

# Lecture 1

## 1.1 English Grammar Terminology

Before moving on, make sure that you know what the following terms mean:

Sentence (four kinds)	Direct Object
Clause (two types)	Indirect Object
Phrase	Gender
Subject	Number
Predicate	Prefix
Parts of Speech	Suffix
Noun (four categories)	Case (four cases)
Pronoun (nine types)	Vocative
Adjective (five types)	Article
Verb	Substantive
Adverb (four classes)	Predicate Noun
Preposition	Predicate Adjective
Object of Preposition	Syntax
Prepositional Phrase	Simple Sentence
Conjunction (two kinds)	Compound Sentence
Interjection	

## 1.2 The Greek Alphabet

This is what the Greek alphabet looks like:

α β γ δ ε

ζ η θ ι κ

λ μ ν ξ ο

π ρ σ ζ τ

υ φ χ ψ ω

## 1.3 Breathing Marks

In Greek, words that begin with vowels have a breathing mark, either rough (#1, 4, 5, 6) or smooth (#2, 3). Note: #4, 5, 6 begin with two vowels. This is called a diphthong, which will be covered in the next section.

1. ἀπόστολος
2. ὑπέρ
3. ῥύομαι
4. αἰτέω
5. Αἰτέω
6. Ἰησοῦς

## 1.4 Diphthongs

Sometimes, two vowels next to each other in a word are pronounced as one sound instead of two. This is called a diphthong. Here are all of the diphthongs in NT Greek, followed by an example:

αι (αἶρω)

α (οἰκία)

ει (εἶ)

οι (οἰκία)

η (δόξη)

αυ (αὐτός)

ου (οὐδέ)

ω (ὠίω)

υι (υἱός)

ευ, ηυ (εὐθύς, ἠύξανεν)

## 1.5 Accents

The syllable in the Greek word that receives the emphasis in pronunciation will have one of three accents above it: acute, grave, or circumflex.

Acute:            ὑπέρ

Grave:           ὑπὲρ

Circumflex:    πνεῦμα

# 1.6 Review Handout

α β γ δ ε ζ η θ ι κ λ μ ν  
 ξ ο π ρ σ (ς) τ υ φ χ ψ ω

Alpha	ἄλφα	α	a as in father
Beta	βῆτα	β	b as in Bible
Gamma	γάμμα	γ	g as in gone
Delta	δέλτα	δ	d as in dog
Epsilon	ἐπιλόν	ε	e as in met
Zeta	ζῆτα	ζ	dz as in adz
Eta	ἦτα	η	e as in obey
Theta	θῆτα	θ	th as in thing
Iota	ἰῶτα	ι	i as in intrigue
Kappa	κάππα	κ	k as in kitchen
Lambda	λάμβδα	λ	l as in law
Mu	μῦ	μ	m as in mother
Nu	νῦ	ν	n as in new
Xsi (xi)	ξῖ	ξ	x as in axiom
Omicron	ὀμικρόν	ο	o as in not
Pi	πί	π	p as in peach
Rho	ῥῶ	ρ	r as in rod
Sigma	σίγμα	σ/ς	s as in study
Tau	ταῦ	τ	t as in talk
Upsilon	ὕπιλόν	υ	u as in lute
Phi	φῖ	φ	ph as in phone
Chi	χῖ	χ	ch as in loch
Psi	ψῖ	ψ	ps as in lips
Omega	ὠμέγα	ω	o as in tone

Vowels			
Vary Short	α	ι	υ
	ε	ο	
Long	η	ω	

Diphthongs (δίφθογγος)	
αι	ai as in aisle
ει	ei as in freight (=η)
οι	oi as in oil
αυ	au as in kraut, Faust
ευ	eu as in feud (you)
ου	ou as in group
υι	ui as in suite (we)

Breathing Marks	
(´) Rough (‘h’)	έν (“one”) as in hen
(˘) Smooth	ἐν (“in”) as in en

Liquid	Consonants Mute			Sibilants
λ, μ, ν, ρ	Smooth/ Unvoiced	Middle/ Voiced	Rough/ Aspirates	ζ, ξ, σ, ψ
	Velars/Palatals κ	γ	χ	
	Labials π	β	φ	
	Dentals τ	δ	θ	

“Square of Stops”

Punctuation		
Function	Form	
	Greek	English
Period	θεός.	God.
Comma	θεός,	God,
Semicolon	θεός;	God;
Question Mark	θεός;	God?

### Other Diacritical Marks

Name	Mark	Explanation	Example
Apostrophe	'	Indicates the omission (elision) of a final short vowel before a word that begins with a vowel or diphthong.	δι' αὐτοῦ for διὰ αὐτοῦ
Diaeresis	¨	Occurs where two vowels that normally form a diphthong are to be pronounced separately (indicates that the given form is not a diphthong).	πραῦς = πρα-υς
Coronis	'	Indicates the combination of two words with the loss of an intermediate letter or letters. Known as <i>crasis</i> (from κράσις, mingling) and is equivalent to English "I'm," "you're," and "don't."	καὶ ἐγώ for καὶ ἐγώ

### Accents

The accents originally indicated voice inflection (change in pitch) rather than stress, as now:

Acute            ´            rising pitch  
Circumflex    ˆ            rising then falling pitch ( ˆ = ˘ )  
Grave           ˘            falling pitch

They occur only on the last three syllables, named (from left to right): antepenult, penult, ultima

Acute            ˘            stands on all three: antepenult, penult, ultima  
Circumflex    :            stands only on last two: penult, ultima  
Grave            ;            stands only on the last: ultima

This can be portrayed graphically as follows:

— — — — — ˘    ˘    ˘  
                         antepenult    penult    ultima

John 1:1-5 - Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος, καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν, καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος. οὗτος ἦν ἐν ἀρχῇ πρὸς τὸν θεόν. πάντα δι' αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο, καὶ χωρὶς αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο οὐδὲ ἓν. ὃ γέγονεν ἐν αὐτῷ ζωὴ ἦν, καὶ ἡ ζωὴ ἦν τὸ φῶς τῶν ἀνθρώπων· καὶ τὸ φῶς ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ φαίνει, καὶ ἡ σκοτία αὐτὸ οὐ κατέλαβεν.

## 1.7 Things to know from the first 7 chapters (with Hafemann-rules in orange)

### Chapter 1:

- The meaning of κοινή (so that you can explain to others what you are learning).

### Chapter 2:

- “Those who cram, perish.”
- “Discipline is the bottom line.”

### Chapter 3:

- The alphabet and basic pronunciation (including diphthongs, breathing marks, iota subscript).
- The vowel chart, which shows the relationship between long and short vowels (note that α, ι, and υ look the same in their short and long forms, while ε and ο have a different form for the long vowel).

## Chapter 4:

- The four Greek punctuation marks and the three accents, *including the names of the accents*, the apostrophe, and the diaresis (what it looks like and what it does).
- The vocabulary on pages 18-20 in Mounce, together with their genitive endings and definite articles as indicated on page 53.
  - NOTE: ignore the rules of syllabification (section 4.3) and the “advanced information” (sections 4.4-4.5).

## Chapter 5:

All of the grammatical terms in the overview **must** be known and understood, as the grammar lesson in this chapter is extremely important.

- The lexical forms of nouns in the *nominative singular* inflection.
- The masculine gender is inclusive in Greek. This means that, depending on the context, the masculine singular forms may refer inclusively to “he and she,” while the plurals almost always refer to “men and women.”
- A “declension” is a “family” of nouns which all take the same “last name,” that is, the same set of *connecting vowel + ending* combinations.
- Every Greek verb carries with it its own implied pronoun subject (either “I”, “you” [singular and plural], “he, she, it”, “we”, or “they”. These different persons and numbers are indicated by the different “endings” attached to the verb stems. Any subject beyond these basic ones must be indicated explicitly.

## Chapters 6-7 (the first three items need to be mastered):

- The four Greek cases and what they do (i.e., they “syntactical function”) in a sentence: the nominative, genitive, dative, and accusative cases. See the chart on page 342.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> declension noun *connecting vowel* + *ending* combinations (see page 48) and how to recognize to which declension a noun belongs (section 6.7). Ignore sections 6.13, 6.14, 7.3, and 7.7.
- The definite article paradigm on page 48 (section 7.10). The definite article, not the declension, indicates the gender of a noun. Although the declension will be an accurate clue about 90% of the time, the article will be an accurate indicator of the gender of a noun 100% of the time. The article is a clone word: that is, it takes its gender, number, and case from the noun it modifies, so it will always match the gender, number, and case of the noun.

The endings may not look the same, but they will match in gender, number, and case (e.g., τὴν δόξαν).

- Definite articles always agree with the nouns they modify in gender, number, and case (section 6.21).
- Noun rules 1-3 and 6 on pages 36 (section 6.19) and 49 (section 7.12).
- The vocabulary for chapter 6.
- The vocabulary for chapter 7. There is no need to learn Mounce's reconstructed "stems" (the asterisked forms in parentheses), but do learn the genitive forms and the gender.

Additional Hefemann-rules of importance:

- In the 1<sup>st</sup> declension there are three possible patterns of endings in the singular (the plural forms are the same regardless of the pattern in the singular): those which have α as their connecting vowel (ὄρα), those which have η (γραφῆ), and a mixed form of α and η (δόξα). Our goal is to be able to recognize, not reproduce these paradigms.

But there is a pattern that will aid in determining which set of *connecting vowel + endings* are to be used:

- if  $\eta$  in the nominative, then it is  $\eta$  throughout
- if  $\alpha$  in the nominative following  $\epsilon$ ,  $\iota$ , or  $\rho$ , then a throughout
- if  $\alpha$  in the nominative following anything else, then it is a mixed form
- The few masculine nouns of the 1<sup>st</sup> declension (remember, most 1<sup>st</sup> declension nouns are feminine) take different endings in the nominative ( $\eta\varsigma$ ) and genitive ( $ov$ ) singular.
- *Definite articles never lie!* They *always* indicate a noun's gender, number, and case. They are therefore your best translation friend.