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Greek 1

Introduction

Trawsnewid Addysg; Trawsnewid Bywydau
Transforming Education; Transforming Lives



www.uwtsd.ac.uk

Monday session

- Module practicalities
- The Greek alphabet
- Reading and pronouncing Greek
- Basic grammar and syntax (in English)
- Use of case in Greek
- The definite article ('the') in Greek
- Recognising the case of the definite article
- Agreement
- Basic sentences in Greek

Greek 1: Module Introduction

- This is a 20 credit module => equivalent of 200 hours work
- We have only 12 hours per week or in total 48 hours in class
- This means that over the four weeks, you also need to spend 152 hours preparing, revising, doing assignments etc for this module: Greek is your full-time job
- This mode of studying is actually really useful for language learning

Greek 1: Onsite/online

- Our on-campus sessions are on Tuesdays and Fridays
- Our online sessions are on Mondays and Thursdays
- Keep a close eye on your Hwb timetable and Teams invites – we can expect changes nearer to Christmas

Assessment

- 100% portfolio consisting of:
 - 1 hour timed test (40%)
 - 1 hour timed test (60%)
 - The difference in weighting reflects the increasing difficulty of the material
 - NB: Scaled marks at L5&6
- The first time test takes place on Friday 4 December, opening at 2 pm
- The second time test takes place on Friday 18 December, opening at 2 pm

Formative assignments

- We will cover about one section in *Reading Greek* each week, reaching the end of Section 4D in our final week
- We have four formative assignments, one per week:
 - Thursday 26 November: Translation of RG T&V 1D
 - Thursday 3 December: Translation of RG G&E Test Exercise 2 p. 53
 - Friday 11 December: Translation of RG G&E Test Exercise 4 p. 81
 - Tuesday 15 December: Translation of RG G&E Test Exercise p. 91
- They are submitted via Teams by 9 am on the due date (so that I can mark them before class)

Online time tests

- All assessment for Greek 1 is 'open book': you will have access to all the usual aids – vocab lists, text books, feedback
- So what matters?
 - Preparation & timing: you will have to deal with a higher number of questions than in a normal time test/exam
 - You can use aids to double-check things, but in order to be able to complete the test/exam successfully you need to be well prepared

Online time tests

- Everyone's online quiz will be different: questions are randomised
- Each quiz (time test) can only be attempted once and must be completed within the set time limit (60/75 mins)
- We will discuss (and more importantly, practice!) the type of online quizzes used for time tests and the exam during the module

Sister module materials

- Our Moodle page already contains introductions to all aspects of grammar and syntax we cover in Greek 1
- These were made for our sister module, running online from September to December,
- Use them as short, focussed revision material or as previews of upcoming content
- *But do ignore any references to deadlines, tests, or assessments – we have our own schedule!*

The Greek Alphabet

Α α	Ζ ζ	Λ λ	Π π	Φ φ
Β β	Η η	Μ μ	Ρ ρ	Χ χ
Γ γ	Θ θ	Ν ν	Σ σ	Ψ ψ
Δ δ	Ι ι	Ξ ξ	Τ τ	Ω ω
Ε ε	Κ κ	Ο ο	Υ υ	

The Greek Alphabet

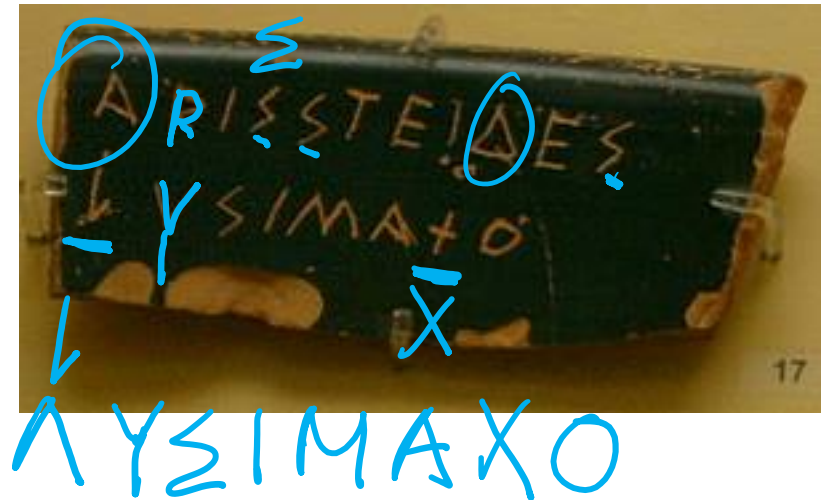
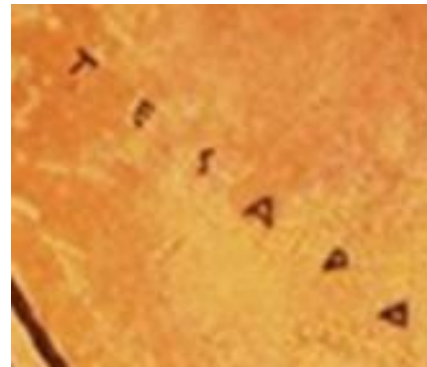
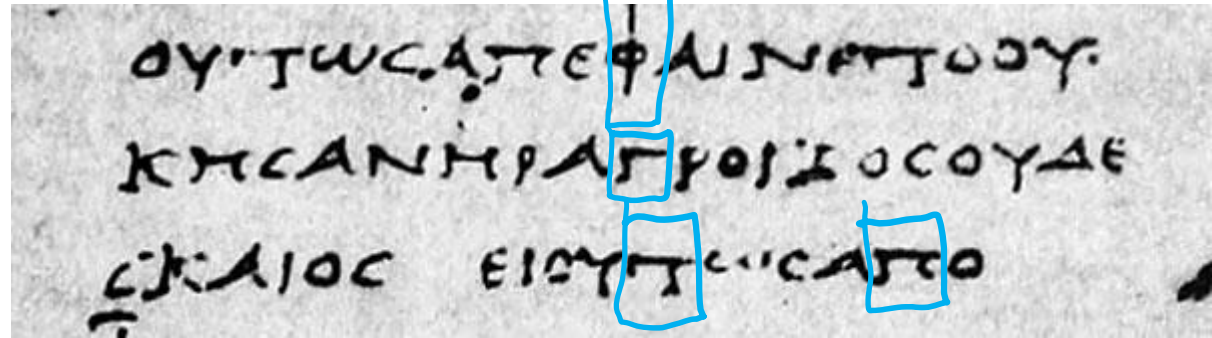
- A α, B β, Γ γ, Δ δ, E ε, Z ζ, H η, Θ θ, I ι, K κ, Λ λ, M μ, N ν, Ξ ξ, O ο, Π π, Ρ ρ, Σ σ ς (end sigma), Υ υ, Φ φ, Χ χ, Ψ ψ, Ω ω
- Diphtongs:
 - αι, αυ, οι, υι
- Digraphs:
 - ει
 - ευ
- Combinations with gamma: γγ, γκ, γχ, γξ, γμ

euphony

The Greek Alphabet

- Recognising and reading written Greek is more important than perfecting your Greek handwriting
- The order of the alphabet is essential knowledge: this is what allows you to find relevant words in dictionaries and vocab lists

Examples of Greek writing



Breathings

aspirated
unspirated

ca

ai

- In words that begin with a vowel, Greek signals whether that vowel is preceded by a “h” sound or not:
- ‘ above an initial vowel tells us there is no “h” sound
- ‘ above an initial vowel tells us there is a “h” sound
- When writing with capital letters, breathings are placed before the vowel: ἈΘΗΝΑ
- When writing in lower-case, breathings are placed above the initial vowel: ἐγώ
 - If the initial vowel is part of a diphtong or digraph, the breathing is put above the second letter: οὐ̓ν
- ...and note that the Ϸ also gets a harsh breathing!

Accents: a very brief introduction

(cf. RG 344)

- You will also see other diacritic signs in your Greek text, like:
 - ἐμπόριον
 - τὴν γῆν
 - Δεῦρο
- These are, as you might recognise from modern languages, to do with stress/pitch
- At this stage, we focus on how the accent behaves in three types of words: nouns, adjectives, and verbs: we'll return to this at the end of today's session

EXERCISES

Reading practice RG T&V 1A (4)

ο Δικαιοπόλις καὶ ο κυβερνήτης τήν
τε ακρόπολιν ὁρῶσι καὶ τὸν
Παρθενῶνα. ἐξφαίνης ὅ τε
Δικαιοπόλις καὶ ὁ κυβερνήτης ψόφον
ἀκούσιν.

Plato *Crito* 49b

hoi polloi

οὐδὲ ἀδικούμενον ἄρα

ἀνταδικεῖν, ὥς οἱ πολλοὶ οἴονται,

ἐπειδὴ γε οὐδαμῶς δεῖ ἀδικεῖν.

Therefore, we must not commit a wrong even when wronged, as many believe, because it is necessary not to do wrong at all.

Language and grammar terminology

οὐκ ἔστω

To be able to discuss words in a Greek sentence and understand their behaviour, we need to know grammatical and syntactical terms

The use of these terms transfers easily to other languages and will help you improve both your current languages and the ones you might learn in the future

Tip: There is a glossary of grammatical terms at the beginning of *RG Grammar and Exercises* (p. 4-7)

Grammar and syntax?

morphology

- ‘Grammar’ might be used to describe the rules and patterns that set out the behaviour and forms of each individual word, and ‘syntax’ the rules and systems that apply to putting words together.
 - E.g. knowing how to recognise/create individual forms of a word is grammar... *book books*
 - ..but knowing what an individual form might mean in the context of a sentence is to do with syntax
- Even before they are put in a sentence, individual words can be categorised according to type.
 - The English term ‘parts of speech’ might be confusing: other modern languages call this ‘types of words’

Parts of Speech

- **Verb:** “action words”
- **Noun:** names things/people
- **Adjective:** describes qualities of nouns
- **Pronoun:** noun stand-ins, e.g. ‘it’ instead of ‘noun’
- **Adverb:** describes how a verb is performed, e.g. ‘it grows quickly’
- **Preposition:** words describing position linked to a noun, e.g. in, outside, from, during, of, between...
- **Conjunction:** links clauses and sentences together, e.g. because..., although..., for...
- **Interjection:** exclamations, e.g. ‘oi!oi!’

Dealing with nouns

- Number: One or many?
 - Singular or plural
- Gender:
 - Three grammatical genders: masculine, feminine, and neuter
 - Make sure you learn the gender of the noun as you learn new vocab
 - Some nouns will refer to male or female people, but for most Greek nouns the gender has no connection to the meaning of the word

Words in a sentence

The captain sees ^{the} philosopher.

- We can analyse individual words to say what part of speech they are:
- Two **nouns** (captain, philosopher) and one **verb** (sees)...
- ...but that doesn't tell us how they relate to each other

Words in a sentence: syntax

The captain sees the philosopher

- The person/thing who performs the action of a verb is called a **subject**: 'the captain'
- The 'active' action word (verb) is called a **predicate**
- The person/thing that they do the verb action to is called a **direct object**: 'the philosopher'

The philosopher sees the captain

- Now, 'the philosopher' is the subject
- ...and 'the captain' is the direct object
- In English, word order tells us who does what: the person performing the action of the verb is mentioned first.

Exercise

See(s)	Breaks	The axe
Sail(s)	The ship	The women
Hear(s)	The captain	The sailor
Sing(s)	The rhapsode	The truth
Flee(s)	The man	The sea
Follow(s)	The lifeboat	The oar
Drop(s)	The song	The noise

Create three sentences using the words from the slide. Parse your sentence syntactically: what is the subject, what is the object, what is the predicate/verb?

Words in a sentence

- In Greek, word shape is what matters:

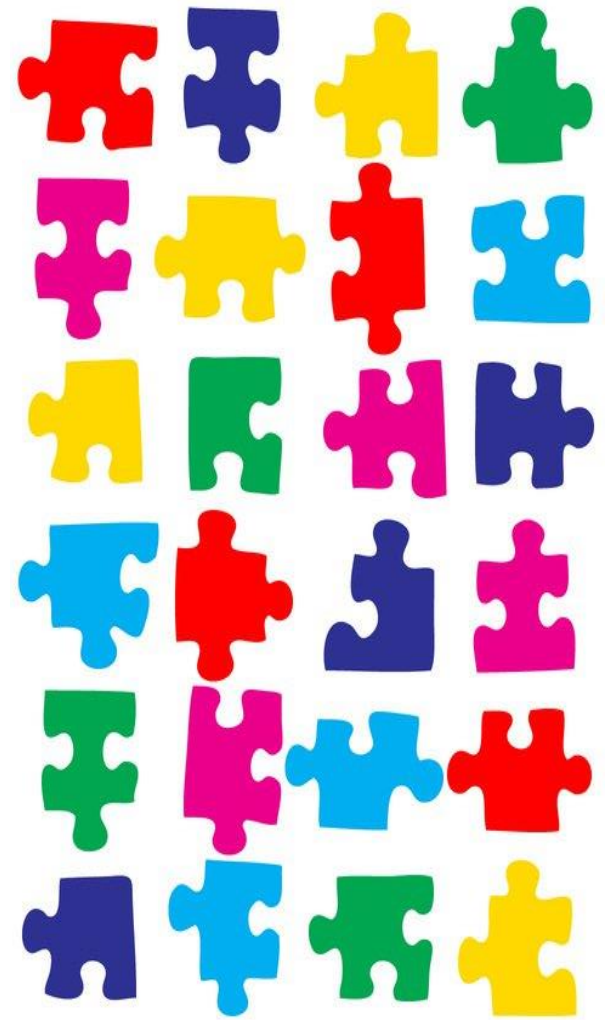
– ὁ κυβερνήτης βλέπει τὸν φιλόσοφον } the captain sees
– τὸν φιλόσοφον βλέπει ὁ κυβερνήτης } the philosopher
BUT...

– ὁ φιλόσοφος βλέπει τὸν κυβερνήτην } the philosopher
– τὸν κυβερνήτην βλέπει ὁ φιλόσοφος } sees the captain

- The different forms/endings of the definite article (the) and word ends tell us who sees whom: they belong to different **cases**

Case

- The shape of each word will show how it relates (fits with) to other words in the sentence
- Word endings are crucial and give you that information
- NOUNS and ADJECTIVES within a sentence belong to one of five cases, which indicates what role the word plays in the sentence



The Greek definite article is different in each gender, number, and case



Case	Masculine (s)	Feminine (s)	Neuter (s)	Masculine (pl)	Feminine (pl)	Neuter (pl)
Nominative	ὁ	ἡ	τό	οἱ	αἱ	τά
Accusative	τόν	τήν	τό	τούς	τάς	τά
Genitive	τοῦ	τῆς	τοῦ	τῶν	τῶν	τῶν
Dative	τῷ	τῇ	τῷ	τοῖς	ταῖς	τοῖς

X

X

(Vocative)

Greek uses the definite article extensively: it helps us recognise how words go together in a sentence

- ὁ κυβερνήτης βλέπει
τὸν φιλόσοφον

Case	Masculine (s)
Nominative	ὁ
Accusative	τον
Genitive	τοῦ
Dative	τῷ

- ὁ φιλόσοφος βλέπει
τὸν κυβερνήτην

The stupid philosopher adjective Agreement

- Noun/article/adjective: Any article or adjective attached to or describing a noun must match that noun in case, gender, and number

— ὁ μωρὸς φιλόσοφος βλέπει τὸν καλὸν κυβερνήτην τὸν κυβερνήτην

Handwritten notes: Above the text, 'φιλόσοφος' is circled in blue. Above 'μωρὸς' is the word 'μωρός' circled in blue. Above 'τὸν' is 'νῦν'. Above 'καλὸν' is 'αὐτὸν'. Above 'κυβερνήτην' is 'v'.

- Subject/verb: Any verb must agree with the subject in number
 - ὁ μωρὸς φιλόσοφος βλέπει τὸν καλὸν κυβερνήτην
 - In English, we only have the difference between 'he/she/it sails' and 'I, you, we, they sail': Greek has a specific ending for each person

- ὁ κυβερνήτης βλέπει
τὸν φιλόσοφον

- ὁ φιλόσοφος βλέπει
τὸν κυβερνήτην

Case	Masculine (s)
Nominative	ὁ
Accusative	τον
Genitive	τοῦ
Dative	τῷ

τὸ πλοῖον

εἰς τὸ πλοῖον
in / into + acc.

Summary: Case in Greek

- In addition to gender and number (singular or plural, one or many)...
- ...for nouns and adjectives, Greek has five different cases:
 - **Nominative**: for words that are or describe the subject of a sentence
 - **Accusative**: for words that are or describe the direct object
 - (or words that are governed by a preposition followed by accusative: more on this later!)
 - **Genitive**
 - **Dative**
 - **Vocative**: only used in direct address "o, slave!" etc
- We will work initially with the nominative and the accusative

the philosopher's ship τοῦ φιλο-
σοφου
ἐν τῇ θαλάττῃ

Case use in English

ἡ σοφία

- In modern English, we don't really separate words in different cases as the word forms coincide
- However, when we use pronouns we do take case into account and use it to signal syntactical function:
They see me
 - I see James => I see him [not: I see he]
 - I see Jim and Roy => I see them [not: I see they]

The Greek definite article

Case	Masculine (s)	Feminine (s)	Neuter (s)	Masculine (pl)	Feminine (pl)	Neuter (pl)
Nominative	ὁ	ἡ	τό	οἱ	αἱ	τά
Accusative	τον	την	τό	τούς	τάς	τά
Genitive	τοῦ	τῆς	τοῦ	τῶν	τῶν	τῶν
Dative	τω	τη	τω	τοῖς	ταῖς	τοῖς

The endings used for the definite article will, for nouns following three declension patterns (1a, 2a, 2b), correspond to the noun endings. Cf. RG 354 and 355, and 1G. For now, you may use the article as a guide to determine case and number.

Adjective declension: καλ-ός/η/ον

Case	Masc., sg.	Fem., sg.	Neut., sg.	Masc., pl.	Fem., pl.	Neut., pl.
Nom	καλός	καλή	καλόν	καλοί	καλαί	καλά
Acc	καλόν	καλήν	καλόν	καλούς	καλάς	καλά
Gen	καλοῦ	καλῆς	καλοῦ	καλῶν	καλῶν	καλῶν
Dat	καλῶ	καλῇ	καλῶ	καλοῖς	καλαῖς	καλοῖς
Voc	καλέ	καλή	καλόν	καλοί	καλαί	καλά

RG E&G p. 11 #10

Ex. 9 p 9 in G&E (1st and 3rd sentence only)

EXERCISES

Ex. 9 p 9 in G&E (1st and 3rd sentence only)

- ὁ ῥαψωδος βλέπει τὸ καλὸ πλοῖον.

3rd person
plural of
ὁρᾶω

οἱ ναῦται
= the sailors
nom. pl. m.

- οἱ καλοὶ ναῦται ὁρᾶσι τὴν καλὴν γῆν.

ἡ γῆ - the land

τὴν γῆν
= acc. sg. fem.

Summary: Greek basic sentences

- In Greek, case is far more important than word order in determining how words in a sentence fit together
- ὁ ἄνθρωπος (nom., sg., masc.) can only function as the subject
- τὸν ἄνθρωπον (acc., sg., masc.) can be an accusative object or governed by a preposition that takes the accusative... ...but this form cannot be the subject of a sentence
- An adjective must agree in case, number, and gender with the noun it describes

REVISION

Syntax: Picking the right case

- **Nominative**: nominative forms and endings are for the subject
- **Accusative**: accusative forms and endings are for objects
 - We will use the term ‘accusative object’ for ‘direct object’
- Accusative, genitive and dative also appear with certain prepositions
 - Genitive (as in English) will be used to show the owner of something, but we’ll get back to that later

Syntax revision

The man holds the shield.

1. What happens? = predicate
2. Who + (1) = subject
3. What/whom does (2) + (1)?
= direct object

Funerary stele for two hoplites, Chairedemos and Lykeas. C. 420 BCE. Pireaus museum.

Syntax revision: next steps

The man holds the shield.

1. What happens? = predicate
 2. Who + (1) = subject
 3. What/whom does (2) + (1)? = direct object
- (2) = subject must be nominative
 - (3) = direct object must be accusative

Funerary stele for two hoplites, Chairedemos and Lykeas. C. 420 BCE. Pireaus museum.

Syntax revision: next steps

The man holds the shield.

- (2) = subject must be nominative
 - What number?
 - What gender is the Greek word?
- (3) = direct object must be accusative
 - What number?
 - What gender is the Greek word?
- ...and what do we do with (1)?

Funerary stele for two hoplites, Chairedemos and Lykeas. C. 420 BCE. Pireaus museum.

Adjective and noun declension: practice

- The beautiful ship sails [toward Athens]
 - cf. RG T&V 1A 6
 - toward Athens: πρὸς τὰς Ἀθήνας - you can recognise an accusative form here: it depends on the preposition πρὸς
- What happens, what is the action?
 - Something sails: sails is the main verb/predicate
- Who/what sails?
 - The beautiful ship sails: the beautiful ship is the subject
 - => One ship, so singular both for the noun and the adjective
 - => The ship is the subject, so nominative for both the noun and the adjective
 - => τὸ καλὸν πλοῖον
- The verb sails must also agree in number with the subject noun

Accents in nouns and adjectives

- For nouns and adjectives, the accent is persistent: it tends to stay where it is in the dictionary forms – although it can be affected by the place of a word in a sentence
 - ὁ ῥαψωδός compared to ἡ ἀκρόπολις
- This means it is important to learn the accentuation as you add nouns and adjectives to your active vocabulary