

# **ATHENAZE**

## **An Introduction to Ancient Greek**

**Second Edition**

**Book I**

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## Part II: The Greek Alphabet

Many of the letters of the Greek alphabet will already be familiar to you.

<i>Letter</i>		<i>Name</i>	<i>Translit- eration</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>
A	α	ἄλφα	alpha	α (short alpha), as the sound in <i>top</i> ; ᾱ (long alpha), as the sound in <i>top</i> , but held longer
B	β	βῆτα	bēta	= b
Γ	γ	γάμμα	gamma	= g (but before γ, κ, ξ, or χ = the sound in <i>sing</i> )
Δ	δ	δέλτα	delta	= d
E	ε	ἐ πῖλόν	epsīlon	as the sound in <i>get</i>
Z	ζ	ζῆτα	zēta	= σ + δ = sd as in <i>wisdom</i>
H	η	ῆτα	ēta	as the sound in <i>bed</i> , but held longer
Θ	θ	θῆτα	thēta	= aspirated t as in <i>top</i>
I	ι	ἰῶτα	iōta	ι (short iota), as the sound in <i>it</i> ; ῖ (long iota), as the sound in <i>keen</i>
K	κ	κάππα	kappa	= the sound of k (without aspiration), as in <i>sack</i>
Λ	λ	λάμβδα	lambda	= l
M	μ	μῦ	mū	= m
N	ν	νῦ	nū	= n
Ξ	ξ	ξῖ	xī	= κ + σ = the sound of x in <i>axe</i>
O	ο	ὀ μῖκρόν	omīcron	as the sound in <i>boat</i> or <i>goat</i>
Π	π	πῖ	pī	= p (without aspiration), as in <i>sap</i>
P	ρ	ῥῶ	rhō	= a trilled r
Σ	σ, ς	σίγμα	sigma	= s as in <i>sing</i> , but = z before β, γ, δ, and μ (written ς when last letter of a word)
T	τ	ταῦ	tau	= t (without aspiration), as in <i>sat</i>
Υ	υ	ϋ πῖλόν	upsilon	υ (short upsilon), as the sound in French <i>tu</i> ; ῡ (long upsilon), as the sound in French <i>tu</i> , but held longer
Φ	φ	φῖ	phī	= aspirated p as in <i>pot</i>
X	χ	χῖ	chī	= aspirated k as in <i>kit</i>
Ψ	ψ	ψῖ	psī	= π + σ = ps as in <i>lips</i>
Ω	ω	ὦ μέγα	ōmega	as the sound in <i>caught</i> , but held longer

The symbol ˘ will occasionally be used over a Greek vowel to indicate a vowel of short quantity. The symbol ˉ indicates a vowel of long quantity (see α, ι, and υ in the right-hand column in the list above). Normally short vowels have neither mark above them (see α, ι, and υ in the right-hand column above). When these three vowels are long, they will usually be printed in *Athenaze* with long marks over them (ᾱ, ῑ, and ῡ). The long mark is referred to as a macron (Greek μακρόν, *long*). A long vowel is held approximately twice as long as a short vowel. The vowels η and ω are always long and are therefore not marked with macrons. The digraphs αι and ου represent two additional long vowels in Greek (see Long Vowel Digraphs below). The vowels ε and ο are always short.

All vowels marked with a circumflex accent (ˆ) or with an iota subscript (see below) are always long and will usually not be marked with macrons.

In the Greek names for the letters of the alphabet given on the previous page, identify all long and all short vowels. Practice pronouncing the names of the letters, paying special attention to proper pronunciation of the long and short vowels. Hold the long vowels for twice the length of time as the short vowels.

### Breathings

There is no letter *h* in the Attic alphabet, but this sound occurs at the beginning of many Greek words. It is indicated by a mark called a *rough breathing* or *aspiration*, written over the first vowel of a word (over the second vowel of a diphthong), e.g.:

ἐν (pronounced *hen*)

οὐ (pronounced *hou*)

When an *h* sound is not to be pronounced at the beginning of a word beginning with a vowel or diphthong, a *smooth breathing* mark is used, e.g.:

ἐν (pronounced *en*)

οὐ (pronounced *ou*)

Thus, every word beginning with a vowel or a diphthong will have a rough or smooth breathing. Initial ρ always has a rough breathing, e.g., ῥάβδος, *wand*.

### Diphthongs

Diphthongs are glides from one vowel sound to another within the same syllable. Attic Greek has the following diphthongs:

<i>Diphthongs</i>	<i>Words</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>
αι	αἰγίς	as the sound in <i>high</i>
αυ	αὐτοκρατής	as the sound in <i>how</i>
ευ	εὐγενής	ε + υ pronounced as one syllable
ηυ	ἡύρηκα	η + υ pronounced as one syllable
οι	οἰκονομία	as the sound in <i>foil</i>
υι	υῖος	υ + ι pronounced as one syllable

### Long Vowel Digraphs

Digraphs are combinations of letters that represent a single sound. Two long vowel sounds are represented in Greek by the following digraphs:

<i>Digraphs</i>	<i>Words</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>
ει	εἴκοσι	as the sound in <i>they</i>
ου	οὔτις	as the sound in <i>mood</i>

### Iota Subscript

Sometimes the letter ι (*iōta*) is written under a vowel, e.g., α, η, and ω (these combinations are referred to as *long diphthongs*); when so written it is called *iota subscript*. In classical Greek this iota was written on the line after the vowel and was pronounced as a short iota. Its pronunciation ceased in post-classical Greek, and we usually do not pronounce it now. When it appears in a word that is written entirely in capital letters (as in the titles to the readings in this book), it is written on the line as a capital iota. Thus πρὸς τῇ κρήνῃ > ΠΡΟΣ ΤΗ ΚΡΗΝΗ. Note that accents and breathing marks are not used when all letters are capitalized.

### Paired Consonants

Paired consonants such as λλ, μμ, ππ, and ττ should be pronounced double and held approximately twice as long as the single consonant, e.g., the μμ in γάμμα.

Exceptions are γγ, γκ, γξ, and γχ (where the first γ is pronounced as the *ng* in *sing*), as in ἄγγελος, *messenger*, and ἄγκυρα, *anchor*.

### Double Consonants

Three consonants represent combinations of other sounds and are called *double consonants*:

$$\begin{aligned}\zeta &= \sigma + \delta \\ \xi &= \kappa + \sigma \text{ or } \gamma + \sigma \text{ or } \chi + \sigma \\ \psi &= \pi + \sigma \text{ or } \beta + \sigma \text{ or } \phi + \sigma\end{aligned}$$

### Aspirated Consonants

Three consonants represent certain sounds followed by an *h* sound or aspiration:

$$\begin{aligned}\theta &= \text{an aspirated } \tau \\ \phi &= \text{an aspirated } \pi \\ \chi &= \text{an aspirated } \kappa\end{aligned}$$

### Consonant Sounds

Nasals	μ	ν	and γ when followed by γ, κ, ξ, or χ		
Liquids	λ	ρ			
Spirant	σ				
Stops	Voiceless		Voiced	Voiceless Aspirated	
Labial	π		β	φ	
Dental	τ		δ	θ	
Velar	κ		γ	χ	
Double	ζ	ξ	ψ		

### Stops Followed by σ

Labial: β or π or φ, when followed by σ, becomes ψ.

Dental: δ or ζ or θ or τ, when followed by σ, is lost.

Velar: γ or κ or χ, when followed by σ, becomes ξ.

Compare what is said about the double consonants ξ and ψ above. These linguistic phenomena will be very important in understanding certain forms of nouns and verbs.

### Punctuation

The period and the comma are written as in English. A dot above the line (·) is the equivalent of an English semicolon or colon. A mark that looks like an English semicolon (;) is used at the end of a sentence as a question mark.

### Accents

Nearly every word in Greek bears an accent mark: an acute (τῖς), a grave (τὸ), or a circumflex (ὀρῶ). These marks seldom affect the sense. They were invented as symbols to provide written aid for correct pronunciation; originally they indicated a change in *pitch*, e.g., the acute accent showed that the syllable on which it fell was pronounced at a higher pitch than the preceding or following syllables. Later *stress* replaced *pitch*, and now ancient Greek is usually pronounced with stress on the accented syllables (with no distinction among the three kinds of accents) instead of varying the pitch of the voice. For those who wish to use the pitch accent, we recommend the recording of Stephen Daitz, mentioned below.

Note that the grave accent stands only on the final syllable of a word. It usually replaces an acute accent on the final syllable of a word when that word is followed immediately by another word with no intervening punctuation, e.g., instead of τὸ δῶρον, we write τὸ δῶρον.

### Transliteration

Note the following standard transliteration of Greek into English letters:

$\alpha = a$	$\eta = \bar{e}$	$\nu = n$	$\tau = t$
$\beta = b$	$\theta = th$	$\xi = x$	$\upsilon = u \text{ or } y$
$\gamma = g$	$\iota = i$	$\omicron = o$	$\phi = ph$
$\delta = d$	$\kappa = k$	$\pi = p$	$\chi = ch$
$\epsilon = e$	$\lambda = l$	$\rho = r$	$\psi = ps$
$\zeta = z$	$\mu = m$	$\sigma, \varsigma = s$	$\omega = \bar{o}$

Remember the following:  $\gamma\gamma = ng$ ;  $\gamma\kappa = nk$ ;  $\gamma\xi = nx$ , and  $\gamma\chi = nch$ ;  $\alpha\upsilon, \epsilon\upsilon, \eta\upsilon, \omicron\upsilon, \upsilon\iota = au, eu, \bar{e}u, ou, ui$ , but when  $\upsilon$  is not in a diphthong it is usually transliterated as  $y$ . And note that  $\alpha, \eta$ , and  $\phi$  are transliterated  $\bar{a}i, \bar{e}i$ , and  $\bar{o}i$ , to distinguish them from the short diphthongs,  $\alpha i, \epsilon i$ , and  $\omicron i$ , transliterated  $ai, ei$ , and  $oi$ .

[The recommendations for pronunciation given above (the *restored pronunciation*) are based on W. Sidney Allen, *Vox Graeca: A Guide to the Pronunciation of Classical Greek*, Cambridge University Press, 3rd ed., 1988, pages 177–179. For demonstration of the restored pronunciation, including the pitch accents, students should consult the cassette recording of Stephen G. Daitz, *The Pronunciation and Reading of Ancient Greek: A Practical Guide*, 2nd ed., 1984, Audio Forum, Guilford, CT 06437 (U.S.A.).]

### Part III: Writing Greek Letters

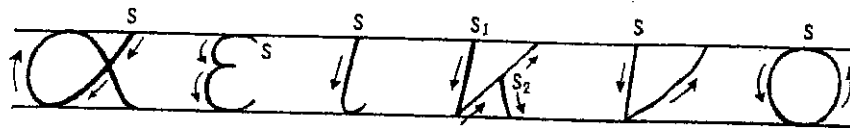
Certain conventions may be observed in writing Greek letters. With practice one can write them with ease and speed. There should be no difficulty in imitating the printed forms of the capitals; the small letters may be written as indicated below. A small "s" indicates the point where each letter should be begun ("s<sub>1</sub>," "s<sub>2</sub>," etc., are used if it is necessary to lift the pen or pencil), and an arrowhead (--->) indicates the direction in which the pen or pencil should move. For convenience, the letters may be divided into four groups:

(1) Eleven of the Greek small letters do not extend below the line of writing, and are approximately as wide as they are high (cf. English *a, c, e*, etc.). (The corresponding capitals are given first, then the printed forms of the small letters, then the "diagrams" for imitation.)

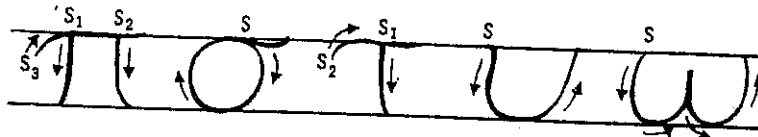
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A	E	I	K	N	O
$\alpha$	$\epsilon$	$\iota$	$\kappa$	$\nu$	$\omicron$



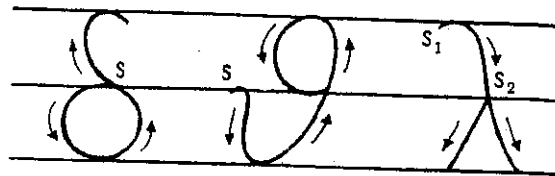
$\Pi$	$\Sigma$	T	Y	$\Omega$
$\pi$	$\sigma$	$\tau$	$\upsilon$	$\omega$



Note that  $\upsilon$  has a point at the bottom, whereas  $\nu$  is round.

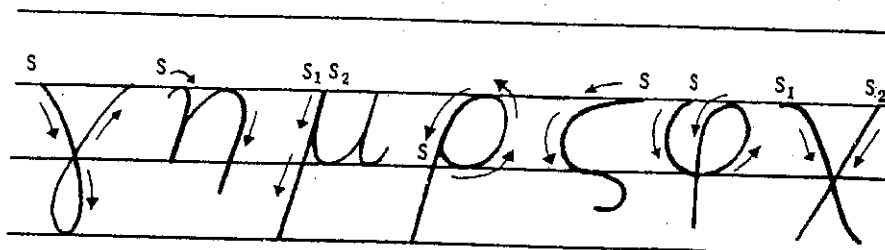
(2) Three of the Greek small letters rest on the line of writing but are twice as high as the letters in group 1:

$\Delta$	$\Theta$	$\Lambda$
$\delta$	$\theta$	$\lambda$

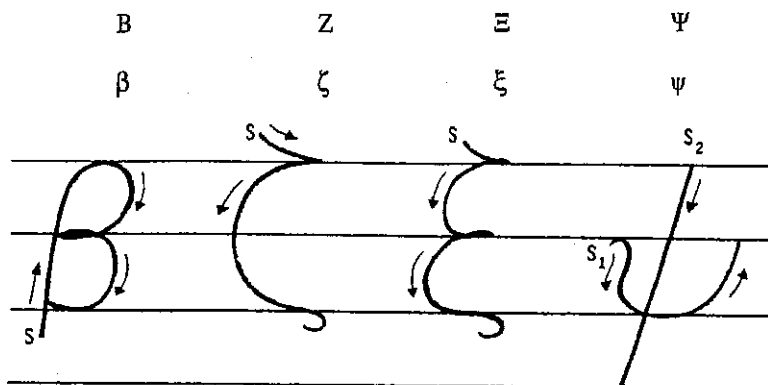


(3) Seven of the Greek small letters rest on the line of writing and extend below it, but do not extend above the letters of group 1:

$\Gamma$	H	M	$\Pi$	( $\Sigma$ )	$\Phi$	X
$\gamma$	$\eta$	$\mu$	$\rho$	$\varsigma$	$\varphi$	$\chi$



(4) Four of the Greek small letters extend both above and below the line of writing:



Students will, of course, develop their own writing style, and slight variations from the method of forming the letters that has just been described will not, in general, cause confusion.

[Most of the material in the above section is taken from *The Language of the New Testament* by Eugene Van Ness Goetchius, © Reprinted by permission of Pearson Education, Inc., Upper Saddle River, NJ.]

## Part IV:

### Practice in Pronunciation and Writing

Practice pronouncing the following words, imitating your teacher. Then copy the Greek words onto a sheet of paper; write the English transliteration of each Greek word, and give an English derivative of each.

- |              |             |              |              |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. αἶνιγμα   | 11. δόγμα   | 21. μάθημα   | 31. ῥεῦμα    |
| 2. ἀξίωμα    | 12. δρᾶμα   | 22. μίασμα   | 32. στίγμα   |
| 3. ἄρωμα     | 13. ἔμβλημα | 23. νόμισμα  | 33. σύμπτωμα |
| 4. ἄσθμα     | 14. ζεῦγμα  | 24. ὄνομα    | 34. σύστημα  |
| 5. γράμμα    | 15. θέμα    | 25. πλάσμα   | 35. σχῆμα    |
| 6. δέρμα     | 16. θεώρημα | 26. πνεῦμα   | 36. σχίσμα   |
| 7. διάδημα   | 17. ἰδίωμα  | 27. πρᾶγμα   | 37. σῶμα     |
| 8. διάφραγμα | 18. κίνημα  | 28. ποίημα   | 38. φλέγμα   |
| 9. δίλημμα   | 19. κλίμα   | 29. πρίσμα   | 39. χάσμα    |
| 10. δίπλωμα  | 20. κόμμα   | 30. πρόβλημα | 40. χρῶμα    |



Copy the following names, practice pronouncing the Greek, imitating your teacher, and write the standard English spelling of each name:

The Twelve Olympians

Ζεύς	Ἄρτεμις	Ἥφαιστος
Ἥρᾱ	Ποσειδῶν	Ἄρης
Ἀθηνᾶ	Ἀφροδίτη	Διόνῡσος
Ἀπόλλων	Ἑρμῆς	Δημήτηρ

The Nine Muses

Κλειώ	Μελπομένη	Πολύμνια
Εὐτέρπη	Τερψιχόρᾱ	Οὐρανίᾱ
Θάλεια	Ἑρατώ	Καλλιόπη

The Three Graces

Ἀγλαΐᾱ	Εὐφροσύνη	Θάλεια
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The Three Fates

Κλωθώ	Λάχεσις	Ἄτροπος
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Practice reading the following passage of Greek, imitating your teacher, and then copy the first two sentences. In writing the Greek, it will be helpful always to insert the macron over the vowel to which it belongs. As with the accent and breathing mark, the macron should be considered an integral part of the spelling of the word.

ὁ Δικαιοπόλις Ἀθηναῖός ἐστιν· οἰκεῖ δὲ ὁ Δικαιοπόλις οὐκ ἐν ταῖς Ἀθήναις ἀλλὰ ἐν τοῖς ἀγροῖς· αὐτουργός γάρ ἐστιν. γεωργεῖ οὖν τὸν κλῆρον καὶ πονεῖ ἐν τοῖς ἀγροῖς. χαλεπός δέ ἐστιν ὁ βίος· ὁ γὰρ κλῆρός ἐστι μικρός, μακρός δὲ ὁ πόνος. ἀεὶ οὖν πονεῖ ὁ Δικαιοπόλις καὶ πολλάκις στενάζει καὶ λέγει· “ὦ Ζεῦ, χαλεπός ἐστιν ὁ βίος· ἀπέραντος γάρ ἐστιν ὁ πόνος, μικρός δὲ ὁ κλῆρος καὶ οὐ πολὺν σῖτον παρέχει.” ἀλλὰ ἰσχυρός ἐστιν ὁ ἄνθρωπος καὶ ἄοκνος· πολλάκις οὖν χαίρει· ἐλεύθερος γάρ ἐστι καὶ αὐτουργός· φιλεῖ δὲ τὸν οἶκον. καλός γάρ ἐστιν ὁ κλῆρος καὶ σῖτον παρέχει οὐ πολὺν ἀλλὰ ἱκανόν.

## Part V: Date Chart

### BRONZE AGE

Ca. 1220 B.C.

Minos, king of Crete; Theseus, king of Athens  
Sack of Troy by Agamemnon of Mycenae

### DARK AGE

Ca. 1050 B.C.

Emigration of Ionians to Asia Minor

### RENAISSANCE

Ca. 850 B.C.

Formation of city states (Sparta, Corinth, etc.)

776 B.C.

First Olympic Games

Ca. 750–500 B.C.

Trade and colonization

Ca. 725 B.C.

Composition of *Iliad* and *Odyssey* by Homer (Ionia)

Ca. 700 B.C.

Composition of *Works and Days* by Hesiod (Boeotia)

Ca. 657–625 B.C.

Cypselus, tyrant of Corinth

Ca. 594 B.C.

Solon's reforms in Athens

### PERSIAN INVASIONS

546 B.C.

Defeat of Croesus of Lydia and Greeks in Asia Minor  
by Cyrus of Persia

507 B.C.

Foundation of democracy in Athens by Cleisthenes

490 B.C.

Expedition sent against Athens by Darius of Persia;  
battle of Marathon

480 B.C.

Invasion of Greece by Xerxes: Thermopylae (480),  
Salamis (480), Plataea (479)

Simonides, poet

### IMPERIAL ATHENS

478 B.C.

Foundation of Delian League, which grows into Athe-  
nian Empire

472 B.C.

Aeschylus's *Persians*

461–429 B.C.

Pericles dominant in Athens: radical democracy and  
empire

446 B.C.

War between Athens and Sparta  
Thirty Years Peace with Sparta  
Parthenon and other buildings  
Herodotus, *History*

### PELOPONNESIAN WAR

431 B.C.

Outbreak of war between Athens and the Pelopon-  
nesian League

430–429 B.C.

Plague at Athens; death of Pericles

425 B.C.

Aristophanes' *Acharnians*

421 B.C.

Temporary peace between Athens and Sparta

415 B.C.

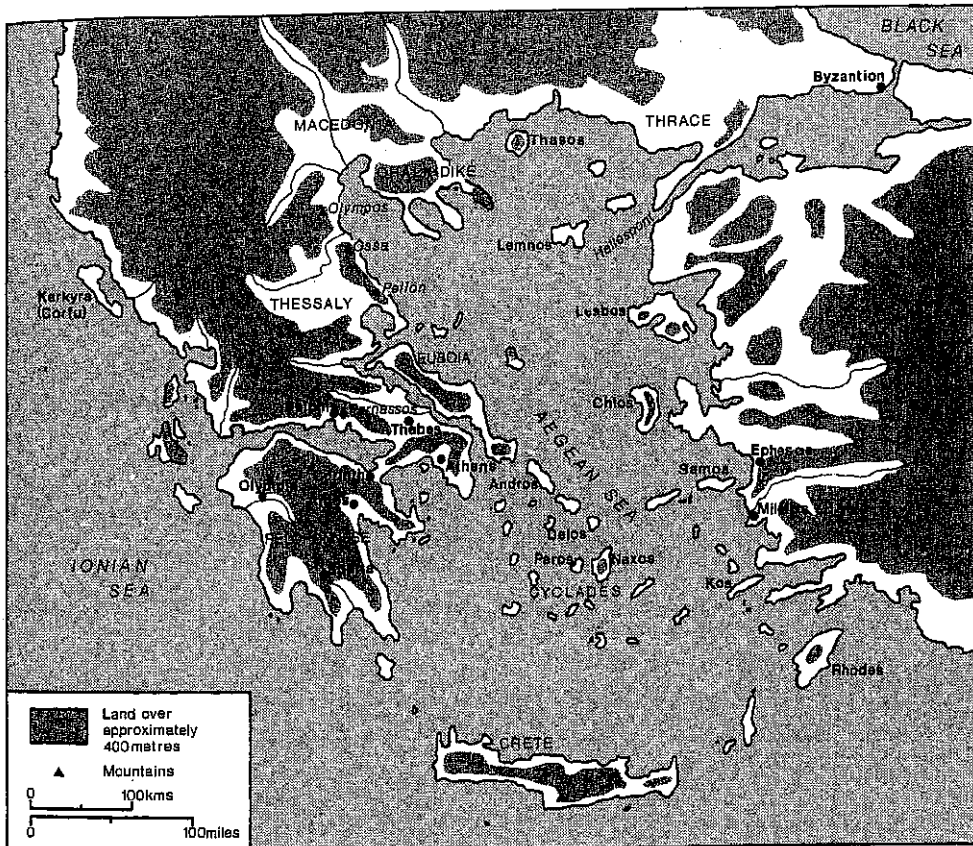
Athenian expedition to Sicily

413 B.C.

Sicilian expedition defeated; war between Athens and  
Sparta

404 B.C.

Surrender of Athens  
Thucydides, *Histories*



Greece and the Aegean Sea

# 1

## Ο ΔΙΚΑΙΟΠΟΛΙΣ (α)

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ὁ Δικαιοπόλις αὐτουργός ἐστιν· φέρει δὲ τὸν μόσχον.

### VOCABULARY

#### Verbs

ἐστί(ν), *he/she/it is*  
λέγει, *he/she says; he/she tells;*  
*he/she speaks*  
οἰκεῖ, *he/she lives; he/she*  
*dwells*  
πανεῖ, *he/she works*  
φιλεῖ, *he/she loves*  
χαίρει, *he/she rejoices*

#### Nouns

ὁ ἀγρός, \* *field*  
ὁ ἄνθρωπος, *man; human be-*  
*ing; person*  
ὁ αὐτουργός, *farmer*  
ὁ οἶκος, *house; home; dwelling*  
ὁ πόνος, *toil, work*  
ὁ σίτος, *grain; food*

#### Adjectives

καλός, *beautiful*  
μακρός, *long; large*  
μικρός, *small*  
πολύς, *much; pl., many*

#### Prepositional Phrase

ἐν ταῖς Ἀθήναις, *in Athens*

#### Adverbs

οὐ, οὐκ, οὐχ, \*\* *not*  
οὖν, a connecting adverb, post-  
positive, \*\*\* *so (i.e., because of*  
*this); then (i.e., after this)*

#### Conjunctions

ἀλλά, *but*  
γάρ, postpositive, \*\*\* *for*  
καί, *and*

#### Particle

δέ, postpositive, \*\*\* *and, but*

#### Proper Names and Adjectives

Ἀθηναῖος, *Athenian*  
ὁ Δικαιοπόλις, *Dicaeopolis*

\*ὁ is the definite article, *the*; when the noun is used as an object, the article becomes τόν. Sometimes the article need not be translated in English; sometimes it can best be translated as a possessive adjective, e.g., *his*. There is no indefinite article in Greek.

\*\*οὐ before consonants, οὐκ before vowels or diphthongs, and οὐχ be-

fore aspirated vowels or aspirated diphthongs (e.g., οὐχ αἶπει, *he/she does not take*)

\*\*\*These words are always "placed after" and never occur first in their clause.

ὁ Δικαιοπόλις Ἀθηναῖός ἐστιν· οἰκεῖ δὲ ὁ Δικαιοπόλις οὐκ ἐν ταῖς Ἀθήναις ἀλλὰ ἐν τοῖς ἀγροῖς· αὐτουργὸς γάρ ἐστιν. γεωργεῖ οὖν τὸν κλῆρον καὶ πονεῖ ἐν τοῖς ἀγροῖς. χαλεπὸς δὲ ἐστιν ὁ βίος· ὁ γὰρ κλῆρὸς ἐστὶ μικρὸς, μακρὸς δὲ ὁ πόνος. αἰεὶ οὖν πονεῖ ὁ Δικαιοπόλις καὶ πολλάκις στενάζει καὶ λέγει· "ὦ Ζεῦ, χαλεπὸς ἐστιν ὁ βίος· 5 ἀπέραντος γάρ ἐστιν ὁ πόνος, μικρὸς δὲ ὁ κλῆρος καὶ οὐ πολὺν σῖτον παρέχει." ἀλλὰ ἰσχυρὸς ἐστιν ὁ ἄνθρωπος καὶ ἄοκνος· πολλάκις οὖν χαίρει· ἐλεύθερος γάρ ἐστι καὶ αὐτουργός· φιλεῖ δὲ τὸν οἶκον. καλὸς γάρ ἐστιν ὁ κλῆρος καὶ σῖτον παρέχει οὐ πολὺν ἀλλὰ ἱκανόν. 10

[ἐν τοῖς ἀγροῖς, *in the country* (lit., *in the fields*) γεωργεῖ, *he farms, cultivates* τὸν κλῆρον, *the (= his) farm* χαλεπός, *hard* ὁ βίος, *the (= his) life* αἰεὶ, *always* πολλάκις, *often* στενάζει, *groans* ὦ Ζεῦ, *O Zeus* ἀπέραντος, *endless* παρέχει, *provides* ἰσχυρὸς, *strong* ἄοκνος, *energetic* ἐλεύθερος, *free* ἱκανόν, *enough*]

## WORD STUDY

Many English words are derived from Greek. Often these derivatives are scientific and technical terms formed in English from Greek stems because the precision of the Greek language makes it possible to express a complex concept in a single word.

What Greek words from the story at the beginning of this chapter do you recognize in the following English words? Define the words, using your knowledge of the Greek:

1. anthropology
2. polysyllabic
3. philosophy
4. microscope

English words such as those above often contain more than one Greek stem. Which of the words above contain stems of the following Greek words?

1. σκοπεῖ, *he/she looks at, examines*
2. σοφία, *wisdom*
3. λόγος, *word; study*

## GRAMMAR

### 1. Verb Forms: Stems and Endings

Greek verbs have *stems*, which give the meaning of the word, and variable *endings*, which show such things as *number* and *person*. In addition to *singular* and *plural* number, Greek has *dual* number, used when referring to two people or things; it is fairly rare, however, and will not be taught in this course.

Number:		Singular	Plural
Person:	1st	I	we
	2nd	you	you
	3rd	he, she, it	they

This chapter introduces only the third person singular of the present tense, e.g., *he/she/it is*.

The Greek verb for *loosen*, *loose* will serve as an example of a regular Greek verb; the verb for *love* will serve as an example of a contract verb (a type of verb in which the vowel at the end of the stem contracts with the initial vowel of the ending). The irregular verb for *be* is also given.

**Stem:** λῶ-, *loosen, loose*

3rd singular λῶ-ει *he/she loosens, is loosening, does loosen*

**Stem:** φιλε-, *love*

3rd singular φιλέ-ει > φιλεῖ *he/she loves, is loving, does love*  
Note that > means "becomes."

**Stem:** ἐσ-, *be*

3rd singular ἐστί(ν)\* *he/she/it is*

\*ἐστίν is used when followed by a word beginning with a vowel or when coming as the last word in a clause. The -ν is called *movable ν*. The word ἐστί(ν) is *enclitic*, which means that it "leans upon" the previous word and often loses its accent. The rules for accenting enclitics and the words that precede them will be presented as needed for writing Greek in the exercises.

### 2. Nouns: Genders, Stems, Endings, Cases, and Agreement

#### a. Grammatical Gender

Greek nouns are usually *masculine* or *feminine* or *neuter* (neither masculine nor feminine) in gender. Some words such as Δικαιοπόλις, which is masculine, have *natural gender*; the gender of

other words such as ἀγρός is not determined by the gender of the thing referred to. Such words have what is called *grammatical gender*, this one being masculine. In learning vocabulary, always learn the article with the noun; this will tell you its gender: ὁ for masculine; ἡ for feminine; and τό for neuter. In this chapter all the nouns listed in the Vocabulary are masculine and are therefore accompanied by the masculine definite article, ὁ.

### b. Stems, Endings, and Cases

Greek nouns, pronouns, and adjectives have *stems*, which give the meaning of the word, and variable *endings*, which show the function of the word in the sentence. The endings of nouns, pronouns, and adjectives are called *cases*.

There are five cases in Greek (nominative, genitive, dative, accusative, and vocative); in this chapter we focus on the use of two of them—the *nominative* and the *accusative*.

**Stem:** κληρο-, *farm*

**Nominative Ending:** -ς. κληρο- + -ς > κληρός. This case is used for the *subject* of the verb and the *complement* after the verb "is," e.g.:

Subject	Verb	Complement
ὁ κληρός	ἐστι	μικρός.
<i>The farm</i>	<i>is</i>	<i>small.</i>

**Accusative Ending:** -ν. κληρο- + -ν > κληρόν. This case is used for the *direct object* of the verb, e.g.:

Subject	Verb	Direct Object
ὁ ἄνθρωπος	γεωργεῖ	τὸν κληρόν.
<i>The man</i>	<i>cultivates</i>	<i>the farm.</i>

Note that it is the endings of the words and not the order in which they are placed in the sentence that builds the meaning of the sentence. The first sentence above could be written μικρός ἐστιν ὁ κληρός (the definite article marks ὁ κληρός as the subject). The second sentence could be written τὸν κληρόν γεωργεῖ ὁ ἄνθρωπος, with a change in emphasis but no change in basic meaning.

### c. Agreement

Definite articles and adjectives agree with the nouns they go with in gender, number (singular or plural), and case, e.g.:

ὁ καλὸς ἀγρός: masculine singular nominative  
τὸν μικρὸν οἶκον: masculine singular accusative

### 3. Labeling Functions of Words in Sentences

In exercises you will be asked to label the functions of words in sentences. Label the subject S, the complement C, and the direct object DO. Label linking verbs such as ἐστί(v) LV. Verbs that take direct objects, such as γεωργεῖ in the sentence above, are *transitive* and are to be labeled TV (Transitive Verb); verbs that do not take direct objects, such as οἰκεῖ in the sentence below, are *intransitive* and are to be labeled IV (Intransitive Verb):

S            IV

ὁ Δικαιοπόλις οἰκεῖ ἐν τοῖς ἀγροῖς.

Note that the complement can be either an adjective as in the sentence ὁ κληρὸς ἐστί μικρός above or a noun as in the following sentence:

S            C        LV

ὁ Δικαιοπόλις αὐτουργός ἐστιν.

### 4. Use of the Definite Article

The definite article is sometimes used in Greek where it is not used in English, e.g., ὁ Δικαιοπόλις = *Dicaeopolis*, and sometimes it can be translated with a possessive adjective in English, e.g.:

ὁ ἄνθρωπος γεωργεῖ τὸν κληρὸν.  
*The man cultivates his farm.*

#### Exercise 1α

Copy the following sentences and label the function of each noun and verb by writing S, C, DO, LV, TV, or IV above the appropriate words (do not label words in prepositional phrases). Then translate the sentences into English:

1. ὁ πόνος ἐστὶ μακρός.
2. καλὸς ἐστὶν ὁ οἶκος.
3. ὁ Δικαιοπόλις τὸν οἶκον φιλεῖ.
4. πολλὸν σίτον παρέχει ὁ κληρὸς.
5. ὁ ἄνθρωπος οὐ πονεῖ ἐν τοῖς ἀγροῖς.

### The Athenian Farmer

Dicaeopolis lives in a village in Attica called Cholleidae, about ten miles or sixteen kilometers north of Athens. Although Athens and its port, the Piraeus, formed a very large city by ancient standards, the majority of the Athenian people lived and worked in the country. The historian Thucydides (2.14) says that when Attica had to be evacuated before the Peloponnesian in-



vasion of 431 B.C. "the evacuation was difficult for them since the majority had always been accustomed to living in the country."

Most of these people were farmers like Dicaeopolis. Their farms were small; ten to twenty acres would be the average size. What they grew on their farms would depend partly on the district in which they lived. On the plain near Athens no doubt the staple products would have been vegetables and grain, but most of Attica is hilly; this poorer land would be more suitable for grape vines, olive trees, sheep, and goats (cows were not kept for milk). All farmers aimed at self-sufficiency, but few would have attained it (two-thirds of the grain consumed by the Athenians was imported). If they had a surplus, e.g., of olive oil or wine, they would take it to the market in Athens for sale and buy what they could not produce themselves.

For purposes of administration, the Athenian citizens were divided into four classes, based on property. The top class, the *pentacosiomedimnoi* or "millionaires," a very small class, were those whose estates produced five hundred *medimnoi* of grain a year (a *medimnos* = about one and a half bushels or fifty-two to fifty-three liters). The second class, also small, were the *hippeis*, "knights," whose estates could support a horse (ἵππος); these provided the cavalry for the army (see illustration, page 162). The third and largest class were the farmers like Dicaeopolis, called the *zeugitai*, who kept a team of oxen (ζεύγος). These provided the heavy infantry of the army. The fourth class were the *thetes*, "hired laborers," who owned no land or not enough to support a family.

Our sources represent the farmers as the backbone of the Athenian democracy—sturdy, industrious, thrifty, and simple, but shrewd. In the comedies of Aristophanes they are often contrasted with self-seeking politicians, decadent knights, and grasping traders. The name of our main character, Dicaeopolis, contains the concepts δίκαιο-, *just*, and πόλις, *city*, and means something like *honest citizen*. He is taken from a comedy of Aristophanes called the *Acharnians*; the play was produced in 425 B.C., and at the end of this course you will read extracts from it.



Scenes of plowing and sowing on a Greek vase