

Greek 1: Week 1 Friday

Session plan

- Revision: the definite article (“the”)
- New: nouns – declension of ὁ ἄνθρωπος and τὸ ἔργον
- Revision: use of nominative and accusative case
- Reading & translation: parse and translate 1E
- Revision: contract verbs
- New material: the adjective ἡμέτερος

The Greek definite article

Case	Masculine (s)	Feminine (s)	Neuter (s)	Masculine (pl)	Feminine (pl)	Neuter (pl)
Nominative					αἱ	
Accusative			τό	τούς		
Genitive		τῆς	τοῦ			
Dative						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.

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.

Declension

- ‘Declension’ is the term we use to describe systematically what noun forms occur in each case and number
- English does it too:
 - One book, many books – nouns of this type form plural with a simple addition of -s
 - One thief, many thieves – nouns of this type have a change in ending consonant and add -s
 - One sheep, many sheep – nouns of this type look the same in singular and plural
- Greek has three main declensions, but with many sub-types



Noun declension: 2a masculines

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	ὁ ἄνθρωπος	οἱ ἄνθρωποι
Acc.	τόν ἄνθρωπον	τούς ἀνθρώπους
Gen.	τοῦ ἀνθρώπου	τῶν ἀνθρώπων
Dat.	τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ	τοῖς ἀνθρώποις

- ἄνθρωπος belongs to 2nd declension, where we see strong similarities with the masculine definite article & m sg/pl καλός
- ...but remember that not all 2nd declension nouns are themselves masculine in gender!

Noun declension: 2b neuters

	Singular	Plural
Nom.	ἔργον	ἔργα
Acc.	ἔργον	ἔργα
Gen.	ἔργου	ἔργων
Dat.	ἐργῷ	ἐργοῖς

τὸ πλοῖον
πλοίου

- For neuters like τὸ ἔργον and τὸ πλοῖον, note again the overlap in forms between nominative and accusative: this means we need to be more careful in our syntactical analysis – cf. RG E&G 34

Why it matters

- The forms for nouns and adjectives differ depending on case, gender, and number
- Within a sentence, it is these differences in form that communicates to us what role each noun/adjective plays in that sentence and determines how it fits together with other words

Syntax: Picking the right case

- **Nominative**: nominative forms and endings are for the subject
- **Accusative**: accusative forms and endings are for objects
- 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: Words within a sentence

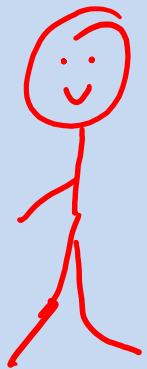
- The dog licks the nose
 1. What happens, what is the action?: someone **licks** something = Verb (the syntax term is 'predicate')
 2. Who (1) someone something?: **The dog** = **Subject**
 3. What does (2) (1) ?: **the nose** = **direct object/accusative object**



ὁ Ὠστινος
ὁ σκύλος

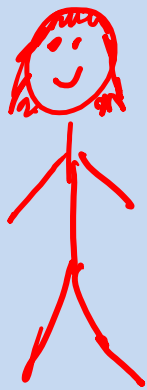
Syntax practice

- ὁ ἄνθρωπος βλέπει τὴν Ἀκρόπολιν.
- τὸν Ἡγέστρατον φεύγει ὁ ἄνθρωπος.
- τὸ πλοῖον βλέπει τὸν φιλόσοφον.



"I"

1st person
singular



"you"

2nd person
singular

βαλν

βαiv

βαiv

βαiv

βαiv

ω

ελς

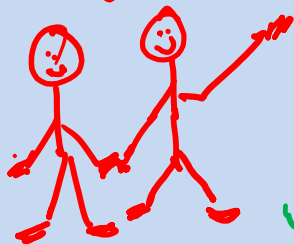
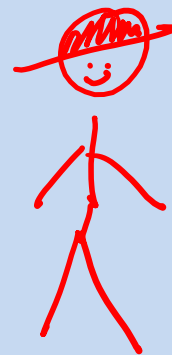
ελ

ομiv "he" "she"
"it"

ετς

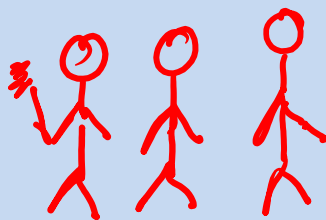
οvοι

3rd person
singular



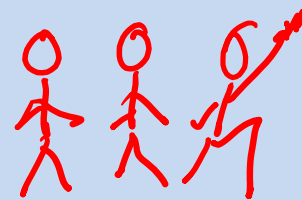
"we"

1st person pl.



"you"

2nd person
plural



"they"

3rd person
plural

* Who's the doer? Always nominative

* What are the doers doing

1E 1-5

nom sg m.

• ὁ μὲν Ἡγέστρατος φεύγει κάτωθεν, οἱ δὲ

ἄνθρωποι

ναῦται βοηθοῦσι καὶ τὸν Ἡγέστρατον

acc sing masc.

διώκουσιν.

διώκω they pursue

The sailors

3rd person plural

3rd person plural

φευγ	- ω	1st sg
φευγ	- εις	2nd sg
φευγ	- ει	3rd sg
φευγ	- ομεν	1st pl
φευγ	- ετε	2nd pl
φευγ	- ουσι(ν)	3rd pl.

3rd sg "he/she/it" or nom sg
ἄνω μένει ὁ Ζηνόθεμις. ὁ μὲν

-ω

Ἡγέστρατος πρὸς τὸν Ζηνόθεμιν

preposition + acc

-εις

3rd sg "he/she/it" or nom sg

βλέπει, ὁ δὲ Ζηνόθεμις πρὸς τοὺς

-ει

3rd pl. "they" nom plural

-ομεν

ναύτας. ἀναβαίνουνσι γὰρ οἱ ναῦται

-ετε

καὶ διώκουσιν.

-ουσι

3rd pl "they"

Adjectives & adverbs

- Adjectives like ἡμέτερος (our/s) decline like καλός except in feminine singular:
 - Nom. ἡμετέρα
 - Acc. ἡμετέραν
 - Gen. ἡμετέρας
 - Dat. ἡμετέρᾳ
- RG E&G 37 sets out what other adjectives follow this rule
- Once we know our adjective declension, we are also able to form adverbs:
- Take the gen. pl. m. of the adjective and swap ν for ς at the end:
 - καλῶν καλῶς
 - κακῶν κακῶς

Contract verbs

Person and number	present indicative active		
1 st sg	ὀρῶ	ποιῶ	δηλῶ
2 nd sg	ὀρᾷς	ποιεῖς	δηλοῖς
3 rd sg	ὀρᾷ	ποιεῖ	δηλοῖ
1 st pl	ὀρῶμεν	ποιοῦμεν	δηλοῦμεν
2 nd pl	ὀρᾶτε	ποιεῖτε	δηλοῦτε
3 rd pl	ὀρῶσι(ν)	ποιοῦσι(ν)	δηλοῦσι(ν)

Contract verbs: imperatives

- Generally, recognising contracts by the accent behaviour will help you to generate other verb forms correctly

2 nd sing.	ὄρα	ποιέει	δήλου
2 nd pl.	ὄρα̃τε	ποιεῖτε	δηλοῦτε

- The accent also helps you distinguish between present indicative and present imperative forms
 - cf. **ὄρα̃** versus **ὄρα**

Exercise on contract verb forms

- Make sure to complete the exercises on p. 21