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Greek 3

W2 4

Trawsnewid Addysg; Trawsnewid Bywydau
Transforming Education; Transforming Lives



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Revision Exercise 3 p. 222

- A. Κινησίας ἐστὶν ἀνὴρ Μυρρίνης. Κινησίας βαδίζει πρὸς τὴν ἀκρόπολιν.
- B. αἱ γυναῖκες εἰσιν ἐν τῇ ἀκροπόλει. αἱ γυναῖκες βοῶσιν.
- C. οἱ ἄνδρες τὰς μάχας μάχονται. οἱ ἄνδρες οὐκ ἐθέλουσιν οὐδαμῶς τὸν πόλεμον καταλῦσαι.

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- τί ἐστί τοῦτο; τί ἐθέλεις λέγειν;
- αἱ γυναῖκες ἐθέλουσιν ἀκούειν τοὺς λόγους.
τοὺς λόγους λέγει Λυσιστράτη.
- αἱ γρᾶες ἔχουσι τὴν ἀκρόπολιν. ἐγὼ τὰς γρᾶς
ἰδεῖν δύναμαι.

Genitive absolute

- The genitive case used here has no particular case-based meaning: it serves only as a means to identify and bring together the two parts of the genitive absolute
- Used to abbreviate a longer clause where simply attaching another participle to a noun already used in the sentence is not possible

Genitive absolute

- Lys. 1.11: *προϊόντος δὲ τοῦ χρόνου*, ὧ ἄνδρες, ἤκον ἐξ ἀγροῦ. ‘*As time passed*, gentlemen, I came from the fields.’
- Lys. 1.20: καὶ Θεσμοφορίοις *ἐμοῦ* ἐν ἀγρῷ *ὄντος*, ὥχετο εἰς τὸ ἱερόν. ‘And when I was in the fields during the Thesmophoria, she went to the temple.’

Genitive absolute

- The noun involved in the genitive absolute cannot be used in any other syntactical function in the clause
 - *E.g.* if you need to use ‘Socrates’ as the direct object, you cannot also use him within the genitive absolute
- ‘Absolute’ here means that it is isolated from the rest of the clause; it can be removed without affecting the syntax of the rest of the clause

Genitive absolute: parts

- The genitive absolute normally has two key parts:
 - One noun [or pronoun] in the genitive
 - One participle in the genitive
- The tense of the participle is often important:
 - present participle for action concurrent with main verb action;
 - aorist participle for action preceding the main verb action...
- ...but use the same caution as for other participles in how strongly you render this in translation
- Occasionally, the noun is left out – only possible when no risk of confusion or when the verb normally stands without an explicitly stated subject

Examples

- RG 223: **κελεύοντος τοῦ κήρυκος**, τί μένεις; ‘With the herald giving orders, why are you waiting?’
 - The herald is not mentioned in the main part of the sentence, so genitive absolute is the only possible solution (if we want to use a participle)
- **τῶν ἄλλων πολεμούντων**, ἐγὼ αὐτὸς οὐ πολεμήσω, ἀλλ' εἰρήνην ἄξω ‘although the others fight, I myself will not fight, but live in peace’
 - concessive sense possible; also possible just to read the genitive absolute as a time reference
- **θεωμένων τῶν ἐταίρων** πολλὴ φιλονικία ἐγένετο ‘Because their comrades were watching, a great strife for victory arose.’
 - Here, too, the genitive absolute describes the action of someone(s) not mentioned in the rest of the sentence

Adverb comparison

- For the comparison of adverbs, the adjective's accusative neuter singular (comparative) and the accusative neuter plural (superlative) forms double as adverbs
- ...but note the irregular μάλα (very), μᾶλλον (more, rather more), and μάλιστα (much, very much)

RG 11, Ex. 11.3

- Begin by translating the eight sentences.
- Then decide how they would be transformed into genitive absolute constructions (which could be tagged on to another sentence).
- Look out for voice – you have both active, middle and passive verb forms here!

- ἡμῶν εἰς τὴν ἀκρόπολιν φυγόντων
- ἠκουσάντων τῶν λόγων τῶν ῥητόρων
- σοὺ ἡμῖν τὰ σῖτα δόντος / τῶν σιτῶν ὑπὸ σοὺ δομένων
- τῶν ἄλλων πολεμιούντων
- τῆς πολέως ἀδικειμένης ὑπὸ τῶν ῥήτορων