



THE BASIC GREEK VERB:

3RD PERSON IMPERFECT AND AORIST INDICATIVE
ACTIVE/DEPONENT

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Augment in Imperfect and Aorist

- Both tenses normally add an **augment [ε-]** as a prefix
- The augment is applied to the verb **stem**.
 - If the verb already has a prefix, then the augment goes between the prefix and the stem.
 - ἀποχωρέω becomes ἀπεχώρε-
- When the stem begins with a vowel, that vowel is lengthened.

Adding augments to verbs beginning with vowels

- $\varepsilon + \alpha > \eta$
- $\varepsilon + \varepsilon > \eta$
- $\varepsilon + \iota > \iota$ [short to long]
- $\varepsilon + \omicron > \omega$
- $\varepsilon + \upsilon > \upsilon$ [short to long]
- $\alpha\iota > \eta$
- $\varepsilon + \varepsilon\iota > \eta$
- $\varepsilon + \alpha\upsilon > \eta\upsilon$
- $\varepsilon + \varepsilon\upsilon > \eta\upsilon$
- $\varepsilon + \omicron\iota > \omega$

When the verb stem ends with a vowel, that vowel also contracts/lengthens

- Epsilon contract verbs
 - Examples: αἰρέω, βοηθέω
 - $\epsilon + \epsilon = \epsilon\iota$
 - $\epsilon + \omicron = \omicron\upsilon$
- Alpha contract verbs
 - Example: νικάω
 - $\alpha + \epsilon = \alpha$ [long]
 - $\alpha + \omicron = \omega$

Imperfect summarized

- Continuous or repeated action in the past.
 - Translated “was” or “were.”
 - Start with the present stem = 1PP = lemma
- 1. Identify the Present stem
 - Remove $-\omega$ or $-\omicron\mu\alpha\iota$ from the 1PP
- 2. Add an epsilon as an **augment** [prefix]
- 3. Apply the 3rd person imperfect endings
 - **$-\epsilon(\nu)$** / **$-\omicron\nu$** for active
 - **$-\epsilon\tau\omicron$** / **$-\omicron\nu\tau\omicron$** for deponent

Imperfect examples: active

[lemma/pres 1st sg > imperf 3rd sg and pl]

Remember: accents on verbs are recessive

- πέμπ-ω > ἔπεμπε, ἔπεμπον [regular]
 - *He was sending; they were sending*
- ἄρχ-ω > ἤρχε, ἤρχον [begins with a vowel]
 - *He was ruling; they were ruling*
- βοηθέ-ω > έβοήθει, έβοήθουν [ε- contract]
 - *He was helping; they were helping*
- νικά-ω > ένικα, ένικων [α- contract]
 - *He was conquering; they were conquering*

Imperfect Examples: deponent

- End with $-\omicron\mu\alpha\iota$ in the lemma, which you take off to get the stem.
- Add the augment to the front
- Add the personal endings to the back
 - 3rd sg ends in $-\epsilon\tau\omicron$
 - 3rd pl ends in $-\omicron\nu\tau\omicron$

Imperfect deponent examples

- γίνν-ομαι > ἐγίννετο, ἐγίννοντο
 - *He was becoming; they were becoming*
- μάχ-ομαι > ἐμάχετο, ἐμάχοντο
 - *He was fighting; they were fighting*
- ἔρχ-ομαι > ἔρχετο, ἔρχοντο [begins with vowel]
 - *He was coming; they were coming*
- ἡγέ-ομαι > ἡγεῖτο, ἡγοῦντο [ε- contract]
 - *He was leading; they were leading*

Aorist Stem

- Completed action in the past.
- Divided between:
 - 1st aorist (also called “weak”)
 - 2nd aorist (also called “strong”).
- Built off the third principal part
 - **Active 3PP usually ends in**
 - **-σα or -α [1st aor]**
 - **-ον [2nd aor]**

1st or 2nd Aorist?

- θύω, θύσω, ἔθυσα, τέθυκα, τέθυμαι, ἐτύθην [*sacrifice*]
- ἄρχω, ἄρξω, ἤρξα, ἤρχα, ἤργμαι, ἤρχθην [*begin/rule*]
- ἔχω, ἔξω/σχήσω, ἔσχον, ἔσχηκα, ἔσχημαι, — [*have/hold*]
- λαμβάνω, λήψομαι, ἔλαβον, εἵληφα, εἵλημαι, ἐλήφθην [*take*]
- πέμπω, πέμψω, ἔπεμψα, πέπομφα, πέπεμμαι, ἐπέμφθην [*send*]

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- ἄρχω, ἄρξω, ἤρξα, ἤρχα, ἤργμαι, ἤρχθην [*begin/rule*]
- ἔχω, ἔξω/σχήσω, ἔσχον, ἔσχηκα, ἔσχημαι, — [*have/hold*]
- λαμβάνω, λήψομαι, ἔλαβον, εἵληφα, εἵλημαι, ἐλήφθην [*take*]
- πέμπω, πέμψω, ἔπεμψα, πέπομφα, πέπεμμαι, ἐπέμφθην [*send*]

First Aorist Active: regular or contract

- Get the stem from the 3PP
- Augment prefix (ϵ -) is already added to the 3PP
- Sigma suffix ($-\sigma$ -) is already added to the 3PP
- If the stem ends in a vowel, it normally lengthens before the sigma [already in 3PP]
- All you have to do is remove the $-\alpha$ of the 1st person singular and add the appropriate personal endings
 - 3rd sg = $-\epsilon$
 - 3rd pl = $-\alpha\nu$

1st Aorist regular examples

- θύω, ἔ-θυ-σ-α > ἔθυσε, ἔθυσαν
 - *He sacrificed; they sacrificed*
- στρατεύω, ἐ-στράτευ-σ-α > ἐστράτευσε, ἐστράτευσαν
 - *He waged war; they waged war*

The sigma may combine with the consonant that precedes it

○ Palatals γ, κ, χ + σ = ξ

- ἄρχω, ἤρξα > ἤρξε, ἤρξαν [*He ruled; they ruled*]
- λέγω, ἔλεξα > ἔλεξε, ἔλεξαν [*He said, they said*]

○ Irregulars

- πράσσω, ἔπραξα > ἔπραξε, ἔπραξαν [*He did; they did*]
- τάττω, ἔταξα > ἔταξε, ἔταξαν [*He arrayed; they arrayed*]

○ Labials π, β, φ + σ = ψ

- πέμπω, ἔπεμψα > ἔπεμψε, ἔπεμψαν [*He sent; they sent*]

○ Liquids [λ, μ, ν, ρ] lose the sigma and lengthen their stem vowel (if it is short) in compensation

- ἀποκτείνω, ἀπέκτεινα > ἀπέκτεινε, ἀπέκτειναν [*He killed; they killed*]
- μένω, ἔμεινα > ἔμεινε, ἔμειναν [*He remained; they remained*]
- βαίνω, ἔβησα > ἔβησε, ἔβησαν [*He marched; they marched*]
 - *Keeps the sigma, loses the nu*

1st Aorist contract verbs lengthen the vowel ending the stem

- ἀδικέω, ἠδίκησα [3PP] > ἠδίκησε, ἠδίκησαν
 - *He acted unjustly; they acted unjustly*
- βοηθέω, ἐβοήθησα > ἐβοήθησε, ἐβοήθησαν
 - *He helped; they helped*
- νικάω, ἐνίκησα > ἐνίκησε, ἐνίκησαν
 - *He conquered; they conquered*
- πλέω, ἔπλευσα > ἔπλευσε, ἔπλευσαν
 - *He sailed; they sailed*

1st Aorist contract verbs lengthen the vowel ending the stem

- ποιέω, ἐποίῃσα > ἐποίησε, ἐποίησαν
▪ *He made; they made*
- πολεμέω, ἐπολέμῃσα > ἐπολέμησε, ἐπολέμησαν
▪ *He made war; they made war*
- φοβέω, ἐφόβῃσα > ἐφόβησε, ἐφόβησαν
▪ *He feared; they feared*
- ἀποχωρέω, ἀπεχώρῃσα > ἀπεχώρησε, ἀπεχώρησαν
▪ *He retreated; they retreated*

1st or 2nd Aorist Deponents?

3PP ends in
-σάμην [1st aor]
-όμην [2nd aor]

- ήγέομαι, ήγήσομαι, ήγησάμην, —, ήγημαι, ήγήθην
- άφικνέομαι, άφίξομαι, άφικόμην, —, άφϊγμαι, —
- γίγνομαι, γενήσομαι, έγενόμην, γέγονα, γεγένημαι, έγενήθην
- μάχομαι, μαχέομαι, έμαχεσάμην, —, μεμάχημαι, —
- έρχομαι, έλεύσομαι, ήλθον, έλήλυθα, —, — [*come/arrive*]

1st or 2nd Aorist?

- ἤγέομαι, ἤγήσομαι, ἤγησάμην, —, ἤγημαι, ἤγήθην
- ἀφικνέομαι, ἀφίξομαι, ἀφῖκόμην, —, ἀφῖγμαι, —
- γίγνομαι, γενήσομαι, έγενόμην, γέγονα, γεγένημαι, έγενήθην
- μάχομαι, μαχέομαι, έμαχεσάμην, —, μεμάχημαι, —
- ἔρχομαι, ἐλεύσομαι, ἤλθον, ἐλήλυθα, —, — [*come/arrive*]

Deponent 1st Aorists

- 3rd PP ends in -σάμην [1st aor]
 - μάχομαι, μαχέομαι, ἐμαχεσάμην, —, μεμάχημαι, —
 - ἡγέομαι, ἡγήσομαι, ἡγησάμην, —, ἡγήμαι, -ηγήθην
- Replace -άμην with -ατο, -αντο
 - μάχομαι, ἐμαχεσάμην > ἐμαχέσατο,
ἐμαχέσαντο
 - *He fought; they fought*
 - ἡγέομαι, ἡγησάμην > ἡγήσατο, ἡγήσαντο
 - *He led; they led*

Second Aorist

- Augment, but no sigma
- Uses the same endings as the imperfect
 - -ε and -οῦ in active
 - -ετο and -οῦτο in dep
- 3PP has a different stem from 1PP
 - Often a weakened vowel; can be quite irregular

Regular/contract 2nd aorist forms

- φεύγω, ἔφυγον [3PP] > ἔφυγε, ἔφυγον
 - *He fled; they fled*
- λαμβάνω, ἔλαβον > ἔλαβε, ἔλαβον
 - *He took; they took*

Irregular/contract 2nd aorist forms

- ἄγω, ἤγαγον > ἤγαγε, ἤγαγον
▪ *He led; they led*
- βάλλω, ἔβαλον > ἔβαλε, ἔβαλον
▪ *He threw, they threw*
- ἀποθνήσκω, ἀπέθανον > ἀπέθανε, ἀπέθανον
▪ *He died, they died*
- αἰρέω, εἶλον > εἶλε, εἶλον
▪ *He took/chose; they took/chose*
- ἔχω, ἔσχον > ἔσχε, ἔσχον
▪ *He had/held; they had/held*

Deponent Verbs with 2nd Aorist

- γίγνομαι, ἐγενόμην > **ἐγένετο**, ἐγένοντο
 - *He became; they became*
- ἀφικνέομαι, ἀφικόμην > **ἀφίκετο**, ἀφίκοντο
 - *He arrived; they arrived*
- ἔρχομαι, ἦλθον > ἦλθε, ἦλθον
 - *He came; they came*

MI verbs

- Very few, very common, and very irregular
- Learn on a case-by-case basis

MI verbs

○ εἰμί “I am”

- Imperf = ἦν, ἦσαν [*He was; they were*]
- No aorist
- Compounds
 - πάρειμι I am present [παρά “beside” + εἰμί]
 - ἄπειμι I am absent [ἀπό “from” + εἰμί]

○ δίδωμι “I give”

- Impf = ἐδίδου, ἐδίδοσαν [*He was giving; they were giving*]
- Aor = ἔδωκε, ἔδοσαν [*He gave; they gave*]

MI verbs

- ἵστημι “I stand, I set up”
 - Impf = ἵστη, ἵστασαν [*He was setting up; they were setting up*]
 - Aor = ἔστη, ἔστησαν [*He set up; they set up*]
- ἀπόλλυμι “I kill”
 - Impf = ἀπόλλυε, ἀπόλλυσαν [*He was killing; they were killing*]
 - Aor = **ἀπόλετο, ἀπόλοντο** [*He killed; they killed*]

| | Lemma | Translation | Type | Imperfect 3sg/pl | Aorist 3sg/pl | count |
|----|--------------|--------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| 1 | ἄγω | <i>lead</i> | 2nd aor | ἤγε, ἤγον | ἤγαγε, ἤγαγον | [169] |
| 2 | ἀδικέω | <i>do wrong</i> | contract | ἠδίκηει, ἠδίκηουν | ἠδίκησε, ἠδίκησαν | 53 |
| 3 | αἰρέω | <i>take, choose</i> | contr/2nd aor | ἤρει, ἤρουν | εἶλε, εἶλον | 67 |
| 4 | ἀποθνήσκω | <i>die</i> | 2nd aor | ἀπέθνησκε, ἀπέθνησκον | ἀπέθανε, ἀπέθανον | 122 |
| 5 | ἀπόλλυμι | <i>destroy/kill/lose</i> | MI | ἀπώλλυε, ἀπώλλυσαν | ἀπώλεσε, ἀπώλεσαν | 50 |
| 6 | ἀποκτείνω | <i>kill</i> | reg | ἀπέκτεινε, ἀπέκτεινον | ἀπέκτεινε, ἀπέκτειναν | 99 |
| 7 | ἀποχωρέω | <i>retreat</i> | contract | ἀπεχώρει, ἀπεχώρουν | ἀπεχώρησε, ἀπεχώρησαν | [67] |
| 8 | ἄρχω | <i>rule/begin [+gen]</i> | reg | ἤρχε, ἤρχον | ἤρξε, ἤρξαν | 91 |
| 9 | ἀφικνέομαι | <i>arrive</i> | dep/2nd aor | ἀφικνεῖτο, ἀφικνοῦντο | ἀφίκετο, ἀφίκοντο | 102 |
| 14 | βαίνω | <i>walk, mount</i> | reg | ἔβαινε, ἔβαινον | ἔβησε, ἔβησαν | [104] |
| 10 | βάλλω | <i>throw</i> | 2nd aor | ἔβαλλε, ἔβαλλον | ἔβαλε, ἔβαλον | [108] |
| 11 | βοηθέω | <i>help</i> | contract | ἐβοήθει, ἐβοήθουν | ἐβοήθησε, ἐβοήθησαν | 117 |
| 12 | γίγνομαι | <i>become; be</i> | dep/2nd aor | ἐγίνετο, ἐγίνοντο | ἐγένετο, ἐγένοντο | 374 |
| 13 | δίδωμι | <i>give</i> | MI | ἐδίδου, ἐδίδοσαν | ἔδωκε, ἔδοσαν | 177 |
| 15 | εἰμί | <i>am</i> | MI | ἦν, ἦσαν | <i>none</i> | 1116 |
| 16 | ἔρχομαι | <i>came/arrive</i> | dep/2nd aor | ἤρχετο, ἤρχοντο | ἦλθε, ἦλθον | [214] |
| 17 | ἔχω | <i>have/hold</i> | 2nd aor | εἶχε, εἶχον | ἔσχε, ἔσχον | [419] |

| | | | | | | |
|----|-------------|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| 18 | ἡγέομαι | <i>lead</i> | dep/contract | ἡγεῖτο, ἡγοῦντο | ἡγήσατο, ἡγήσαντο | 106 |
| 19 | ἦκω | <i>come/am present</i> | reg | ἦκεν, ἦκον | <i>rare</i> | 59 |
| 20 | θύω | <i>sacrifice</i> | reg | ἔθυε, ἔθυον | ἔθυσε, ἔθυσαν | 52 |
| 21 | ἴστημι | <i>stand, set up</i> | MI | ἴστη, ἴστασαν | ἔστη, ἔστησαν | [136] |
| 22 | λαμβάνω | <i>take</i> | 2nd aor | ἐλάμβανε, ἐλάμβανον | ἔλαβε, ἔλαβον | 163 |
| 23 | λέγω | <i>speak; gather; choose</i> | reg | ἔλεγε, ἔλεγον | ἔλεξε, ἔλεξαν | [416] |
| 24 | μάχομαι | <i>fight</i> | deponent | ἐμάχετο, ἐμάχοντο | ἐμαχέσατο, ἐμαχέσαντο | 58 |
| 25 | μένω | <i>stay</i> | reg* | ἔμενε, ἔμενον | ἔμεινε, ἔμειναν | 28 |
| 26 | νικάω | <i>conquer</i> | contract | ἐνίκα, ἐνίκων | ἐνίκησε, ἐνίκησαν | 42 |
| 27 | πέμπω | <i>send</i> | reg | ἔπεμπε, ἔπεμπον | ἔπεμψε, ἔπεμψαν | [186] |
| 28 | πλέω | <i>sail</i> | reg* [contract] | ἔπλει, ἔπλεον | ἔπλευσε, ἔπλευσαν | [117] |
| 29 | ποιέω | <i>make</i> | contract | ἐποίει, ἐποίουν | ἐποίησε, ἐποίησαν | 335 |
| 30 | πολεμέω | <i>make war</i> | contract | ἐπολέμει, ἐπολέμουν | ἐπολέμησε, ἐπολέμησαν | 53 |
| 31 | πράσσω | <i>do</i> | reg | ἔπρασσε, ἔπρασσον | ἔπραξε, ἔπραξαν | [171] |
| 32 | στρατεύω | <i>wage war</i> | reg | ἐστράτευε, ἐστράτευον | ἐστράτευσε, ἐστράτευσαν | [106] |
| 33 | τάττω/τάσσω | <i>array, station</i> | reg | <i>rare</i> | ἔταξε, ἔταξαν | [75] |
| 34 | φεύγω | <i>flee</i> | 2nd aor | ἔφευγε, ἔφευγον | ἔφυγε, ἔφυγον | 82 |
| 35 | φοβέω | <i>fear</i> | contract | ἐφόβει, ἐφόβουν | ἐφόβησε, ἐφόβησαν | 55 |