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Intensive Greek 1

Trawsnewid Addysg; Trawsnewid Bywydau
Transforming Education; Transforming Lives



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Reading Greek Sections 7D-H

- The main issue in these sections is the aorist participle
 - First aorist / second aorist forms
 - Active and middle
 - Aspect and translation
- Verbs: οἶδα in the past tense, φημί in present and aorist
- Pronouns: αὐτός

First aorist participle forms

- Based on the aorist stem visible in the aorist indicative
 - ξ̣-παυσα => παυσα
- Not augmented
 - The difference from present tense is one of aspect rather than necessarily of tense
- Participle endings following the same pattern as for the present participles both in active and in middle

First aorist participle forms

	M Sg	F Sg	N Sg	M Pl	F Pl	N Pl
N	παύσας	παύσασα	παῦσαν	παύσαντες	παύσασαι	παύσαντα
A	παύσαντα	παύσασαν	παῦσαν	παύσαντας	παυσάσας	παύσαντα
G	παύσαντος	παυσάσης	παύσαντος	παυσάντων	παυσασῶν	παυσάντων
D	παύσαντι	παυσάσῃ	παύσαντι	παύσασι(ν)	παυσάσαις	παύσασι(ν)

The same movement between 3rd declension (M, N) and 1st declension (F) occurs here as in the present participle.

FIRST AORIST MIDDLE PARTICIPLE FORMS

παυσάμενος	παυσαμένη	παυσάμενον	παυσάμενοι	παυσάμεναι	παυσάμενα
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Second aorist participle forms

- Participles of verbs using the second aorist are, in a sense, easier still:
 - Active: Aorist stem + endings corresponding to present participle of εἰμί (-ὼν, -οῦσα, -όν)
In the active, note that the accent gravitates to the “participle ending” – in the present tense, the accent moves as far into the word as permissible
 - Middle: Aorist stem + endings corresponding to present participles middle (-όμενος, -ομένη, -όμενον)
- => Recognising the aorist stem is key to distinguish between present and aorist participles!

Active and middle participles (2nd aorist)

	M Sg	F Sg	N Sg	M Pl	F Pl	N Pl
N	λαβών	λαβοῦσα	λαβόν	λαβόντες	λαβοῦσαι	λαβόντα
A	λαβόντα	λαβοῦσαν	λαβόν	λαβόντας	λαβούσας	λαβόντα
G	λαβόντος	λαβούσης	λαβόντος	λαβόντων	λαβούσων	λαβόντων
D	λαβόντι	λαβούση	λαβόντι	λαβοῦσι(ν)	λαβούσαις	λαβοῦσι(ν)

SECOND AORIST MIDDLE PARTICIPLE FORMS

γενόμενος	γενομένη	γενόμενον	γενόμενοι	γενόμεναι	γενόμενα
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Use and translation

- Sequence of tense between finite verb and participle can be expressed through the choice of the aorist participle, where the participle expresses prior action (λαβών 'having taken')...
- ...but this is not necessarily the case: aspect often matters more than sequence of tense
- The aorist participle signifies a one-off, 'done and dusted' event, whereas the present participle can be used for a continuing action

Use and translation: tense focus

- RG 165 gives the following example:
- After boarding the ship, the sailors shouted.
 - ‘boarding’ best with an aorist participle
- The sailors shouted while boarding the ship.
 - ‘boarding’ best with a present participle

Use and translation: aspect focus

- ὁ δῆμος τοὺς ἀδικήσαντας τιμᾶν οὐκ ἐθέλει
- ‘The people are refusing to honour the men who did wrong’
- We can read the tense of the participle here as referring simply to sequence, but also as referring to a one-off example of wrongdoing, a specific crime, etc.

Tips

- Working translation tips: first try a tense-focussed version, then adjust gradually to reduce clunkiness and bring out the aspect. RG has very useful comments in 165 and 166
- ...and a reminder to those who also have Latin: while in some ways the aorist participle corresponds in use to the Latin perfect participle, do note that Greek has active forms!!

φημί: present and imperfect

φημί
φήσ / φήης
φησί(ν)
φαμέν
φατέ
φασί(ν)

ἔφην
ἔφησθα / ἔφης
ἔφη
ἔφαμεν
ἔφατε
ἔφασαν

Infinitive: φάναι

Participles:

φάσκων/φάσκουσα/φάσκον [mainly
Classical attic]
φάς/φάσα/φάν (φάντ-) [esp. later texts]

Future: φήσω

NB: φημί is construed with
ACI rather than with a ὅτι
clause

οἶδα

ἤδη

ἤδησθα

ἤδει(ν)

ἤσμεν

ἥστε

ἥσαν / ἥδεσαν

- As mentioned, οἶδα with present meaning in fact uses perfect tense forms
- The past tense here therefore is technically pluperfect, but translates as past continuous (imperfect) in English

Pronouns (including reflexive uses)

- The pronoun αὐτός (RG 172) is used as an unstressed, demonstrative pronoun meaning 'he/she/it' etc
- It is more light-weight than οὗτος / ἐκεῖνος (and far more frequently used)
- However, it can also be used to strengthen reflexively the noun with which it agrees, gaining the meaning 'x-self'
 - It can also be combined with further pronouns to create a stronger reflexive pronoun, occurring in A, G, D only: e.g. ἐμαυτόν / ἐμαυτήν
- If it is preceded by an article, it means 'the same':
 - Σωκράτης αὐτός – Socrates himself
 - ὁ αὐτός Σωκράτης – The (very) same Socrates