pétras)
Dative	πέτρ <u>ᾱ</u> (pétrai)
Accusative	πέτρ <u>ᾱν</u> (pétran)
Vocative	= Nominative

Masculine nouns in the 1<sup>st</sup> declension have  $-\etaς$  ( $-\bar{e}s$ ) in the nominative,  $-\ου$  ( $-ou$ ) in the genitive, and  $\alpha$  (a) in the vocative:

#### πολίτης -ου ὁ citizen

Singular

Nominative	πολί <u>της</u> (polítēs)
Genitive	πολί <u>του</u> (polítou)
Dative	πολί <u>τῃ</u> (polítēi)
Accusative	πολί <u>την</u> (polítēn)
Vocative	πολί <u>τᾱ</u> (políta)

There are no neuter nouns in this declension.

## ACCENTING GREEK NOUNS

Determining accents for nouns is more complex than for verbs. It is extremely rare, however, 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.

Accent on Greek nouns, pronouns and adjectives is generally persistent, which means the accent begins on a certain syllable in the nominative singular and stays on that same syllable whenever possible. Because the accent must fall on one of the last three syllables of a word, there are three possible accent patterns.

NB: The accent on the genitive plural of first declension nouns is fixed always as a circumflex on the ending: -ῶν.

The following patterns apply to regular nouns of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Declensions:

- Accent on the last syllable
  - The nominative and accusative endings bear an acute (/) accent.
  - The genitive and dative endings bear a circumflex (^) accent.

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).

Accent on the penult (next-to-last syllable)

- If the accented syllable has a short vowel, it bears an acute (/) accent in all forms.
- If the accented syllable has a long vowel or diphthong, it bears a circumflex (^) accent when the ending has a short vowel:
  - the Nominative plural ending is always short
  - the Genitive and Dative endings are always long

σκήνη -ης ἡ tent, stage

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

	Plural
Nominative	σκήναι
Genitive	σκήνων
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

- Accent on the antepenult (third-from-last syllable)
  - The antepenult bears an acute (/) accent when the ending has a short vowel.
    - See notes above about long and short endings.
  - Otherwise, the penult (next-to-last syllable) bears the accent (acute, /).
  - Effectively, this is the same rule as for accenting verbs.

ἄνθρωπος -ου ὁ human

	<u>Singular</u>
Nominative	ἄνθρωπος
Genitive	ἀνθρώπου
Dative	ἀνθρώπῳ
Accusative	ἄνθρωπον
Vocative	ἄνθρωπε

	<u>Plural</u>
Nominative	ἄνθρωποι
Genitive	ἀνθρώπων
Dative	ἀνθρώποις
Accusative	ἄνθρώπους
Vocative	= Nominative

## EXERCISES ON NOUNS

### 1<sup>st</sup> Declension Masculine & Feminine

νίκη -ης, ή victory

ἀγάπη -ης, ή love, charity

ἀδελφή -ῆς, ή sister

ἀνάγκη -ης, ή necessity

ἀρετή -ῆς, ή excellence

ἀρχή -ῆς, ή beginning, rule

ἄττη -ης, ή blindness, destruction

βουλή -ῆς, ή plan, council

γνώμη -ης, ή thought, intelligence, opinion

δικαιοσύνη -ης, ή justice

δίκη -ης, ή justice, lawsuit

εἰρήνη -ης, ή peace

ἐπιστήμη -ης, ή knowledge

ἐπιστολή -ῆς, ή message, letter

ἡδονή -ῆς, ή pleasure

κεφαλή -ῆς, ή head

μάχη -ης, ή battle

μηχανή -ῆς, ή device

νίκη -ης, ή victory

νύμφη -ης, ή bride

ὀργή -ῆς, ή anger

ὀρώμη -ης, ή strength

σελήνη -ης, ή moon

σκήνη -ης, ή tent, stage

σχολή -ῆς, ή leisure

τελευτή -ῆς, ή completion, death

τέχνη -ης, ή art, skill

τιμή -ῆς, ή value

τύχη -ης, ή luck

φυλή -ῆς, ή race, tribe

φωνή -ῆς, ή sound, voice

ψυχή -ῆς, ή breath

βία -ας, ή force

ἀγορά, -ᾶς, ή market place

αἰτία -ας, ή cause

ἀπορία -ας, ή helplessness

βία -ας, ή force

ἐκκλησία -ας, ή assembly

ἐλευθερία -ας, ή freedom

ἑσπέρα -ας, ή evening

ἡμέρα -ας, ή day

θεά -ᾶς, ή goddess

θύρα -ας, ή door

ἱστορία -ας, ή inquiry

καρδία -ας, ή heart

μανία -ας, ή insanity

μαρτυρία -ας, ή witness, testimony, evidence

πολιτεία -ας, ή constitution, citizenship, republic

σοφία -ας, ή wisdom

φιλία -ας, ή love, friendship

ὥρα -ας, ή season

δόξα -ης, ή glory, opinion

γλῶττα -ης, ή tongue, language

δίαιτα -ης, ή lifestyle

δόξα -ης, ή glory, opinion

θάλαττα -ης, ή the sea

πέτρα -ας, ή rock

ἀλήθεια -ας, ή truth

γαῖα -ας, ή earth

μοῖρα -ας, ή fate

πέτρα -ας, ή rock

πολίτης -ου, ó citizen

δεσπότης -ου, ó master

ιδιώτης -ου, ó a private person, an individual

κριτής -ου, ó judge

ὀπλίτης -ου, ó heavily-armed soldier, hoplite

ποιητής -οῦ, ó creator, poet

πολίτης -ου, ó citizen

προφήτης -ου, ó prophet

στρατιώτης -ου, ó soldier





Identify the case and number of each form, then add the appropriate form of the definite article.

1. μάχαι
2. ὀργῆς
3. ἐπιστολαῖς
4. ὀπλίτας
5. θεῶν
6. μηχανήν
7. γλῶσσαν
8. πολίτης
9. γλῶττη
10. κριτοῦ
11. γαίας
12. αἰτίαις
13. στρατιώτας
14. δόξαι
15. φιλίας
16. προφήτης
17. δικαιοσύνης
18. ιδιώται
19. βουλῶν
20. ψυχὴν
21. κεφάλαις
22. τέχνη
23. μοῖραι
24. ἀδελφή
25. ἐπιστήμης

Write the correct Greek word along with the appropriate form of the definite article.

1. moon (voc. sg.)
2. strength (nom. sg.)
3. market place (nom. pl.)
4. rock (gen. pl.)
5. bride (acc. sg.)
6. love/charity (dat. sg.)
7. seasons (dat. pl.)
8. poets (gen. pl.)
9. tribe (acc. pl.)
10. lifestyle (dat. sg.)
11. insanity (gen. sg.)
12. peace (acc. sg.)
13. assembly (nom. pl.)
14. evening (acc. sg.)
15. master (gen. sg.)
16. republic (nom. pl.)
17. heart (gen. pl.)
18. stage (dat. pl.)
19. leisure (gen. sg.)
20. skill (dat. sg.)
21. hoplite (nom. sg.)
22. door (acc. pl.)
23. destruction (gen. sg.)
24. beginning (dat. sg.)
25. luck (voc. sg.)

## ADJECTIVES

### 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 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: When adjectives use 1<sup>st</sup> Declension endings, they are not subject to the rule requiring that the genitive plural have a circumflex accent on its ending.

Like Latin *-us -a -um* adjectives, most Greek adjectives use the endings of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Declension.

σοφός -ή -όν (sophós -é -ón) wise  
means

- the adjective uses 2<sup>nd</sup> declension masculine endings to modify masculine nouns
  - cf. λόγος -ου ó word
- the adjective uses 1<sup>st</sup> declension feminine endings to modify feminine nouns
  - cf. νίκη -ης ή victory
- the adjective uses 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> declension masculine endings to modify masculine nouns
  - cf. λόγος -ου ó word
- the adjective uses 1<sup>st</sup> declension feminine endings to modify feminine nouns
  - cf. βία -ας ή force
- the adjective uses 2<sup>nd</sup> declension neuter endings to modify neuter nouns
  - cf. ἔργον -ου τό deed

Some adjectives use 2<sup>nd</sup> Declension endings at all times.

ἄδικος -ον (ádikos -on) wrong, unjust  
means

- the adjective uses 2<sup>nd</sup> declension masculine endings to modify masculine or feminine nouns
  - cf. λόγος -ου ó word
- the adjective uses 2<sup>nd</sup> declension neuter endings to modify neuter nouns
  - cf. ἔργον -ου τό deed

## WORD ORDER

Greek expresses absolutely no preference for the order of the subject, object and verb.

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

Unlike English, which prefers Subject-Verb-Object or Latin, which prefers Subject-Object-Verb, 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 (τό) appears with a grave accent, as τὸ (τὸ). 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 sophós) = "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"

## EXERCISES ON ADJECTIVES

### 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Declension

#### σοφός -ή -όν wise

ἀγαθός -ή -όν good  
αἰσχρός -ή -όν disgraceful  
ἄλλος -ή -ον other  
βέλτιστος -η -ον best  
γύμνος -η -ον naked  
δεινός -ή -όν awesome  
δῆλος -η -ον clear  
ἕκαστος -η -ον each  
ἐκεῖνος -η -ον that  
ἐμός -ή -όν my, mine  
ἔσχατος -η -ον last  
ἥκιστος -η -ον least  
ἴσος -η -ον equal  
κακός -ή -όν bad  
καλός -ή -όν beautiful  
κοινός -ή -όν common  
κράτιστος -η -ον strongest  
λευκός -ή -όν white  
μόνος -η -ον alone, single  
ὀλίγος -η -ον few  
ὅλος -η -ον whole  
ὀρθός -η -ον straight  
ὅσος -η -ον however much  
πιστός -ή -όν faithful  
πλειστός -η -ον most  
πρῶτος -η -ον first  
σός -ή -όν your, yours  
σοφός -ή -όν wise  
φίλος -η -ον beloved, dear  
χαλεπός -ή -όν difficult  
χρηστός -ή -όν useful

#### μικρός -ά -όν small

ἄλλότριος -α -ον someone else's  
ἄμφότερος -α -ον both  
ἀναγκαῖος -α -ον necessary  
ἀνδρείος -α -ον manly, brave  
ἄξιος -α -ον worthy  
ἄριστος -η -ον best  
ἀρχαῖος -α -ον ancient  
βάρβαρος -α -ον foreign, barbarous  
δεξιός -ά -όν right  
δεύτερος -α -ον second  
δίκαιος -α -ον just  
ἐκάτερος -α -ον each of two  
ἐλεύθερος -α -ον free  
ἐναντίος -α -ον opposite  
ἔνιοι -αι -α some  
ἕτερος -α -ον other  
ἐχθρός -ά -όν hated  
ἡμέτερος -α -ον our  
θεῖος -α -ον divine  
ἴδιος -α -ον one's own  
ἰσχυρός -ά -όν strong

#### Two termination

ἄδικος -ον unjust  
παράδοξος -ον contrary to expectation,  
paradoxical  
σύμμαχος -ον allied

Pick one of each type of adjective, and for each Greek noun below, write the forms of the adjective that agree with it.

1. μύθους
2. ψυχὴν
3. θεῶν
4. πολίτης
5. δῶρα
6. ὀφθαλμοῖς
7. αἰτία
8. ὕπνον
9. σοφία
10. πολῖται
11. λόγοι
12. ἀδελφέ

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

<u>Normal form</u> (before consonants)	<u>before vowels</u>	<u>+ case</u>	<u>general meaning</u>
ἀμφί	ἀμφ'	+ acc.	around
ἀνά	ἀν'	+ acc.	up
ἀντί	ἀντ'/ἀνθ'	+ gen.	back
ἀπό	ἀπ'/ἀφ'	+ gen.	from
διά	δί'	+ 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	ο 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, only when prefixes, 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 χῶρας, ἀπ' ἐκκλησίας, ἀφ' Ἑλλάδος.

## Adverbs and Conjunctions

The most common **adverbs** in Greek are:

- γε especially
  - An enclitic, postpositive particle which emphasizes the word before it (usually the first word of its clause).
- δή now
- ἔτι still
- μή not
  - a form of the negative used with certain moods and constructions (e.g., imperatives). No construction on the Introduction to Greek syllabus uses this form.
- νῦν now
- οὐκ, οὐ, οὐχ not
  - the standard negative: οὐκ ἄρχουσιν “They are not ruling.”
  - The -κ drops before a consonant: οὐ βαίνουσιν “They are not walking,”
  - The -κ changes to a -χ before a rough breathing: οὐχ ὑπὸ τῷ δένδρῳ “not under the tree.”
- οὔτε and not
  - A combination of οὐκ and τε (see under conjunctions for τε).
  - Can be used in pairs or a series: οὔτε βαίνουσιν οὔτε τρέχουσιν “They are neither walking nor running.”
  - cf. Latin *nec/neque*.
- οὕτως this way, thus

The most common **conjunctions** in Greek are:

- ἀλλά but
  - A common adversative: οἱ πολῖται φεύγουσιν, ἀλλὰ δὴ οἱ στρατιῶται ἐσθίουσιν “The citizens are running away, but now the soldiers are eating.”
  - The final -α drops before a vowel: οἱ πολῖται φεύγουσιν, ἀλλ’ οἱ στρατιῶται ἐσθίουσιν “The citizens are running away, but the soldiers are eating.”
- γὰρ for, because
  - A postpositive conjunction: οἱ πολῖται φεύγουσιν, οἱ γὰρ στρατιῶται ἐσθίουσιν “The citizens are running away now, because the soldiers are eating.”



- δέ and, but
  - A postpositive conjunction: οἱ πολῖται φεύγουσιν, οἱ δέ στρατιῶται ἐσθίουσιν “The citizens are running away, and/but the soldiers are eating.”
  - The final –ε drops before a vowel: οἱ πολῖται φεύγουσιν, οἱ δ’ ἵπποι ἐσθίουσιν “The citizens are running away, but the horses are eating.”
- εἰ if
- ἢ or
  - Notice that only the breathing and accent distinguish this word from the feminine nominative singular of the definite article (ἡ).
- καί and
  - A standard conjunction: οἱ στρατιῶται καί οἱ ἵπποι ἐσθίουσιν “The soldiers and the horses are eating.”
  - It can be paired or repeated in a series: καί οἱ στρατιῶται καί οἱ ἵπποι ἐσθίουσιν “Both the soldiers and the horses are eating.”
  - cf. Latin *et*
- μέν on the one hand
  - A postpositive conjunction, almost always paired with δέ: οἱ μέν πολῖται φεύγουσιν, οἱ δ’ στρατιῶται ἐσθίουσιν “The citizens are running away, but the soldiers are eating.”
- ὅτι that, because
  - Can introduce indirect statement: λέγω ὅτι οἱ πολῖται φεύγουσιν, οἱ γὰρ στρατιῶται ἐσθίουσιν “I say that the citizens are running away, because the soldiers are eating.”
  - Unlike γάρ, it is not postpositive: οἱ πολῖται φεύγουσιν, ὅτι οἱ στρατιῶται ἐσθίουσιν “The citizens are running away now, because the soldiers are eating.”
- οὖν therefore
  - Another postpositive conjunction: οἱ πολῖται φεύγουσιν, οἱ οὖν στρατιῶται ἐσθίουσιν “The citizens are running away now, so therefore the soldiers are eating.”
- τε and
  - An enclitic postpositive conjunction: οἱ στρατιῶται οἱ τε ἵπποι ἐσθίουσιν “The soldiers and the horses are eating.”
  - It can be paired or repeated in a series: οἱ τε πολῖται οἱ τε στρατιῶται ἐσθίουσιν “Both the soldiers and the horses are eating.”
  - The final –ε drops before a vowel, and the τ can become a θ before a rough breathing: οἱ τ’ ἄνθρωποι οἱ θ’ ἵπποι ἐσθίουσιν “Both the humans and the horses are eating.”
  - It can also be paired with καί: οἱ στρατιῶται τε καί οἱ ἵπποι ἐσθίουσιν “Both the soldiers and the horses are eating.”

**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	<u>am</u> phibian
ἀντί	anti	opposite	<u>anti</u> biotic
ἀπό	apo	from	<u>apo</u> logy, <u>apo</u> stle
διά	dia	through	<u>dia</u> bolical, <u>dia</u> meter
δυσ-	dys	difficult, abnormal	<u>dys</u> function, <u>dys</u> lexic
ἐκ	ec	out of, from	<u>ec</u> lectic, <u>ec</u> lipse
ἐν	en	in, inside	<u>en</u> thusiasm, <u>en</u> docrine
ἐπί	epi	on, at, next to	<u>epi</u> center, <u>epi</u> logue
εὖ-	eu, ev	well, good	<u>eu</u> logy, <u>ev</u> angelical
μετά	meta	past, change	<u>meta</u> morphosis
παν-	pan	all	<u>pan</u> demic, <u>pan</u> orama
περί	peri	around	<u>peri</u> scope
πρό	pro	before, in front	<u>pro</u> blem, <u>pro</u> boscis
πρός	pros	near, in front	<u>pro</u> sthetic, <u>pro</u> selytize
σύν	syn	with	<u>syn</u> chronize, <u>syn</u> bol
ὑπέρ	hyper (super)	over, above	<u>hyper</u> bole, <u>hyper</u> text
ὑπό	hypo	under, below	<u>hypo</u> dermic

νοῦν μεγ' ἄριστος καὶ γλῶσσαν  
2008

ACL-NJCL NATIONAL GREEK EXAMINATION  
INTRODUCTION TO GREEK

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TIME: 50 MINUTES

DO NOT USE DICTIONARY

1) Write **YOUR NAME** at the top left-hand portion of your answer sheet. Write **YOUR LAST NAME FIRST**. Be sure to **FILL IN THE BUBBLES** under your name.

2) Write the **EXAM NAME** (INTRO) in the lower left-hand portion of your answer sheet under “IDENTIFICATION NUMBER.”

3) Write **YOUR SCHOOL NUMBER** in the lower left-hand portion of your answer sheet under “SPECIAL CODES.” Your examiner will give you your school number. Be sure to **FILL IN THE BUBBLES** under your school number.

4) Fill in **YOUR GRADE** in the column to the left of the green bar. Be sure to **FILL IN THE BUBBLE**.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENT:** Mark the correct choice ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET. There is only one correct answer/choice for each question. Choose the BEST POSSIBLE ANSWER.

**Remember:**

USE BLACK LEAD PENCIL ONLY (#2 1/2 OR SOFTER).

FILL THE SMALL BUBBLES COMPLETELY WITH LEAD.

ERASE UNWANTED ANSWERS COMPLETELY.

DO NOT MAKE ANY STRAY MARKS ON THE ANSWER SHEET.

καλή ἐπιτυχία!

---

1) The letter following σ, τ, υ (upsilon), ... in the Greek alphabet is:

a) φ (phi)

c) χ (chi)

b) ψ (psi)

d) ω (omega)

2) The letter following ζ, η, θ (theta), ... in the Greek alphabet is:

a) π (pi)

c) κ (kappa)

b) λ (lambda)

d) ι (iota)

- 3) The letter ksi in the Greek alphabet is:
- |      |      |
|------|------|
| a) μ | c) ξ |
| b) ν | d) σ |
- 4) The letter epsilon in the Greek alphabet is:
- |      |      |
|------|------|
| a) η | c) θ |
| b) ε | d) α |
- 5) The English transliteration of the Greek word ἀγωνίζεσθε is:
- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| a) agonisesthai | c) egonizesthe |
| b) egonisesthe  | d) agonizesthe |
- 6) An English transliteration of the Greek word Δελφοί is:
- |            |            |
|------------|------------|
| a) Delpsoi | c) Delchoi |
| b) Delphoi | d) Dolphin |
- 7) The preposition which means the opposite of ἀπό is:
- |        |         |
|--------|---------|
| a) ἐκ  | c) πρός |
| b) ἀνά | d) κατά |
- 8) The preposition which means “around” is:
- |         |         |
|---------|---------|
| a) παρὰ | c) ὑπέρ |
| b) περί | d) ὑπό  |
- 9) In Greek history, Alexander the Great was a:
- 5<sup>th</sup> century BCE Athenian historian
  - 5<sup>th</sup> century BCE Athenian author who wrote many tragedies
  - 4<sup>th</sup> century BCE Athenian philosopher
  - 4<sup>th</sup> century BCE Macedonian conqueror of Greece, Egypt, and the East
- 10) In Greek history, the losing army at Marathon was from:
- |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| a) Athens | c) Sparta |
| b) Italy  | d) Persia |
- 11) In Greek history, the Ionian Greeks lived primarily in modern-day:
- |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| a) Turkey | c) Greece |
| b) Egypt  | d) Italy  |
- 12) The upper case (capital) equivalent of the letter μ (mu) in the Greek alphabet is:
- |      |      |
|------|------|
| a) Ν | c) Μ |
| b) Υ | d) Δ |



- 23) The plural form (in the same person) of the verb βαίνεις is:  
 a) βαίνω  
 b) βαίνει  
 c) βαίνομεν  
 d) βαίνετε
- 24) The Greek equivalent of “we go” is:  
 a) βαίνω  
 b) βαίνεις  
 c) βαίνομεν  
 d) βαίνουσιν
- 25) The Greek equivalent of “she orders” is:  
 a) κελεύω  
 b) κελεύει  
 c) κελεύετε  
 d) κελεύουσιν

### PASSAGE

(refer to the Greek passage at the end of the exam)

- 26) In line 1, the function of the word ἀκούει is:  
 a) subject  
 b) direct object  
 c) verb  
 d) prepositional phrase
- 27) In line 1, the case of the article τοῦ is:  
 a) nominative  
 b) genitive  
 c) dative  
 d) accusative
- 28) In line 1, we learn that:  
 a) the rooster is loud.  
 b) the mistress hears the rooster.  
 c) the rooster hears the mistress.  
 d) the slaves hear the rooster.
- 29) In line 2, the case of the phrase τῶν κλινῶν is:  
 a) nominative  
 b) genitive  
 c) dative  
 d) accusative
- 30) In lines 1-2, we learn that:  
 a) everyone hates to get up in the morning.  
 b) the slave girls wish the rooster to work.  
 c) the mistress wakes the slave girls after the rooster crows.  
 d) the rooster is a pet of the slave girls.
- 31) In line 3, the subject of the verb ἐθέλουσι is:  
 a) αἱ δοῦλαι  
 b) τῆς δεσποίνης  
 c) οὐκ  
 d) πονεῖν

- 32) In line 4, the direct object of the verb θύουσι is:
- |                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| a) τὸν ἀλεκτρούονα | c) ἐπεὶ         |
| b) ἡ δέσποινα      | d) οὐκ (line 3) |
- 33) From lines 3-4, we learn that the slave girls:
- love to feed their pet, the rooster.
  - wish to give their rooster to a priest.
  - kill the rooster so that they can do less work.
  - kill the rooster for dinner.
- 34) From lines 4-5, we understand that the mistress:
- depends on the rooster to know the time in the morning.
  - works for hours after the rooster dies.
  - prefers the slave girls to work for hours.
  - misses the rooster.
- 35) In line 6, the subject of the verb κελεύει is understood to be:
- |                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| a) the rooster     | c) the hour     |
| b) the slave girls | d) the mistress |
- 36) In line 7, the adjective ἴδιον describes (modifies):
- |             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| a) τὸ       | c) δούλας  |
| b) βούλευμα | d) βλέπτει |
- 37) In line 7, the function of the phrase τὸ ... βούλευμα is:
- |            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| a) subject | c) verb   |
| b) object  | d) adverb |
- 38) From lines 6-7, we learn that:
- the mistress is angry with the slave girls because they killed the rooster.
  - the slave girls have to get up even earlier.
  - the slave girls sleep late, but then have to work harder.
  - the plan of the slave girls worked out well.

**MAP**

**(refer to the map at the end of the exam)**

39) On the attached map, the location of Olympia is:

- |      |      |
|------|------|
| a) 1 | c) 3 |
| b) 2 | d) 4 |

40) On the attached map, the location of Crete is:

- |      |      |
|------|------|
| a) 5 | c) 7 |
| b) 6 | d) 8 |



TEAR OFF THIS PAGE AND CONSULT THE PASSAGE AS YOU TAKE EXAM.

**NOTE: Vocabulary is underneath the Greek word(s) or at the bottom of the page.**

This passage, slave girls attempt to avoid their chores.

1 ἐπεὶ ἡ δέσποινα ἀκούει τοῦ ἀλεκτρούονος, κελεύει  
the rooster  
(object of verb)

2 τὰς δούλας σπεύδειν ἐκ τῶν κλινῶν καὶ πονεῖν.  
to hurry up the beds to work

3 αἱ τῆς δεσποίνης δοῦλαι οὐκ ἐθέλουσι πονεῖν.  
to work

4 θύουσι τὸν ἀλεκτρούονα. ἡ δέσποινα, ἐπεὶ  
the rooster  
(direct object)

5 οὐκ ἀκούει τοῦ ἀλεκτρούονος, ἀγνοεῖ τὴν ὥραν  
the rooster  
(object of verb)

6 καὶ ἐννυχέστερον κελεύει τὰς δούλας πονεῖν.  
even earlier in the morning to work

7 τὸ ἴδιον βούλευμα τὰς δούλας βλάπτει.  
their  
own

**Vocabulary:**

ἐπεὶ: when

τὸ βούλευμα: plan

ἡ δέσποινα: mistress

(of the household)

ἡ ὥρα: hour

ἀγνοέω: to not know

ἀκούω: to hear

(+ genitive object)

βλάπτω: to harm, hurt

ἐθέλω: to wish to

θύω: to kill, sacrifice

κελεύω: to order

πονέω: to work

## CORE VOCABULARY

The words listed here are culled from an 80% core vocabulary list for ancient Greek. For information about vocabulary frequency and this core list, see W. Major "The Value of Using a Core Vocabulary in Beginning and Intermediate Greek." *CPL Online* 4 (2008) 1-24 (accessible through [www.camws.org](http://www.camws.org)). Only words which correspond to forms covered by the Introduction to Greek syllabus are included here.

### Common Verbs in Greek regular -ω verbs only

ἀγγέλλω announce	βαίνω walk
ἀγορεύω say, proclaim	βάλλω throw
ἄγω lead, bring	βασιλεύω be king, rule, reign
αἰδῶ (Attic ἄδω) sing	βιάζω, βιάω force, compel
ἀθροίζω muster	βλάπτω hurt
αἴρω raise	βλέπω see
αἰσχύνω dishonor	βουλεύω deliberate
ἀκούω hear	γινώσκω come to know, learn
ἀμαρτάνω make a mistake, miss the target	γράφω write
ἀμείβω change	δακρύω cry
ἀμύνω ward off	δεῖδω fear
ἀνάγω lead up	διαβαίνω step across
ἀναλαμβάνω pick up	διαβάλλω throw across
ἀναβαίνω board, cross	διαλέγω discuss
ἀναγιγνώσκω recognize	διαλύω dissolve
ἀνέχω hold up	διαπράσσω pass over, accomplish
ἀναγκάζω force, compel	διατρῖβω consume, spend time
ἀνοίγνυμι open up	διαφέρω carry on, make a difference
ἀπαλλάσσω release, escape	διαφεύγω escape
ἀπαγγέλλω announce	διαφθείρω destroy
ἀπάγω carry off	διδάσκω teach
ἀποβαίνω step from	δικάζω judge
ἀπέχω keep away	διώκω pursue
ἀποθνήσκω die	ἐγείρω wake up
ἀποκρίνω separate (mid: answer)	ἐθέλω wish
ἀποκτείνω kill	εἴρω confine
ἀπολαμβάνω take from	εἰσάγω lead
ἀπολείπω leave behind	εἰσφέρω carry into, pay taxes
ἀπολύω set free from	ἐξάγω lead out
ἀποπέμπω send away	ἐκβάλλω throw out
ἀποπλέω sail away	ἐξελέγχω refute
ἀποστέλλω send away	ἐκλείπω leave out
ἀποφαίνω display	ἐκπέμπω send out
ἄπτω join (mid: touch)	ἐκπίπτω fall out
ἄρῃσκω please	ἐκτείνω stretch out
ἀρμόζω (Attic ἀρμόττω) join	ἐκφέρω carry out
ἄρπάζω snatch	ἐλαύνω drive
ἄρχω rule	ἐλέγχω refute
αὐξάνω increase	

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  
εὐρίσκω find  
ἔχω have, hold  
ἦκω have come, be present  
θάπτω bury  
θαυμάζω be in awe  
θεραπεύω serve  
θέω run  
θνήσκω die  
θύω sacrifice  
ἰδρύω 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  
καταπλήσσω 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, (in perfect middle)  
remember  
νέμω distribute  
νομίζω consider  
ὀνομάζω call by name  
ὀργίζω make angry  
ὀφείλω owe  
παιδεύω educate  
παραγγέλλω transmit  
παρέχω provide  
παραλαμβάνω receive  
παρασκευάζω prepare  
πάσσω sprinkle  
πάσχω suffer, experience  
παύω stop  
πείθω persuade  
πειράζω test  
πέμπω send  
πέρθω destroy  
πίνω drink  
πίπτω fall  
πιστεύω trust  
πλήσσω strike  
πολιτεύω participate in government or politics  
πορεύω carry, march  
πράσσω do  
πρεσβεύω be the elder or ambassador  
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  
προστάσσω place at  
προσφέρω bring to

σημαίνω show  
σκέπτομαι examine  
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.*)  
συντάσσω arrange  
σφάζω kill  
σώζω save  
τάσσω arrange  
τείνω stretch  
τέμνω cut  
τεύχω build  
τίκτω give birth  
τρέπω turn

τρέφω nourish  
τρέχω run  
τριβώ rub  
τυγχάνω happen (+ *part.*) hit, meet, have (+ *gen.*)  
ύβρίζω insult, offend, disrespect  
ύπερβάλλω excel  
ύπακούω listen to  
ύπάρχω begin, exist  
ύπολαμβάνω take up  
ύπομένω stay behind, survive  
φαίνω show, appear  
φάσκω claim  
φέρω carry  
φεύγω flee, run away  
φθάνω anticipate  
φθείρω destroy  
φράζω tell  
φροντίζω think  
φυλάσσω guard  
φύω produce  
χαίρω be happy  
ψεύδω lie, cheat  
ψηφίζω vote

**Common Nouns in Greek**  
organized by declension and paradigm

1<sup>st</sup> Declension

νίκη -ης, ή victory

ἀγάπη -ης, ή love, charity

ἀδελφή -ῆς, ή sister

ἀνάγκη -ης, ή necessity

ἀρετή -ῆς, ή excellence

ἀρχή -ῆς, ή beginning, rule

ἄτη -ης, ή blindness, destruction

βουλή -ῆς, ή plan, council

γνώμη -ης, ή thought, intelligence, opinion

διαθήκη -ης, ή arrangement, last will and testament

δικαιοσύνη -ης, ή justice

δίκη -ης, ή justice, lawsuit

εἰρήνη -ης, ή peace

ἐπιστήμη -ης, ή knowledge

ἐπιστολή -ῆς, ή message, letter

ἡδονή -ῆς, ή pleasure

κεφαλή -ῆς, ή head

κώμη -ης, ή village

λίμνη -ης, ή pool, swamp

μάχη -ης, ή battle

μηχανή -ῆς, ή device

μνήμη -ης, ή memory

νίκη -ης, ή victory

νύμφη -ης, ή bride

ὀργή -ῆς, ή anger

ὄρμη -ῆς, ή attack

παρασκευή -ῆς, ή preparation

πύλη -ης, ή gate

ῥώμη -ης, ή strength

σελήνη -ης, ή moon

σκήνη -ης, ή tent, stage

σπονδή -ῆς, ή libation

σπουδή -ῆς, ή eagerness

συγγνώμη -ης, ή pardon

συνθήκη -ης, ή composition, contract

σχολή -ῆς, ή leisure

τελευτή -ῆς, ή completion, death

τέχνη -ης, ή art, skill

τιμή -ῆς, ή value

τροφή -ῆς, ή nourishment, food

τύχη -ης, ή luck

ὑπερβολή -ῆς, ή excess

φυγή -ῆς, ή escape

φυλακή -ῆς, ή guard

φυλή -ῆς, ή race, tribe

φωνή -ῆς, ή sound, voice

ψυχή -ῆς, ή breath

βία -ας, ή force

ἀγορά, -ᾶς, ή market place

αἰτία -ας, ή cause

ἀπορία -ας, ή helplessness

βασιλεία -ας, ή kingdom

βία -ας, ή force

ἐκκλησία -ας, ή assembly

ἐλευθερία -ας, ή freedom

ἐξουσία -ας, ή authority

ἐσπέρα -ας, ή evening

ἡμέρα -ας, ή day

θεά -ᾶς, ή goddess

ἡλικία -ας, ή time of life, age

ἡσυχία -ας, ή quiet

θύρα -ας, ή door

θυσία -ας, ή sacrifice

ἵστορία -ας, ή inquiry

καρδιά -ας, ή heart

μανία -ας, ή insanity

μαρτυρία -ας, ή witness, testimony, evidence

ναυμαχία -ας, ή sea battle

οἰκία -ας, ή house, household

οὐσία -ας, ή substance, property

πολιορκία -ας, ή siege

πολιτεία -ας, ή constitution, citizenship, republic

πορεία -ας, ή journey

προθυμία -ας, ή eagerness

σοφία -ας, ή wisdom

στρατεία -ας, ή expedition, campaign

στρατία -ας, ή army

συμμαχία -ας, ή alliance

συμφορά -ᾶς, ή accident

σωτηρία -ας, ή safety  
τιμωρία -ας, ή help, vengeance  
φιλία -ας, ή love, friendship  
φρουρά -ας, ή guard  
χρεία -ας, ή use  
χώρα -ας, ή land  
ώρα -ας, ή season

δόξα -ης, ή glory, opinion  
γλῶσσα -ης, ή tongue, language  
δίαιτα -ης, ή lifestyle  
δόξα -ης, ή glory, opinion  
θάλασσα -ης, ή the sea

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

πολίτης -ου, ό citizen  
δεσπότης -ου, ό master  
δικαστής -ου, ό judge, juror  
ἔτης -ου, ό kin, cousin  
ιδιώτης -ου, ό a private person, an individual  
κριτής -ου, ό judge  
οικέτης -ου, ό servant  
όπλίτης -ου, ό heavily-armed soldier, hoplite  
ποιητής -ου, ό creator, poet  
πολίτης -ου, ό citizen  
πρεσβευτής -ου, ό ambassador  
προφήτης -ου, ό prophet  
στρατιώτης -ου, ό soldier

λόγος -ου, ό word  
ἄγγελος -ου, ό messenger, angel  
ἀδελφός -ου, ό brother  
αἰχμάλωτος -ου, ό prisoner of war  
ἄνεμος -ου, ό wind  
ἄνθρωπος -ου, ό/ή human being  
ἀριθμός -ου, ό number  
βίβλος -ου, ή book  
βίος -ου, ό life  
βροτός -ου, ό mortal  
βωμός -ου, ό altar  
γάμος -ου, ό wedding, marriage  
δῆμος -ου, ό people  
δόλος -ου, ό trick  
δοῦλος -ου, ό slave  
ἔλεγος -ου, ό a lament  
ἐνιαυτός -ου, ό year  
ἐταῖρος -ου, ό companion  
ἥλιος -ου, ό sun  
ἡπειρος -ου, ή the land

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Declension

θάνατος -ου, ό death  
θεός -ου, ό god  
θέρμος -ου, ό heat  
θρόνος -ου, ό seat  
θυμός -ου, ό soul, spirit  
ιατρός -ου, ό doctor  
ἵππος -ου, ό horse  
καιρός -ου, ό the right time  
καρπός -ου, ό fruit  
κίνδυνος -ου, ό danger  
κόλπος -ου, ό womb, bay  
κόσμος -ου, ό order  
κύκλος -ου, ό circle  
κύριος -ου, ό lord, master  
λίθος -ου, ό stone  
λιμός -ου, ό or ή hunger  
λόγος -ου, ό word  
λόφος -ου, ό crest (esp. of a helmet), mane,  
ridge  
μισθός -ου, ό 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  
 ὄρκος -ου, ὁ oath  
 ὄρος, ὄρου, ὁ mountain, hill  
 ὄρος, ὄρου, 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  
 ρύθμος -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  
 ἄθλον -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  
 ὄπλον -ου, τό weapon, tool  
 πεδῖον -ου, τό plain  
 πλοῖον -ου, τό ship  
 πρόσωπον -ου, τό face  
 πτερόν -οῦ, τό wing  
 σημεῖον -ου, τό sign  
 στάδιον -ου, τό *stade* = 606.75 feet = 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

σοφός -ή -όν wise

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  
δηλός -η -ον clear  
δυνατός -ή -όν able  
έκαστος -η -ον each  
έκεινός -η -ον that  
έμός -ή -όν my, mine  
έρημος -η -ον deserted  
έσχατος -η -ον last  
έτοιμος or έτοιμός -η -ον ready  
ήκιστος -η -ον least  
θαυμαστός -ή -όν awesome  
ίκανός -ή -όν sufficient  
ίσος -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  
ολίγος -η -ον few  
όλος -η -ον whole  
όπόσος -η -ον as many as  
όρθός -η -ον straight  
όσος -η -ον however much  
πεζός -ή -όν on foot  
πιστός -ή -όν faithful  
πλειίστος -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  
ύπατος -η -ον highest, the top of  
ύψηλός -ή -όν high  
φαύλος -η -ον trivial  
φίλος -η -ον beloved, dear  
χαλεπός -ή -όν difficult  
χρήσιμος -η -ον useful  
χρηστός -ή -όν useful

#### Two termination

άδικος -ον unjust  
άδύνατος -ον impossible  
άθάνατος -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  
ἄθροος -α -ον crowded  
αἴτιος -α -ον responsible, guilty  
ἄκρος -α -ον top  
ἄλλότριος -α -ον someone else's  
ἄμφότερος -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  
βασιλείος -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  
ἐκάτερος -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  
ράδιος -α -ον easy  
σφέτερος -α -ον their (own)  
τελευταῖος -α -ον last, final  
τετρακόσιοι -αι -α four hundred  
τριακόσιοι -αι -α, three hundred  
ύμέτερος -α -ον your, yours  
ύστερος -α -ον following  
φανερός -ά -όν clear  
φίλιος -α -ον friendly, dear  
χίλιοι -αι -α a thousand