

Basic Hellenistic Greek Morphology

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This review is a handout I have used with students for a number of years. I have also prepared parsing practice exercises with an answer key, available in a separate file. Please report any errors to me at rwhitacre@tsm.edu.

Morphology (cf. μορφή, “form”) is the, “study of the structure of words and the system of forms of a language.”¹ So this handout is a review of all those forms and endings you learned in basic Greek. This review of basic Greek morphology is intended to help you read Greek more fluently. Computer software, such as BibleWorks, and websites like <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/> enable you to get parsings of words very quickly and easily. But if you need to look up most of the words in a text then you will be very limited in your use and enjoyment of Greek. It’s worth the effort to get the basics down thoroughly and then use these wonderful resources for the bits you still don’t know. Once you are able to read with a little fluency then your ability to do so will increase rapidly through the reading itself, filling in your knowledge of forms, vocabulary and grammar through encountering new items in your reading. For more about increasing fluency see my handout on that subject.

The approach to morphology I present here is geared for increased fluency in reading; it is less helpful for writing or speaking Greek. I want to help you answer two questions for words you come across in a text: ‘What is the parsing of this form?’ and ‘What is the lexical form?’ The parsing gives you the information you need for understanding how the word is functioning in the sentence, and the lexical form helps you find its meaning in the lexicon.

The primary resources for an analysis of Greek morphology which I have used over the years are R. W. Funk, *A Beginning-Intermediate Grammar of Hellenistic Greek*, and Herbert Weir Smyth, *Greek Grammar*. More recently I have added William D. Mounce, *The Morphology of Biblical Greek*.²

Funk is especially helpful because he reduces the number of paradigms for rote memory to the fewest possible. Much in these notes is based on his three volumes, which I used for teaching Greek for several years. I have made a few modifications to his system and put all the rote memory work on a single page. I refer to this as the Sneeze Sheet since it looks like someone sneezed on the page. This Sneeze Sheet follows this introductory section of these notes (see below, p. 3).

The Sneeze Sheet provides the information you need to parse the majority of words on a page of Hellenistic Greek text. After mastering the material on the Sneeze Sheet, as

¹ Matthew S. DeMoss, *Pocket Dictionary for the Study of New Testament Greek* (Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2001), 86. This little book is very helpful, especially for those in the early years of their study of Greek.

² A bibliography at the end of this handout provides details for resources cited.

described in this handout, I recommend you study the more irregular words and patterns not covered on the Sneeze Sheet by consulting Funk, Smyth and/or Mounce. If you can find a copy of Funk, that will be the most helpful of these resources for such study because it is presented as a textbook.

So this handout is limited to basic Greek morphology. It is further limited in that, while the most frequent patterns and forms are covered on the Sheet, some information is not precise. For example, the approach to nominal endings will enable you to identify the case and number but not the genders of some nouns; but, then, gender is usually not necessary for accurate reading, and, in any case, it can often be determined by the presence of an article.

Just memorizing the Sneeze Sheet will not enable you to recognize forms. The Sneeze Sheet provides many of the features that are found in the paradigms and enables you to see connections between the paradigms, but careful study of the actual paradigms is essential. In this document I will walk through the major paradigms and indicate how the Sneeze Sheet contains the key ingredients needed to master the material for the purposes of reading. Once you understand how to apply the data on the Sneeze Sheet then that data, if memorized thoroughly, will enable you to recognize most of the forms you encounter.

The Sneeze Sheet: Core Greek Patterns for Memorization

R. A. Whitacre

Prin Part	Tense	Augmen t or Redup	STEM	Tense Sign	Var Vowel	Endings
1 st	Present a/m/p Imperf. a/m/p	ε	λυ λυ		ο ε ο ε	Primary Secondary
2 nd	Future a/m Liq. Fut. a/m		λυ λμνρ	σ (σ)ε	ο ε ο ε	Primary Primary
3 rd	1 Aorist a/m 2 Aorist a/m Liq. Aor. a/m κ Aorist a/m	ε ε ε ε	λυ ? λμνρ ste m	σα/ε α/ε κα/ε	ο ε	Secondary Secondary Secondary Secondary
4 th	1 Perfect act. 2 Perfect act. Pluperf. act.	λε λε (ε)λε	λυ ? λυ	κα/ε α/ε κει		Primary Primary Secondary
5 th	Perfect m/p Pluperf. m/p Fut. Perf. M/p	λε (ε)λε λε	λυ λυ λυ	 σ		Primary Secondary Primary
6 th	Aorist pass. 2 Aorist pass. Future pass. 2 Future pass.	ε ε ε	λυ λυ λυ λυ	θη η θησ ησ	ο ε ο ε	Secondary Secondary Primary Primary

Mood Indicators

Infinitive: -εν, -ι, -ναι, -σθαι

Participle: -ντ-, -οτ-, -μεν-

Subjunctive: ω η

Optative: ι before the ending

Imperative: endings:

	Active	Middle/Passive
sg.	2. ε, σον	2. σο, ου, σαι, θι, τι
	3. τω	3. σθω
pl.	2. τε	2. σθε
	3. τωσαν	3. σθωσαν

Vowel Contraction	
α	< αι
ει	< εε
η	< εα
οι	< οει
ου	< εο, οε, οο
ω	< ο or ω + any vowel, except as above

Square of Stops	
π, β, φ	+ σ = ψ
κ, γ, χ	+ σ = ξ
τ, δ, θ, ζ	+ σ = ς

• Variable vowels: ο before μ and ν ; ε elsewhere (though in the pres.)

and fut. ind. the ε variable vowel is ει in the singular).

- Zero endings: -α = 1. sg.; -ε = 3. sg. ind. or 2. sg. imperative.
- Moveable ν only occurs after ε and ι. (So ον is always an ending.)

Primary Personal Endings (Present, Future, Perfect)		Secondary Personal Endings (Imperfect, Aorist, Pluperfect)	
Active	Middle/Passive	Active	Middle/Passive
1. ω, μι, -	1. μαι	1. ν, -	1. μην
2. ς	2. σαι (= η)	2. ς	2. σο (= ου, ω)
3. - (ν), σι(ν)	3. ται	3. -(ν)	3. το
1. μεν	1. μεθα	1. μεν	1. μεθα
2. τε	2. σθε	2. τε	2. σθε
3. ουσι(ν), ασι(ν)	3. νται	3. ν, σαν	3. ντο

Pres.	
εἶμι	ἔσμεν
εἶ	ἔστε
ἐστί(ν)	εἰσί(ν)
Imperf.	
ἤμην	ἤμεν, ἤμεθα
ἦς, ἦσθα	ἦτε
ἦν	ἦσαν
Fut.	
ἔσομαι	ἔσόμεθα
ἔσῃ	ἔσεσθε
ἔσται	ἔσονται

Def. Article		
ὁ [ος]	ἡ [α]	τό [ον]
τοῦ	τῆς	τοῦ
τῷ	τῇ	τῷ
τόν	τήν	τό [ον]
[ε]		
οἱ	αἱ	τά
τῶν	τῶν	τῶν
τοῖς	ταῖς	τοῖς
τούς	τάς	τά

Indef. Pron	
τις [-]	τι [-]
τινος	τινος
τινι	τινι
τινα [ν]	τι [-]
τινες	τινα
τινων	τινων
τισι(ν)	τισι(ν)
τινας [ες]	τινα

εἶμι Pres. Inv.	
2 sg.	ἴσθι
3 sg.	ἔστω
2 pl.	ἔσθε
3 pl.	ἔστωσαν
Pres. Inf. εἶναι	

πᾶς		
πᾶς	πᾶσα	πᾶν
παντός	πάσης	παντός
παντί	πάσῃ	παντί
πάντα	πᾶσαν	πᾶν
πάντες	πᾶσαι	πάντα
πάντων	πασῶν	πάντων
πᾶσι(ν)	πάσαις	πᾶσι(ν)
πάντας	πάσας	πάντα

Participle Endings and Signs					
Pres./2 Aor. Act.	ων	ουσα	ον	-οντ-	M/(P): -ομεν-
1 Aor. Act.	σας	σασα	σαν	-σαντ-	M: -σαμεν-
Aor. Pass.	θεις	θεισα	θεν	-θεντ-	
Pf. Act.	κως	κυια	κος	-κοτ-	M/P: -μεν-

Personal Pronouns			
ἐγώ	σύ	ἡμεῖς	ὑμεῖς
ἐμοῦ, μου	σοῦ σου	ἡμῶν	ὑμῶν
ἐμοί, μοι	σοί σοι	ἡμῖν	ὑμῖν
ἐμέ, με	σέ, σε	ἡμᾶς	ὑμᾶς

I. The Nominal System

A. First Declension

The Definite Article provides the basic endings for the First Declension. The main variations in this paradigm occur in the singular forms:

Fem.	Fem.	Fem.	Masc.	Masc.
η	α	α	ας	ης
ης	ας	ης	ου	ου
η	Ϝ	η	Ϝ	η
ην	αν	αν	αν	ην

- The first pattern is closest to the Definite Article since it has η throughout.
- On the Sneeze Sheet the α in brackets, signals the α/η correspondence.
- The use of α in the gen-sg and dat-sg (second column above) normally only occurs when the stem ends in ε, ι, or ρ. So if you see ας on a First Declension fem nominal it should be the acc-pl form, unless the stem is ε, ι, or ρ, in which case the ας could be either acc-pl or gen-sg.
- The middle pattern above does not add any new signals for parsing, but can cause problems recognizing the lexical form. For example, if a noun ends in η then it will be a dat-sg, but you won't know from the Sneeze Sheet information whether the lexical form ends with η or α. This is usually not a big deal if you keep in mind to look for both options in the lexicon. If one of these nouns ends in η and has a masc. article with it (e.g., τῷ τελώνη) then you expect the lexical form to end in ης. You also don't know for sure whether it is fem or masc, but this also is not a big deal most of the time. If you are using software for the definitions then precise knowledge of the lexical form is even less important.
- The gender is important primarily when there is an adjective modifying the noun and thus there must be agreement in gender as well as number and case.
- The case and number are clear except the irregular nom-sg endings in the two masc patterns.
 - * There are 189 words covered in BAG³ that follow the pattern ας/ης, ου, 17 occurring 10+ times in the NT. E.g., μαθητής and προφήτης.
- The fact that you have memorized some of the masc First Declension words for your basic vocabulary should help you remember that ης can be a nom-sg ending, even though most often it is a gen-sg (or a verb ending!).

³ Word counts are taken from Funk and so are accurate for the first English edition of Bauer's lexicon (BAG). I have not revised these statistics in the light of Frederick Danker's third edition of the lexicon (BDAG), since the purpose of the statistics here is merely to provide a general sense of the frequency of the pattern.

- The gen-sg ου is easily recognized since it is also found in the Second Declension. If you see τελώνου in a passage and go to the lexicon you expect to find a word ending in ος or ον. When you discover it doesn't exist then you have to look around, usually on the same part of the page, to see what else there is, and then you find the word with a nom ης ending. Again, use of software makes this issue insignificant. Being able to recognize the form means you know how the word is functioning in the sentence and you only need help with its meaning.
- The same pattern is used for the plural of all of these types of first declension words: αι, ων, αις, ας.

φωνή	ἡμέρα	δόξα	μεσσίας	προφήτης
φωνῆς	ἡμέρας	δόξης	μεσσίου	προφήτου
φωνῆ	ἡμέρᾱ	δόξη	μεσσία	προφήτη
φωνήν	ἡμέραν	δόξαν	μεσσίαν	προφήτην
φωναί	ἡμέραι	δόξαι	μεσσίαι	προφήται
φωνῶν	ἡμερῶν	δοξῶν	μεσσιῶν	προφητῶν
φωναῖς	ἡμέραις	δόξαις	μεσσίαις	προφήταις
φωναίς	ἡμέρας	δόξας	μεσσίας	προφήτας

B. Second Declension

The Definite Article also provides the basic endings for the Second Declension.

1. Nouns

- The three forms in brackets on the Sneeze Sheet provide the noun and adjective endings where they differ from the article ending.
- The Sneeze Sheet does not contain the vocative.
 - * Voc. plurals are identical with the nom. form of the pattern
 - * Voc. Singulars are often identical with the nom. form of the pattern.
 - The most common exception is masc-voc-sg in the Second Declension: ε, e.g., θεέ, δοῦλε, included in brackets in the Definite Article paradigm on the Sneeze Sheet.

θεός	θεοί	ἔργον	ἔργα
θεοῦ	θεῶν	ἔργου	ἔργων
θεῷ	θεοῖς	ἔργῳ	ἔργοις
θεόν	θεοῦς	ἔργον	ἔργα
θεέ			

2. Adjectives: 2-1-2

- Some adjectives are ‘two termination’, that is, they only have two sets of endings rather than three, e.g., αἰώνιος, αἰώνιον (there are 11 such adjectives used in the NT more than 10 times).
- The two termination adjectives don’t have any new endings, but can be confusing when they modify feminine nouns. For example, ἡ αἰώνιος ζωή looks weird if you don’t remember that two termination adjectives use the same form for both masc and fem.

ἀγαθός	ἀγαθή	ἀγαθόν	αἰώνιος	αἰώνιον
ἀγαθοῦ	ἀγαθῆς	ἀγαθοῦ	αἰωνίου	αἰωνίου
ἀγαθῶ	ἀγαθῇ	ἀγαθῶ	αἰωνίῳ	αἰωνίῳ
ἀγαθόν	ἀγαθήν	ἀγαθόν	αἰώνιον	αἰώνιον
ἀγαθοί	ἀγαθαί	ἀγαθά	αἰώνιοι	αἰώνια
ἀγαθῶν	ἀγαθῶν	ἀγαθῶν	αἰωνίων	αἰωνίων
ἀγαθοῖς	ἀγαθαῖς	ἀγαθοῖς	αἰωνίοις	αἰωνίοις
ἀγαθούς	ἀγαθάς	ἀγαθά	αἰωνίους	αἰώνια

C. Third Declension

1. Nouns

- While some basic Greek methods teach the Third Declension as several different patterns (usually around seven patterns), there is actually one basic pattern of endings and it is provided by τις, τι.
- The problem is not that there are a lot of endings, but rather the way in which this one set of endings changes when it comes in contact with the various stem endings of nominals.
- Some of the changes are caused by a stem ending with a consonant coming in contact with an ending which is also a consonant. These changes are summarized in the “Square of Stops” (Mounce’s term) on the Sneeze Sheet.
- The other main set of changes occurs when a stem ending in a vowel comes in contact with an ending which is also a vowel. The vowels contract, as summarized in the “Vowel Contraction” chart on the Sneeze Sheet.
- To add to the excitement, some forms of Third Declension shift stem endings (Pattern Five, below).

First, examine carefully the following set of endings which is abstracted from the paradigm of τις, τι.

- In three places there are two endings given, because some types of Third Declensions will take one and some the other. Thus, for the masc/fem-

nom-sg some words will have a ζ ending and some will have a blank ending (also called a ‘zero form’), i.e., there is no ending as such.

- This zero form itself can cause changes because there are some letters that do not end a word. So if the stem ending is one of these letters, e.g., τ, then adding a zero form will cause the τ to drop out. All of this will be explained further below.

Endings

Masc./Fem.		Neut.	
ς, –	ες	–	α
ος	ων	ος	ων
ι	σι(ν)	ι	σι(ν)
α, ν	ας, ες	–	α

Since this one set of endings undergoes some changes depending on stem endings, the various patterns of the Third Declension can be organized by the stem endings, as follows.

Pattern One – Stems ending with one of the Square of Stops

The first set of Third Declension patterns is that associated with the Square of Stops, i.e., words whose stems end in a labial (π, β, φ) or a palatal (κ, γ, χ, also called gutturals) or a dental (τ, δ, θ, ζ). Here are paradigms representing these three types of patterns. Note that these words are normally masc or fem.

1. M./F.	σάρξ	σάρκες	χάρις	χάριτες
	σαρκός	σαρκῶν	χάριτος	χαρίτων
	σαρκί	σάρξι(ν)	χάριτι	χάρισι(ν)
	σάρκα	σάρκας	χάριτα	χάριτας
			(χάριν)	
	κώνωψ ⁴	κώνωπες		
	κώνωπος	κωνώπων		
	κώνωπι	κώνωπι(ν)		
	κώνωπα	κώνωπας		

Let’s walk through the paradigm of σάρξ, keeping in mind the basic set of endings, the rules of the Square of Stops, and the fact that the stem ends in κ throughout the paradigm.

⁴ According to Funk, nine words in BAG end in ψ.

sing.		pl.	
σάρξ	σάρκ-ς	σάρκες	σάρκ-ες
σαρκός	σαρκ-ός	σαρκῶν	σαρκ-ῶν
σαρκί	σαρκ-ί	σάρξι(ν)	σάρκ-σι(ν)
σάρκα	σάρκ-α	σάρκας	σάρκ-ας

- In most of the forms of this word the κ stem ending is clear and the endings in the abstract pattern above fit neatly with no problem.
- In the case of the nom-sg and dat-pl the stem is also a κ but it has come up against the σ of the endings (ς in the nom-sg and σι(ν) in the dat-pl). The Square of Stops indicates that when κ and σ meet they form ξ (which makes sense intuitively since the sound of κ + σ is ξ). So the nom-sg and dat-pl are σαρκ-ς and σαρκ-σιν but they come out σάρξ and σάρξιν. This means that when you see a word that ends in ξ you should recognize that there's a good chance it has the nom-sg ending ς hidden in it, and, likewise, a word ending in ξιν probably contains the dat-pl ending σιν hidden in it.
- If you came across σάρκος and you were not familiar with the word then you would expect it to be a nom-sg Second Declension. However, there might be clues in the text that steer you away from this analysis. For example, if you saw τῆς σάρκος then the article would lead you to expect this to be a Third Declension gen. Or perhaps the structure of the sentence might lead you to expect a gen. at this point instead of a nom. But if there are no such clues then when you look up the word in a lexicon to get its meaning you discover that the form σάρκος is not listed. Because you have thoroughly memorized the Sneeze Sheet you know that ος is also a common gen-sg ending in the Third Declension. But then arises the problem of getting back to the lexical form, i.e., the nom-sg. Since you know that you are probably dealing with a Third Declension you expect the lexical form will end in ς or -. So you add these endings according to the rules of the Square of Stops and you come up with σάρξ. As throughout these notes, if you are using software then knowing the lexical form is not as important – though, NB, software and other parsing guides are not error free.

The Third Declension words that have a stem with a palatal (κ, γ, χ) or a labial (π, β, φ) make changes in the nom-sg and dat-pl similar to what we've seen in the case of σάρξ.

The other pattern in the Square of Stops, the dentals (τ, δ, θ, ζ), has a feature that makes it look a little different. Consider the paradigm of the common word χάρις.

χάρις	χάριτες
χάριτος	χαρίτων
χάριτι	χάρισι(ν)
χάρिता (χάριν)	χάριτας

- Here the endings are clear in all the same places as in σάρξ. But now the endings are also clear in the nom-sg and dat-pl because when a σ comes up against a dental, the dental drops out.
- Notice also that for this particular word both of the options listed on the Sneeze Sheet for the acc-sg ending (α and ν) are employed.

So you should work through the paradigms above of σάρξ, κώνωψ and χάρις to see how the endings you memorize from the Sneeze Sheet are present in each of these words and are able to be recognized. This exercise is the basic task for everything in this handout.

You should also learn how to get back to the lexical form. Attention to the stem endings is key for each of the Third Declension patterns. For our first pattern you can memorize the following rule for getting back to the lexical form – it is simply an application of the Square of Stops:

1. π, β, φ	+ σ = ψ	The nom. sg. ending for these labials, palatals and dentals is ζ. Adding a σ to the stem produces ψ, ξ, or ζ.
κ, γ, χ	+ σ = ξ	
τ, δ, θ, ζ	+ σ = ζ	

In other words, think, “if the stem ends in π, β, φ add ζ and get ψ.”

So, for example, if you come across λαίλαπι you can see the dat-sg ending of the Third Declension (ι), which gives you the basic parsing. You’re not sure of the gender, though you can expect it to be either masc or fem since the stem ends π and thus it is a Pattern One Third Declension. Applying the rule I’ve just given, you expect the lexical form to be λαῖλαψ, which it is.

Pattern Two – Stem endings in ματ

The second pattern is a development of the dentals of the first pattern. This is a pattern for the neuters with ματ in the stem.

2. N.	ὄνομα	ὀνόματα
	ὀνόματος	ὀνομάτων
	ὀνόματι	ὀνόμασι(ν)
	ὄνομα	ὀνόματα

Recall the endings for Third Declension neuters:

	Neut.
–	α
ος	ων
ι	σι(ν)
–	α

- Notice how they fit neatly on the stem in most places, once you realize that the stem ending is really τ, as in ὄνοματ-, not just μα.
- There are two places the τ drops out. The first is in the dat-pl when the ending σι(ν) is added, which follows the rule we saw in Pattern One that σ causes a dental to drop.
- The other place the τ drops is in the nom-sg and acc-sg, when the zero form is added. It drops here because τ cannot end a word. Once you know this extra fact about τ then the pattern makes perfect sense.

The little rule for getting back to the lexical form for Pattern Two is:

2. If the stem ends in τ: Drop the τ and leave it (i.e., = –) or add ζ.

I add the extra bit about possibly adding ζ since the rule then takes into account the Pattern One words that end in τ and also a few other irregular words. If there is a μα before the τ then it is virtually always a neuter of this second pattern and uses the zero form.

Pattern Three – Stem endings in ρ and ν

In the next pattern we are back to masc/fem words and therefore the following set of endings apply:

	Masc./Fem.
ς, –	ες
ος	ων
ι	σι(ν)
α, ν	ας, ες

Once again, go through the following patterns of actual words to see how the abstract set of endings enable you to identify the case and number of these forms. Note that the nom-sg uses the zero form.

3. M./F.	πατήρ	πατέρες	εἰκών	εἰκόνες
	πατρός	πατέρων	εἰκόνης	εἰκόνων
	πατρί	πατράσι(v)	εἰκόνι	εἰκόσι(v)
	πατέρα	πατέρας	εἰκόνα	εἰκόνας

- There are two points that call for special attention in this pattern. The first concerns the dat-pl. In both words the σι(v) ending is nice and clear so you know it is a dat-pl, but in πατράσι(v) there is an added α, and in εἰκόσι(v) the v has dropped out. These features are only problems for finding the lexical form, with the lack of the v being the more troublesome, since the stem ending itself is missing.
- The other peculiarity of these patterns is how the vowel in the middle of the words near their stems shifts from long to short to disappearing altogether, e.g., πατήρ – πατέρα – πατρός. If you were writing or speaking the language you would need to remember all of this, but for just reading texts this feature does not affect the recognition of case and number.

This vowel gradation could, however, confuse you when you went to the lexicon to look up the meaning of the word. The following rule takes care of this problem.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 3. If the stem ends in ρ: | The final syllable is ηρ or ωρ. |
| If the stem ends in ν: | The final syllable is ην or ων. |

So, for example, if you see a word like πατέρα in a text your first thought, unless the context helps you out, is that this is a fem-nom-sg of the First Declension. When you do not find this form in the lexicon then you realize it is a Third Declension with a ρ stem ending. The fact that it is in this particular pattern means the α ending will be acc-sg since this pattern is masc/fem (i.e., this α is not the neut-pl α). It also means you expect the lexical form to end in ηρ since the vowel before the ρ in πατέρα is ε which lengthens to η.

On the other hand, if you see a word like πατρός and you figure you are dealing with a Third Declension then you can't know whether the final syllable is ηρ or ωρ (since there is no visible vowel to length). In such a case you simply look up in the lexicon both possibilities according to rule number 3., i.e., πατήρ and πατώρ and discover that the first one is correct.

Pattern Four – Stem endings in ντ

The fourth pattern combines elements of the previous patterns.

4. M.	ἄρχων	ἄρχοντες
	ἄρχοντος	ἄρχόντων
	ἄρχοντι	ἄρχουσι(ν)
	ἄρχοντα	ἄρχοντας

- Here the endings are all clear (noting the zero form in the nom-sg). There is a τ ending which drops in the nom-sg and dat-pl as in Pattern One and Pattern Two. Where this τ drops out in the nom-sg the vowel before the ν lengthens, as in Pattern Three.
- The problem point in this pattern is, as often, the dat-pl. When the ending σι(ν) is added it causes both the ν and the τ to drop, and the vowel to lengthen to compensate. This form needs special attention since it is identical to the common verb form: pres. ind. act. 3 pl.!

Pattern Five – Stem endings in ε

In Pattern Five we don't have the problems caused by consonants coming up against one another. Now the problem is vowels coming into contact with other vowels. Accordingly, the list of Vowel Contractions on the Sneeze Sheet comes into play. Furthermore, things really get interesting because many of the specific patterns within Pattern Five include a shift of the stem ending in some of their forms. Pattern Five of the Third Declension contains some of the more troublesome elements of Greek morphology, in my opinion. But there is a pattern to it, and it does continue to use the same set of basic endings we've been working with.

There are three specific paradigms within Pattern Five. We'll look at them one at a time.

5a. N.	ἔθνος	ἔθνη
	ἔθνους	ἔθνῶν
	ἔθει	ἔθεισι(ν)
	ἔθνος	ἔθνη

This is a neuter pattern so it uses the endings

	Neut.	
–	α	
ος	ων	
ι	σι(ν)	
–	α	

ἔθνος	ἔθνος- –	ἔθνη	ἔθνε-α
ἔθνους	ἔθνε-ος	ἔθνῶν	ἔθνε-ων
ἔθει	ἔθνε-ι	ἔθεισι(ν)	ἔθνε-σι(ν)
ἔθνος	ἔθνε- –	ἔθνη	ἔθνε-α

- This pattern has a stem ending in ος in the nom-sg and acc-sg, and the stem ending ε everywhere else. So the form ἔθνος is really the stem plus a zero form.
- In the gen-sg the stem is ἔθνε-. When the gen-sg ending ος is added then the ε of the stem ending and the ο in ος contract to form ου, hence the form ἔθνους.

This contraction, and the others that follow, are on the Sneeze Sheet to be memorized. I've organized the chart on the Sneeze Sheet according to the forms you see in a text. That is, the chart has: ου < εο, οε, οο. This means that the diphthong ου can be formed from any of the three combinations noted. The Vowel Contraction chart is not comprehensive, but it does include the forms of contraction that cover most cases.

- In the dat-sg and dat-pl the endings do not contract with the ε stem ending so in these forms the endings are clear.
- In the nom-pl and acc-pl the ε contracts with the α ending to produce η. In the gen-pl the ε and ω contract to form ω with an accent.

Recognition of how the forms in this pattern continue the basic pattern for neuter Third Declensions is helpful for learning to recognize these forms. But they remain difficult since most of the forms in this pattern can be confused with other forms in other patterns, even at some points with verbs! Fortunately, the definite article is often present to steer you straight as to what you are looking at.

Getting back to the lexical form is another difficulty in this pattern because of the stem shift between ος and ε. I have a rough and ready rule for dealing with this chaos, but first we need to see the other patterns within Pattern Five.

5b. F.	πόλις	πόλεις
	πόλεως	πόλεων
	πόλει	πόλεσι(ν)
	πόλιν	πόλεις

- This pattern uses the masc/fem set of endings since all the words that follow this pattern are in the fem. The stem shift is between ι and ε.

- Several of the forms show the ε stem and the ending clearly.
- Likewise, the ι stem in the nom-sg and acc-sg and the endings in these two forms are clear (note the use of the ν ending instead of the α for the acc-sg in this pattern).
- There are two points that call for more careful attention. In the gen-sg the ending ος has lengthened to ως through a series of stages in the history of the language (see Funk, Smyth and/or Mounce for the details). It's probably easiest just to learn εως as another form for the gen-sg in the Third Declension. Recognizing the connection with the normal gen-sg Third Declension ending ος should help you remember this form.
- In the nom-pl and the acc-pl the stem is ε and the ending in both cases is ες. That is, in the acc-pl instead of using the ending ας (as in most Third Declension masc or fem) the alternative ending in the paradigm on the Sneeze Sheet is used. The combination of ε + ε produces the diphthong ει. While all of this follows the basic paradigm and the rules of vowel contraction, what results is quite confusing because it looks like a verb (pres. ind. act. 3 sg., e.g., λύεις), and the acc-pl is hard to remember. Fortunately, the definite article is often present to help (αἱ πόλεις, τὰς πόλεις), but this one still takes some getting used to. It is a good example of why you can't simply memorize the Sneeze Sheet and not pay attention to the actual paradigms.

5c. M.	βασιλεύς	βασιλεῖς
	βασιλέως	βασιλέων
	βασιλεῖ	βασιλεῦσι(ν)
	βασιλέα	βασιλεῖς

- The final pattern among the main Third Declension patterns has a stem shift between εν in the nom-sg and dat-pl and the ε elsewhere.
- The issues we looked at in the gen-sg, nom-pl and acc-pl in the 5b pattern recur here. Whereas 5b words are fem, 5d are masc.
- Again, the recognition of the presence of the basic paradigm here will help make sense out of the actual forms found in this pattern.

As with all of the material on parsing, ask yourself, “What will help me recognize this form.” The material on the Sneeze Sheet is designed to give you a fighting chance in most cases.

The other question to ask is, “How will I get the lexical form?” For these Pattern Five words of the Third Declension I have not found any easy way to get to the lexical form with precision. So my down and dirty rule is:

5. If the stem ends in ε (usually in a contracted form):

The nominative form is usually ος, ις, ευς, or ης.

In other words, if you see a form that you suspect is a Third Declension with an ε stem then go to the lexicon and look for a word with the stem plus one of these five endings. (I've included ης at this point because it will come up below in Third Declension adjectives.)

So, for example, if you see βυρσέως in a passage and recognize the word as a gen-sg from an ε stem Third Declension, then in the lexicon you would look it up under βυρσ- and then start adding these five endings, i.e., the forms βυρσος, βυρσις, βυρσευς, and βυρσης. This is easy to do since any of these forms will be on the same page of the lexicon – just look to see which one actually exists. If you know the paradigms of these types of words well then there are only two of these endings that are real possibilities since εως only occurs in the ις and ευς patterns. But until you've mastered the details of the patterns my rough rule should work quite well for finding the lexical form of most of the words which follow these Third Declension patterns, always recognizing that there are irregular words out there as well (for which see Funk and/or Mounce).

Pattern Six – Stem endings in υ

M./F.	ἰχθύς	ἰχθύες
	ἰχθύος	ἰχθύων
	ἰχθύϊ	ἰχθύσι(ν)
	ἰχθύν	ἰχθύας

After the horrors of the patterns in Pattern Five this sixth pattern is a relief. The stem is υ and doesn't change, and the endings are all clear.

The material on the Third Declension is summarized on the next page for quick reference and memorization. Pattern Six is not included since it causes no problems.

2. Adjectives: 3-1-3

The basic pattern for these adjectives that use Third and First Declension forms is πᾶς, πᾶσα, πᾶν, which is on the Sneeze Sheet.

πᾶς	πᾶσα	πᾶν
παντός	πάσης	παντός
παντί	πάσῃ	παντί
πάντα	πᾶσαν	πᾶν

πάντες	πᾶσαι	πάντα
πάντων	πασῶν	πάντων
πᾶσι(ν)	πάσαις	πᾶσι(ν)
πάντας	πάσας	πάντα

The masc and neut follow the Third Declension. Work through the pattern with the notes above on Pattern Four Third Declension words.

- There are two main differences from that pattern. The first is the use of ς in the masc-nom-sg (which, as usual, makes the ντ drop out and the vowel lengthen, here evident in the accent on the α – the same thing happens in the dat-pl).
- The other important feature to note is the inclusion of σ in the fem forms (see Funk, Smyth and/or Mounce for the background of this feature). Because a σ is added the ντ drops out and the vowel is then lengthened. This pattern occurs also in the participles, discussed below.

There are also two termination adjectives that use Third Declension endings, e. g., ἀληθής, ἀληθές (112 words in BAGD follow this pattern – it is important!).

Masc./Fem.	Neut.	Masc./Fem.	Neut.
ἀληθής	ἀληθές	ἄφρων	ἄφρον
ἀληθοῦς	ἀληθοῦς	ἄφρονος	ἄφρονος
ἀληθεῖ	ἀληθεῖ	ἄφρονα	ἄφρονα
ἀληθῆ	ἀληθές	ἄφρονα	ἄφρονα
ἀληθεῖς	ἀληθῆ	ἄφρονες	ἄφρονα
ἀληθῶν	ἀληθῶν	ἄφρόνων	ἄφρόνων
ἀληθέσι(ν)	ἀληθέσι(ν)	ἄφροσι(ν)	ἄφροσι(ν)
ἀληθεῖς	ἀληθῆ	ἄφρονας	ἄφρονα

- The paradigm for ἀληθής should be studied closely in the light of the discussion of Pattern Five Third Declension above. ἄφρων is similar to Pattern Three Third Declension.

A couple of important words have a mixed pattern, e.g., πολὺς, πολλή, πολύ and μέγας, μεγάλη, μέγα.

<u>πολύς</u>	πολλή	<u>πολύ</u>	<u>μέγας</u>	μεγάλη	<u>μέγα</u>
πολλοῦ	πολλῆς	πολλοῦ	μεγάλου	μεγάλης	μεγάλου
πολλῶ	πολλῆ	πολλῶ	μεγάλῳ	μεγάλῃ	μεγάλῳ
<u>πολύν</u>	πολλήν	<u>πολύ</u>	<u>μέγαν</u>	μεγάλην	<u>μέγα</u>
πολλοί	πολλαί	πολλά	μεγάλοι	μεγάλαι	μεγάλα
πολλῶν	πολλῶν	πολλῶν	μεγάλων	μεγάλων	μεγάλων
πολλοῖς	πολλαῖς	πολλοῖς	μεγάλοις	μεγάλαις	μεγάλοις
πολλούς	πολλάς	πολλά	μεγάλους	μεγάλας	μεγάλα

- In these patterns the masc/neut–nom–sg AND masc/neut–acc–sg follow the Third Declension, the rest of the pattern is regular 2-1-2.
- If you memorize these words with all three nom–sg then you will have most of the irregularities. That is, for vocabulary, memorize: πολὺς, πολλή, πολύ, much, many. Not: πολὺς, much, many. Knowledge of Third Declension endings should enable you to recognize the masc–acc–sg form when one shows up in a text.

D. Pronouns

The first and second person pronouns are given on the Sneeze Sheet and simply have to be learned.

The third person pronoun is αὐτός, ή, ό, which follows the regular 2-1-2 pattern, though the neuter singular lacks a ν, as in the definite article (τό).

αὐτός	αὐτή	αὐτό
αὐτοῦ	αὐτῆς	αὐτοῦ
αὐτῶ	αὐτῆ	αὐτῶ
αὐτόν	αὐτήν	αὐτό
αὐτοί	αὐταί	αὐτά
αὐτῶν	αὐτῶν	αὐτῶν
αὐτοῖς	αὐταῖς	αὐτοῖς
αὐτούς	αὐτάς	αὐτά

II. Verbal System

The forms of εἶμί, being somewhat irregular, are given on the Sneeze Sheet to be memorized.

A. Personal endings, augment, reduplication, tense suffixes

- If your knowledge of augments (syllabic and temporal) and reduplication (the most common forms being duplication of initial consonant and reduplication in the form of simple augment) is rusty then you should review this information from your first year book.
- The personal endings are given on the Sneeze Sheet, as well as the Square of Stops and Vowel Contraction which are needed for the addition of some endings to some stems, along the same lines as the discussion above on Third Declension forms. As you work through the discussion that follows you should study carefully the actual paradigms, noting which endings are applied in each paradigm and whether they are affected by vowel contraction or the Square of Stops.

B. Moods

1. Indicative

a. Primary Tenses

1) Present

- There is no good explanation for the use of εἰ in 2/3-sg. Its existence is noted under the verb chart on the Sneeze Sheet.
- The alternatives given for 3-sg and 3-pl on the Personal Endings chart (i.e., σι(v) and ασι(v)) are used for μι verbs.
- The σαῖ ending in 2-sg-mid/pass occurs in μι verbs, the contracted form η (σ dropped out) in ω verbs.
- Note carefully how the personal endings from the Sneeze Sheet are affected by the rules of contraction in the contract verbs in the paradigms that follow below.
- The μι verbs endings are clear enough from the personal endings on the Sneeze Sheet, but note in the paradigms that follow below the shift from long to short vowels in the stems of some of the words. For reading purposes these are not a problem since they don't obscure the personal endings and you can usually figure out the tense and mood, especially if you learn the principle parts for these words.

λύω	ἀγαπῶ	ποιῶ	πληρῶ
λύεις	ἀγαπᾶς	ποιεῖς	πληροῖς
λύει	ἀγαπᾷ	ποιεῖ	πληροῖ
λύομεν	ἀγαπῶμεν	ποιοῦμεν	πληροῦμεν
λύετε	ἀγαπᾶτε	ποιεῖτε	πληροῦτε
λύουσι(ν)	ἀγαπῶσι(ν)	ποιοῦσι(ν)	πληροῦσι(ν)

λύομαι	ἀγαπῶμαι	ποιοῦμαι	πληροῦμαι
λύῃ	ἀγαπᾶσαι	ποιῆ	πληροῖ
λύεται	ἀγαπᾶται	ποιεῖται	πληροῦται
λύόμεθα	ἀγαπῶμεθα	ποιούμεθα	πληρούμεθα
λύεσθε	ἀγαπᾶσθε	ποιεῖσθε	πληροῦσθε
λύονται	ἀγαπῶνται	ποιοῦνται	πληροῦνται

τίθημι	ἵστημι	δίδωμι	δείκνυμι
τίθης	ἵστης	δίδως	δείκνυς
τίθησι(ν)	ἵστησι(ν)	δίδωσι(ν)	δείκνυσι(ν)
τίθεμεν	ἵσταμεν	δίδομεν	δείκνυμεν
τίθετε	ἵστατε	δίδοτε	δείκνυτε
τιθέασι(ν)	ἵστᾶσι(ν)	διδόασι(ν)	δεικνύασι(ν)

τίθεμαι	ἵσταμαι	δίδομαι	δείκνυμαι
τίθεσαι	ἵστασαι	δίδοσαι	δείκνυσαι
τίθεται	ἵσταται	δίδοται	δείκνυται
τιθέμεθα	ἵστάμεθα	διδόμεθα	δεικνύμεθα
τίθεσθε	ἵστασθε	δίδοσθε	δείκνυσθε
τίθενται	ἵστανται	δίδονται	δείκνυνται

2) Future

a) Active and Middle

- σ futures are no problem except when the stem ends in a consonant, for which one needs the Square of Stops.
- Liquid futures have a stem ending in λ, μ, ν, or ρ. Their pattern looks like the Present tense ε contract paradigm.

λύσω	μενῶ
λύσεις	μενεῖς
λύσει	μενεῖ
λύσομεν	μενοῦμεν
λύσετε	μενεῖτε
λύσουσι(ν)	μενοῦσι(ν)

λύσομαι	μενοῦμαι
λύση	μενή
λύσεται	μενείται
λυσόμεθα	μενούμεθα
λύσεσθε	μενεῖσθε
λύσονται	μενοῦνται

b) Passive

- The distinctive tense sign $\theta\eta\sigma$ usually identifies this one. It uses middle endings, but the person and number is clear.
- There is also a Second Future Passive that lacks the θ and sometimes has a modified stem.

λυθήσομαι	γραφήσομαι
λυθήση	γραφήση
λυθήσεται	γραφήσεται
λυθησόμεθα	γραφησόμεθα
λυθήσεσθε	γραφήσεσθε
λυθήσονται	γραφήσονται

3) Perfect

a) Active

- The 1-sg and 3-sg are zero forms.
- The tense sign changes to $\kappa\epsilon$ in the 3-sg to distinguish it from the 1-sg.
- The 3-pl takes the second alternative, $\alpha\sigma\iota(\nu)$.
- The 2 Perfect is the same pattern, but without the distinctive κ in the tense sign and usually with a modified stem.

λέλυκα	γέγονα
λέλυκας	γέγονας
λέλυκε(ν)	γέγονε(ν)
λελύκαμεν	γεγόναμεν
λυλύκατε	γεγόνατε
λελύκασι(ν)	γεγόνασι(ν)

b) Middle/Passive

- The key sign is the lack of variable vowel.
- This lack of variable vowel means that a stem that ends in a consonant will come up against a consonant in the ending.

For pattern words I will use γράφω, γεγραφ- ; δέχομαι, δεδεχ- ; πείθω, πεπειθ-

* The σαι ending (2-sg) will follow the Square of Stops.

-	π, β, φ	+ σ	>	ψ	γεγραφ + σαι	>	γέγραψαι
-	κ, γ, χ	+ σ	>	ξ	δεδεχ + σαι	>	δέδεξαι
-	τ, δ, θ, ζ	+ σ	>	σ	πεπειθ + σαι	>	πέπεισαι

* Before μαι and μεθα

-	π, β, φ	+ μ	>	μ	γεγραφ + μαι	>	γέγραμμαι
-	κ, γ, χ	+ μ	>	γ	δεδεχ + μαι	>	δέδεγμαι
-	τ, δ, θ, ζ	+ μ	>	σ	πεπειθ + μαι	>	πέπεισμαι

* Before ται and θε (i.e., σθε with the σ dropped out).

-	π, β, φ	+ τ	>	π	γεγραφ + ται	>	γέγραπται
-	κ, γ, χ	+ τ	>	κ	δεδεχ + ται	>	δέδεκται
-	τ, δ, θ, ζ	+ τ	>	σ	πεπειθ + ται	>	πέπεισται

-	π, β, φ	+ τ	>	φ	γεγραφ + (σ)θε	>	γέγραφθε
-	κ, γ, χ	+ τ	>	χ	δεδεχ + (σ)θε	>	δέδεχθε
-	τ, δ, θ, ζ	+ τ	>	σ	πεπειθ + (σ)θε	>	πέπεισθε

- Most of these forms can be identified without learning the details of these changes once one understands the kind of changes to expect.
- The third plural of verbs whose stem is a consonant is usually expressed using a periphrastic participle.

λέλυμαι	γέγραμμαι	δέδεγμαι	πέπεισμαι
λέλυσαι	γέγραψαι	δέδεξαι	πέπεισαι
λέλυται	γέγραπται	δέδεκται	πέπεισται
λελύμεθα	γεγράμμεθα	δεδέγμεθα	πεπεισμεθα
λελύσθε	γέγραφθε	δέδεχθε	πέπεισθε
λελύνται	γεγραμμένοι είσί(v)	δεδεγμένοι είσί(v)	πεπεισμένοι είσί(v)

- The rare Future Perfect Middle/Passive is built on the Perfect Middle/Passive stem, with a σ tense sign added, e. g., λελύσομαι. Often this tense is formed with a Perf. Middle/Passive Participle and the Fut. of εἶμι (e. g. ἔσται λελυμένον, Mt. 16.19).

b. Secondary Tenses

1) Imperfect

- The uncontracted forms in the first column below are straightforward.
- The contracted forms use the same personal endings but study carefully the effects of the rules of contraction.
- The endings of μι verbs follow the regular personal endings on the Sneeze Sheet, but use some of the alternate endings listed.

ἔλυον	ἐγέννων	ἐποίουν	ἐφάνερον
ἔλυες	ἐγέννας	ἐποίεις	ἐφάνερους
ἔλυε(ν)	ἐγέννα	ἐποίει	ἐφάνερου
ἐλύομεν	ἐγεννώμεν	ἐποιοῦμεν	ἐφανερῶμεν
ἐλύετε	ἐγεννᾶτε	ἐποιεῖτε	ἐφανερῶτε
ἔλυον	ἐγέννων	ἐποίουν	ἐφάνερον
ἐλύομην	ἐγεννώμην	ἐποιοῦμην	ἐφανερῶμην
ἐλύου	ἐγεννώ	ἐποιοῦ	ἐφανερῶ
ἐλύετο	ἐγεννᾶτο	ἐποιεῖτο	ἐφανερῶτο
ἐλύομεθα	ἐγεννώμεθα	ἐποιοῦμεθα	ἐφανερῶμεθα
ἐλύεσθε	ἐγεννᾶσθε	ἐποιεῖσθε	ἐφανερῶσθε
ἐλύοντο	ἐγεννώντο	ἐποιοῦντο	ἐφανερῶντο
ἐτίθην	ἴστην	ἐδίδουν	ἐδείκνυν
ἐτίθεις	ἴστης	ἐδίδους	ἐδείκνυς
ἐτίθει	ἴστη	ἐδίδου	ἐδείκνυ
ἐτίθεμεν	ἴσταμεν	ἐδίδομεν	ἐδείκνυμεν
ἐτίθετε	ἴστατε	ἐδίδοτε	ἐδείκνυτε
ἐτίθεσαν	ἴστασαν	ἐδίδοσαν	ἐδείκνυσαν
ἐπιθέμην	ἰστάμην	ἐδιδόμην	ἐδεικνύμην
ἐπιθεσαι	ἴστασο	ἐδίδοσο	ἐδείκνυσο
ἐπιθετο	ἴστατο	ἐδίδοτο	ἐδείκνυτο
ἐπιθέμεθα	ἰστάμεθα	ἐδιδόμεθα	ἐδεικνύμεθα
ἐπιθεσθε	ἴστασθε	ἐδίδοσθε	ἐδείκνυσθε
ἐπιθεντο	ἴσαντο	ἐδίδοντο	ἐδεικνυντο

2) Aorist

a) Active and Middle

1] First Aorist

- The First Aorist uses the zero form in both 1-sg and 3-sg.
- The tense sign changes to σε in the 3-sg to distinguish it from the 1-sg.
- Because the tense sign has a σ the Square of Stops is needed.
- The 2-sg-mid elides the σ of σο and then the vowels α and ο contract to ω, e.g., ἐ-πιστευ-σα-σο > ἐπιστεύσω (which looks like a future ending, but can't be future because the future does not have an augment).

ἔλυσα	ἐλυσάμην
ἔλυσας	ἐλύσω
ἔλυσε(ν)	ἐλύσατο
ἐλύσαμεν	ἐλυσάμεθα
ἐλύσατε	ἐλύσασθε
ἔλυσαν	ἐλύσαντο

2] Second Aorist

- Exactly the same signs as the Imperfect, but the stem is not the same as the Present (i.e., the Imperfect uses the Present stem).

ἔλαβον	ἐλάβομην
ἔλαβες	ἐλάβου
ἔλαβε(ν)	ἐλάβετο
ἐλάβομεν	ἐλάβομεθα
ἐλάβετε	ἐλάβεσθε
ἔλαβον	ἐλάβοντο

3] Liquid Aorist

- The stem ending (λ, μ, ν, or ρ) causes the σ to drop, but the endings are not modified.
- The stem is usually lengthened. So μένω is ἔμεινα.

ἔμεινα	ἐμεινάμην
ἔμεινας	ἐμείνω
ἔμεινε(ν)	ἐμείνατο
ἐμείναμεν	ἐμεινάμεθα
ἐμείνατε	ἐμείνασθε
ἔμειναν	ἐμείναντο

4] Root Aorist

- The personal endings are added directly to the root, i.e., the stem. There are not many such verbs, but some of them are common:

ἔστην	ἀνέβην	ἔγνων
ἔστης	ἀνέβης	ἔγνως
ἔστη	ἀνέβη	ἔγνω
ἔστημεν	ἀνέβημεν	ἔγνωμεν
ἔστητε	ἀνέβητε	ἔγνωτε
ἔστησαν	ἀνέβησαν	ἔγνωσαν

5] K Aorist

- A κ replaces the σ in the tense sign for these aorists. They are root aorists in the middle (the aorist middle of ἀφίημι is not given since it is not used).

ἔθηκα	ἔδωκα	ἀφῆκα
ἔθηκας	ἔδωκας	ἀφῆκας
ἔθηκε(ν)	ἔδωκε(ν)	ἀφῆκε(ν)
ἐθήκαμεν	ἐδώκαμεν	ἀφήκαμεν
ἐθήκατε	ἐδώκατε	ἀφήκατε
ἔθηκαν	ἔδωκαν	ἀφήκαν

ἐθέμην	ἐδόμην
ἔθου	ἔδου
ἔθετο	ἔδοτο
ἐθέμεθα	ἐδόμεθα
ἔθεσθε	ἔδοσθε
ἔθεντο	ἔδοντο

b) Passive

- The tense sign of the First Aorist Passive is θη and that of the Second Aorist Passive is simply η.
- The weird thing about Aorist Passives is that they take active endings, but the person and number are still clear.

ἐπιστεύθην	ἐγράφην
ἐπιστεύθης	ἐγράφης
ἐπιστεύθῃ	ἐγράφη
ἐπιστεύθημεν	ἐγράφημεν
ἐπιστεύθητε	ἐγράφητε
ἐπιστεύθησαν	ἐγράφησαν

3) Pluperfect

a) Active

- There is usually an augment added to the Perfect stem.
- The tense sign κει distinguishes the Pluperfect active.
- The Second Pluperfect simply lacks the κ in the tense sign.

ἐλεύκειν	ἐγεγράφειν
ἐλεύκεις	ἐγεγράφεις
ἐλεύκει(ν)	ἐγεγράφει(ν)
ἐλεύκειμεν	ἐγεγράφημεν
ἐλεύκειτε	ἐγεγράφητε
ἐλεύκεισαν	ἐγεγράφησαν

b) Middle/Passive

- The same ingredients as the Pluperfect Active, though with middle/passive endings, of course.

ἐελύμην
ἐέλυσο
ἐέλυτο
ἐελύμεθα
ἐέλυσθε
ἐέλυντο

2. Subjunctive

- The Subjunctive uses the same personal endings as the Indicative.
- As noted on the Sneeze Sheet, the long vowels η and ω are the characteristic marks of the Subjunctive. These represent the lengthening of variable vowels and tense signs.
- The variable vowel ει lengthens the ε to η and ι is subscripted: η̣ι.
- The main problem with identifying the Subjunctive is that some of its forms are identical with other forms.

- The Subjunctive of εἶμι is left off the Sneeze Sheet since it is simply the variable vowel plus ending of the Present Active: ᾠ, ᾗς, ᾗ, ᾠμεν, ᾗτε, ᾠσι.

Pres.	1 Aor.	2 Aor.	1 Aor. Pass.	2 Aor. Pass.
λύω	λύσω	λίπω	λυθῶ	γραφῶ
λύης	λύσης	λίπης	λυθῆς	γραφῆς
λύη	λύση	λίπη	λυθῆ	γραφῆ
λύωμεν	λύσωμεν	λίπωμεν	λυθῶμεν	γραφῶμεν
λύητε	λύσητε	λίπητε	λυθῆτεν	γραφῆτε
λύωσι(ν)	λύσωσι(ν)	λίπωσι(ν)	λυθῶσι(ν)	γραφῶσι(ν)
λύωμαι	λύσωμαι	λίπωμαι		
λύη	λύση	λίπη		
λύηται	λύσηται	λίπηται		
λυώμεθα	λυσώμεθα	λιπώμεθα		
λύησθε	λύσησθε	λίπησθε		
λύονται	λύσονται	λίπονται		

A sample μι verb.

Pres. Act.	Pres. Mid/Pass	Aor. Act.	Aor. Mid.
τιθῶ	τιθῶμαι	θῶ	θῶμαι
τιθῆς	τιθῆ	θῆς	θῆ
τιθῆ	τιθῆται	θῆ	θῆται
τιθῶμεν	τιθώμεθα	θῶμεν	θώμεθα
τιθῆτε	τιθῆσθε	θῆτε	θῆσθε
τιθῶσι	τιθῶνται	θῶσι	θῶνται

3. Optative

- As noted on the Sneeze Sheet, the characteristic mark of the Optative is the ι added to the variable vowel or the tense sign.
- The variable vowel in the present is ο combined with the ι.
- The μι verbs use ιη in some forms instead of a simply ι.
- According to Mounce (*Morphology of Biblical Greek*, 135) the Optative is used 68 times in the NT, only in Pres. and Aor. εἴη occurs 12 times and γένοιτο occurs 17 times, including 15 times in Paul's expression, μὴ γένοιτο.

Pres.	1 Aor.
λύοιμι	λύσαιμι
λύοις	λύσαις
λύοι	λύσαι
λύοιμεν	λύσαιμεν
λύοιτε	λύσαιτε
λύοιεν	λύσαιεν
λυοίμην	λυσάιμην
λύοιο	λύσαιο
λύοιτο	λύσαιτο
λυοίμεθα	λυσάιμεθα
λύοισθε	λύσαισθε
λύοιντο	λύσαιντο

4. Imperative

- The Imperative is recognized by its endings, given on the Sneeze Sheet, and in the Aorist by the lack of augment.
- Because the contract verbs cause problems in some forms of the Present I include their paradigms. Their forms are clear in the Aorist, but I include them also for comparison.

Present

λύε	γέννα	ποιεί	φανέρου
λύετω	γεννάτω	ποιείτω	φανερούτω
λύετε	γεννᾶτε	ποιεῖτε	φανεροῦτε
λύετωσαν	γεννάτωσαν	ποιεῖτωσαν	φανερούτωσαν
λύου	γεννῶ	ποιοῦ	φανεροῦ
λύεσθω	γεννάσθω	ποιείσθω	φανερούσθω
λύεσθε	γεννᾶσθε	ποιεῖσθε	φανεροῦσθε
λύεσθωσαν	γεννάσθωσαν	ποιείσθωσαν	φανερούσθωσαν

Present Imperative of Some μι Verbs

ἴστη ⁵	τίθει	δίδου	ἀφίει
ἰστάτω	τιθέτω	διδότω	ἀφιέτω
ἴστατε	τίθετε	δίδοτε	ἀφίετε
ἰστάτωσαν	τεθέτωσαν	διδότωσαν	ἀφιέτωσαν
ἴτασο	τίθεσο	δίδοσο	ἀφίεσο
ἰτάσθω	τιθέσθω	διδόσθω	ἀφιέσθω
ἴτασθε	τίθεσθε	δίδοσθε	ἀφίεσθε
ἰτάσθωσαν	τιθέσθωσαν	διδόσθωσαν	ἀφιέσθωσαν

1 Aorist

<u>λύσον</u> ⁶	γέννησον	ποίησον	φανέρωσον
λυσάτω	γεννήσατω	ποιήσατω	φανερώσατω
λύσατε	γεννήσατε	ποιήσατε	φανερώσατε
λυσάτωσαν	γεννησάτωσαν	ποιησάτωσαν	φανερωσάτωσαν
<u>λύσαι</u>	γέννησαι	ποίησαι	φανέρωσαι
λυσάσθω	γεννησάσθω	ποιησάσθω	φανερωσάσθω
λύσασθε	γεννήσασθε	ποιήσασθε	φανερώσασθε
λυσάσθωσαν	γεννησάσθωσαν	ποιησάσθωσαν	φανερωσάσθωσαν

2 Aor.	1 Aor. Pass.	2 Aor. Pass.	Perf.
βάλε	λύθητι	γράφητι	λέλυκε
βαλέτω	λυθήτω	γραφήτω	λελυκέτω
βάλετε	λύθητε	γράφητε	λελύκετε
βαλέτωσαν	λυθήτωσαν	γραφήτωσαν	λελυκέτωσαν

βαλοῦ	λέλυσο
βαλέσθω	λελύσθω
βάλεσθε	λέλυσθε
βαλέσθωσαν	λελύσθωσαν

⁵ ἴστη has no ending. The η is a lengthened stem ending.

⁶ According to Mounce (*Morphology of Biblical Greek*, 145, n.1), “there is no obvious reason” for the σον and σαι endings.

Aorist Imperative of Some μι Verbs

στήθι	θές	δός	ἄφες
στήτω	θέτω	δότη	ἄφέτω
στήτε	θέτε	δότε	ἄφετε
στήτωσαν	θέτωσαν	δότησαν	ἄφέτωσαν

στάθω	θέσθω	δόσθω
στάθε	θέσθε	δόσθε
στάθωσαν	θέσθωσαν	δόσθωσαν

5. Infinitive

- The Infinitive is recognized by its ending. There are only four endings for the Infinitive, as given on the Sneeze Sheet.
- The ending εν is used in the Present and 2 Aorist, so it contracts with the variable vowel ε to form ειν, except in the contract verbs, where the stem endings are included in the contraction (see the paradigm that follows for the resulting forms).
- The ending ι is used in the 1 Aorist and is simply added to the tense sign σα to form σαι.
- The other two endings, ναι and σθαι, behave themselves and are easy to recognize.

Present

λύειν	γεννᾶν	ποιεῖν	φανερῶν
λύεσθαι	γεννᾶσθαι	ποιεῖσθαι	φανερῶσθαι

Present Infinitives of Some μι Verbs

ἰσθάναι	τιθέναι	διδόναι	δεικνύναι
ἰστασθαι	τίθεσθαι	δίδοσθαι	δείκνυσθαι

1 Aorist

λύσαι	γέννησαι	ποίησαι	φανέρωσαι
λύσασθαι	γεννήσασθαι	ποιήσασθαι	φανερῶσασθαι
λυθῆναι	γεννηθῆναι	ποιηθῆναι	φανερῶθῆναι

2 Aorist

βαλεῖν
βαλέσθαι

Aorist Active and Middle Infinitives of Some μι Verbs

σπῆναι	θεῖναι	δοῦναι	ἀφεῖναι
	θέσθαι	δόσθαι	ἀφέσθαι

Perfect

λελυκέναι	γεγεννηκέναι	πεποιηκέναι	πεφανερῶκέναι
λελύσθαι	γεγεννήσθαι	πεποιήσθαι	πεφανερῶσθαι

6. Participle

- The Participle adds to the verb stem one of the three stem formatives listed on the Sneeze Sheet (ντ, οτ, μεν), to which is then added adjective endings.
- ντ signals an active Participle or Aor. Pass. μεν signals a middle or passive Participle. οτ signals a Perf. Act. Participle. More specifically:
 - * ντ – Pres. Act., Fut. Act., Aor. Act., Aor. Pass.
 - * μεν – Pres. M./P., Fut. Mid., Fut. Pass., Aor. Mid., Perf. M./P.
 - * οτ – Perf. Act.
- The paradigm of πᾶς is given on the Sneeze Sheet as a model for participles with ντ. These patterns follow 3-1-3 adjectives.
- The middle and passive participles that use μεν follow 2-1-2 adjectives.
- The Participle box on the Sneeze Sheet contains the nom-sg endings and the stem formative for the main paradigms of the Participle. The Future is not included because its paradigm is identical to the Present, but with the σ tense sign added.
- The material in the Participle box gives for memorization the two hardest forms of the paradigm and provides the main ingredients for the rest of the paradigm. This information is conveyed as follows:

- * The masc-sg and neut-sg forms require special attention since τ cannot end a word and often drops when σ is added.
 - λυ – οντ – zero > λύον, which remains in the neut but in the masc the ο is lengthened to λύων.
 - λε – λυ – κ – οτ – ς > λελυκός, which remains as such in the neut but in the masc the ο is lengthened to λελυκός.
- * The fem-sg form reminds you that a σ is added before the stem formatives, causing the ντ and the οτ to drop out, and the vowel is then lengthened throughout the fem.
- * In 3-1-3 patterns the dat-pl adjective ending is σι(ν) the σ of which causes the same dropping and lengthening as in the fem. So you should use the fem. form in the box to remind yourself of this characteristic as well. λυ – ο – ντ – σι(ν) > λυοῦσι(ν).

Pres. Act.

λύων	λύουσα	λύον
λύοντος	λυούσης	λύοντος
λύοντι	λυούση	λύοντι
λύοντα	λύουσαν	λύον
λύοντες	λύουσαι	λύοντα
λυόντων	λυουσῶν	λυόντων
λύουσι(ν)	λυούσαις	λύουσι(ν)
λύοντας	λυούσας	λύοντα

Pres. M./P.

λυόμενος	λυομένη	λυόμενον
λυομένου	λυομένης	λυομένου
λυομένῳ	λυομένη	λυομένῳ
λυόμενον	λυομένην	λυόμενον
λυόμενοι	λυόμεναι	λυόμενα
λυομένων	λυομένων	λυομένων
λυομένοις	λυομέναις	λυομένοις
λυομένους	λυομένας	λυόμενα

Aor. Act.

λύσας	λύσασα	λύσαν
λύσαντος	λυσάσης	λύσαντος
λύσαντι	λυσάση	λύσαντι
λύσαντα	λύσασαν	λύσαν
λύσαντες	λύσασαι	λύσαντα
λυσάντων	λυσασῶν	λυσάντων
λύσασι(ν)	λυσάσαις	λύσασι(ν)
λύσαντας	λυσάσας	λύσαντα

Aor. Mid.

λυσάμενος	λυσαμένη	λυσάμενον
λυσαμένου	λυσαμένης	λυσαμένου
λυσαμένῳ	λυσαμένη	λυσαμένῳ
λυσάμενον	λυσαμένην	λυσάμενον
λυσάμενοι	λυσάμεναι	λυσάμενα
λυσαμένων	λυσαμένων	λυσαμένων
λυσάμενοις	λυσαμέναις	λυσάμενοις
λυσαμένους	λυσαμένας	λυσάμενα

Aor. Pass.

λυθείς	λυθεῖσα	λυθέν
λυθέντος	λυθείσης	λυθέντος
λυθέντι	λυθείση	λυθέντι
λυθέντα	λυθεῖσαν	λυθέν
λυθέντες	λυθεῖσαι	λυθέντα
λυθέντων	λυθεισῶν	λυθέντων
λυθεῖσι(ν)	λυθείσαις	λυθεῖσι(ν)
λυθέντας	λυθείσας	λυθέντα

Perf. Act.

λελυκώς	λελυκυῖα	λελυκός
λελυκότος	λελυκυίας	λελυκότος
λελυκότι	λελυκυία	λελυκότι
λελυκότα	λελυκυῖαν	λελυκός
λελυκότες	λελυκυῖαι	λελυκότα
λελυκότων	λελυκυιῶν	λελυκότων
λελυκόσι(ν)	λελυκυίαις	λελυκόσι(ν)
λελυκότας	λελυκυίας	λελυκότα

Perf. M./P.

λελυμένος	λελυμένη	λελυμένον
λελυμένου	λελυμένης	λελυμένου
λελυμένῳ	λελυμένη	λελυμένῳ
λελυμένον	λελυμένην	λελυμένον
λελυμένοι	λελυμένοι	λελυμένα
λελυμένων	λελυμένων	λελυμένων
λελυμένοις	λελυμέναις	λελυμένοις
λελυμένους	λελυμένας	λελυμένα

C. Principal Parts

- Most verbs form their principal parts using the same stem as the present or with relatively slight changes, such as those caused by the Square of Stops or vowel lengthening in the stem. These slight changes usually do not prevent you from recognizing the verb.
- Other changes are much more drastic. Often the actual stem is found in the Aorist and it is the Present form that has been modified. At other times entirely different words are used to form the tense system of a verb.
- The following is a basic list of irregular verbs in the NT to supplement the Sneeze Sheet. Not every part of these verb patterns is irregular. For more information on the various patterns in the principal parts of verbs see Funk, ch. 31 (*A Beginning-Intermediate Grammar*, Vol. 1, 355–375) and/or Mounce, #30–35 (*Morphology of Biblical Greek*, 63–78).

Important Principal Parts of Verbs
in the Greek New Testament

The following list contains the most irregular forms among the verbs used 50 times or more in the Greek New Testament. I have also included πιστεύω as an example of a regular verb and ἀγαπάω, τηρέω and πληρώω for the patterns of contract verbs.

I have not included alternate forms where they occur. For example, the aorist form εἶπον also occurs with first aorist endings (εἶπα, εἶπας, etc.).

Forms within parentheses do not occur in the New Testament but are included for those who find that it helps to learn a full pattern and for those who want to read beyond the New Testament.

Forms with a dash in front of them occur in the New Testament only in compound form, that is, with a preposition on the front.

Present	Future	Aorist (A/M)	Perfect (A)	Perfect (M/P)	Aorist (P)
ἀγαπάω	ἀγαπήσω	ἠγάπησα	ἠγάπηκα	ἠγάπημαι	ἠγαπήθην
ἄγω	ἄξω	ἦγαγον	(ἦχα)	ἦγμαι	ἦχθην
αἶρω	ἄρῶ	ἦρα	ἦρκα	ἦρμαι	ἦρθην
ἀπόλλυμι	ἀπολέσω	ἀπόλεσα	ἀπόλωλα		
ἀποστέλλω	ἀποστελῶ	ἀπέστειλα	ἀπέσταλκα	ἀπέσταλμαι	ἀπεστάλην
ἀφήμι	ἀφήσω	ἀφήκα	ἀφεῖκα	ἀφεῖμαι	ἀφέθην
βάλλω	βαλῶ	ἔβαλον	βέβληκα	βέβλημαι	ἐβλήθην
γίνομαι	γενήσομαι	ἐγενόμην	γέγονα	γεγένημαι	ἐγενήθην
γινώσκω	γνώσομαι	ἔγνων	ἔγνωκα	ἔγνωσμαι	ἐγνώσθην
δίδωμι	δώσω	ἔδωκα	δέδωκα	δέδομαι	ἐδόθην
ἔρχομαι	ἐλεύσομαι	ἦλθον	ἐλήλυθα		
ἐσθίω	φάγομαι	ἔφαγον			
εὐρίσκω	εὐρήσω	εὔρον	εὔρηκα	(εὔρημαι)	εὔρέθην
ἔχω	ἔξω	ἔσχον	ἔσχηκα		
ἴστημι	στήσω	ἔστησα	ἔστηκα	(ἔσταμαι)	ἑστάθην
λαμβάνω	λήμψομαι	ἔλαβον	εἴληφα	εἴλημμαι	ἐλήμφθην
λέγω	ἔρῶ	εἶπον	εἶρηκα	εἶρημαι	ἐρρέθην
ὀράω	ὄψομαι	εἶδον	έώρακα		ὠφθην
πείθω	πείσω	ἔπεισα	πέποιθα	πέπεισμαι	ἐπέισθην
πίνω	πίομαι	ἔπιον	πέπωκα	(πέπομαι)	ἐπόθην
πίπτω	πεσοῦμαι	ἔπεσον	πέπτωκα		
πιστεύω	πιστεύσω	ἐπίστευσα	πεπίστευκα	πεπίστευμαι	ἐπίστεύθην
πληρόω	πληρώσω	ἐπλήρωσα	πεπλήρωκα	πεπλήρωμαι	ἐπληρώθην
σώζω	σώσω	ἔσωσα	σέσωκα	σέσωσμαι	ἑσώθην
τηρέω	τηρήσω	ἐτήρησα	τετήρηκα	τετήρημαι	ἐτηρήθην
τίθημι	θήσω	ἔθηκα	τέθεικα	τέθειμαι	ἑτέθην
φέρω	οἴσω	ἦνεγκα	-ἐνήνοχα		ἠνέχθην
χαίρω	χαρήσομαι				ἐχάρην

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