



PARADIGMS: THE ARTICLE AND 1ST AND 2ND DECLENSION NOUNS IN ANCIENT GREEK

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The definite article (“the”)

- A type of adjective
- Sometimes translated as an indefinite “a/an”
- Modifies a noun
- Characteristics of nouns = **gender**, **number**, and **case**
 - Gender = masculine, feminine, neuter
 - Number = singular, [dual], plural
 - Case = nominative, genitive, dative, accusative, [vocative]
 - Paradigms given in that order

Masculine – Feminine – Neuter

Case	Sing	Plural		Sing	Plural		Sing	Plural
Nominative	ὁ	οἱ		ἡ	αἱ		τὸ	τὰ
Genitive	τοῦ	τῶν		τῆς	τῶν		τοῦ	τῶν
Dative	τῷ	τοῖς		τῇ	ταῖς		τῷ	τοῖς
Accusative	τὸν	τούς		τήν	τάς		τὸ	τὰ

M/F Nominatives are proclitics = normally no accent.

Rough breathings

Feminine articles [“the” or “a”]

○ Always the same for all feminine nouns, no matter what declension the noun is.

- 1st declension = ἡ ἀρχή [“rule/beginning”]
- 1st declension = ἡ ἡμέρα [“day”]
- 2nd declension = ἡ ὁδός [“road”]
- 3rd declension = ἡ πόλις [“city-state”]

Case	Singular	Plural
Nominative	ἡ	αἱ
Genitive	τῆς	τῶν
Dative	τῇ	ταῖς
Accusative	τήν	τάς

The article can be used without a noun as a 3rd person personal pronoun

- 3rd person personal pronouns = he, she, it, they
- Pronouns replace specific nouns within sentences.
 - The word it replaces is called the antecedent.
- If the article functions as a pronoun, then it is labeled in a tree as the noun it replaced would have functioned [SBJ, OBJ, etc.]

The article can be used without a noun as a personal pronoun

- αἱ ἔφυγον = “they fled,” when the antecedent of “they” is a feminine plural, made clear from context.
 - αἱ στρατιαὶ ἔφυγον.
 - αἱ φρουραὶ ἔφυγον.
 - “Some fled.” Especially in conjunctions.
- ὁ ἔθυεν = “he was sacrificing,” when the antecedent of “he” is a masculine singular, made clear from context.
 - ὁ πολίτης ἔθυεν.
 - ὁ στρατιώτης ἔθυεν.
- Can also be used with names and therefore not translated
 - ὁ Λύσανδρος; ὁ Καλλικρατίδας

Greek Nouns

- Stem is derived from the genitive singular form
- Three declensions
 - First = alpha-stem
 - Mostly feminine
 - ἀγορά, ἀγορᾶς, ἡ
 - Second = omicron-stem
 - Mostly masculine and neuter
 - δῆμος, δήμου, ὁ; χωρίον, χωρίου, τὸ
 - Third = consonant stems [great variety]
 - νύξ, νυκτός, ἡ [stem = νυκτ-]
 - μείς, μηνός, ὁ [stem = μην-]
 - στράτευμα, στρατεύματος, τὸ [stem = στρατεύματ-]

First Declension Feminines

- The plurals always have alphas
- The singulars have alphas when the stem ends with epsilon, iota, or rho.

Case	Singular	Plural
Nominative	ἡ ἡμέρα	αἱ ἡμέραι
Genitive	τῆς ἡμέρας	τῶν ἡμερῶν
Dative	τῇ ἡμέρᾳ	ταῖς ἡμέραις
Accusative	τὴν ἡμέραν	τὰς ἡμέρας

First Declension Feminines

- The plurals always have alphas
- The singulars have alphas when the stem ends with epsilon, iota, or rho.
- Otherwise, in Attic Greek the singular has etas (just like the article).

Case	Singular	Plural	Case	Singular	Plural
Nominative	ἡ ἡμέρα	αἱ ἡμέραι	Nominative	ἡ μάχη	αἱ μάχαι
Genitive	τῆς ἡμέρας	τῶν ἡμερῶν	Genitive	τῆς μάχης	τῶν μαχῶν
Dative	τῇ ἡμέρᾳ	ταῖς ἡμέραις	Dative	τῇ μάχῃ	ταῖς μάχαις
Accusative	τὴν ἡμέραν	τὰς ἡμέρας	Accusative	τὴν μάχην	τὰς μάχας

Accents on nouns are persistent

- Nominative plural ending is short
- Genitive plural generally has a circumflex [α+ω]
- θάλαττα = Attic; θάλασσα = standard [“the sea”]

Case	Singular	Plural
Nominative	ἡ θάλαττα	αἱ θάλατται
Genitive	τῆς θαλάττης	τῶν θαλαττῶν
Dative	τῇ θαλάττη	ταῖς θαλάτταις
Accusative	τὴν θάλατταν	τὰς θαλάττας

First Declension Masculines

- The stems end in $-ης$ (or $-ας$).
 - The genitive singular indicates their gender ($-ου$)
 - They are modified by masculine articles.
- Occupations
- ἄρμοστής, ὀπλίτης, πελταστής, πολίτης, στρατιώτης

Case	Singular	Plural
Nominative	ὁ πολίτης	οἱ πολῖται
Genitive	τοῦ πολίτου	τῶν πολιτῶν
Dative	τῷ πολίτῃ	τοῖς πολίταις
Accusative	τὸν πολίτην	τοὺς πολίτας

1st Declension Nouns

See Handout
of Noun Forms

	lemma	translation	gender	count
1	ἀγορά	<i>marketplace</i>	f	21
2	ἄρμοστής	<i>harmost/governor</i>	m	36
3	ἀρχή	<i>rule/command</i>	f	38
4	βουλή	<i>council; senate</i>	f	30
5	γῆ	<i>land/earth</i>	f	75
6	εἰρήνη	<i>peace</i>	f	76
7	ἐκκλησία	<i>assembly</i>	f	26
8	ἡμέρα	<i>day</i>	f	108
9	ἡσυχία	<i>leisure/rest</i>	f	26
10	θάλαττα	<i>sea [Attic form]</i>	f	87
11	μάχη	<i>battle</i>	f	57
13	ναυμαχία	<i>sea-battle</i>	f	30
14	ὀπλίτης	<i>hoplite</i>	m	97
15	πελταστής	<i>peltast</i>	m	57
16	πολιτεία	<i>constitution</i>	f	25
17	πολίτης	<i>citizen</i>	m	42
18	πύλη	<i>gate</i>	f	31
19	σπονδή	<i>truce</i>	f	33
20	στρατιά	<i>army</i>	f	35
21	στρατιώτης	<i>soldier</i>	m	56
22	συμμαχία	<i>alliance</i>	f	25
23	φιλία	<i>friendship</i>	f	26
24	φρουρά	<i>guard/garrison</i>	f	29
25	φυλακή	<i>guard</i>	f	21
26	χώρα	<i>land/territory</i>	f	102

2nd Declension Nouns

- Masculines and Neuters
 - A very few feminines: ἡ ὁδός (*road*)
- Neuters have the same form in the nominative and accusative case. Otherwise they match the masculines.
- Neuter plural subjects always take singular verbs.
- Endings match the articles

MASCULINE		
Case	Singular	Plural
Nominative	ὁ θεός	οἱ θεοί
Genitive	τοῦ θεοῦ	τῶν θεῶν
Dative	τῷ θεῷ	τοῖς θεοῖς
Accusative	τὸν θεόν	τοὺς θεούς

NEUTER		
Case	Singular	Plural
Nominative	τὸ χωρίον	τὰ χωρία
Genitive	τοῦ χωρίου	τῶν χωρίων
Dative	τῷ χωρίῳ	τοῖς χωρίοις
Accusative	τὸ χωρίον	τὰ χωρία

Handout
Second Declension
Nouns

	lemma	translation	gender	count
1	ἀδελφός	<i>brother</i>	m	23
2	ἄνθρωπος	<i>man</i>	m	47
3	δῆμος	<i>people; assembly</i>	m	62
4	ἔργον	<i>work/deed</i>	n	25
5	ἔφορος	<i>ephor</i>	m	48
6	ἐχθρός	<i>enemy</i>	m	21
7	θεός	<i>god</i>	m	56
8	ἵππος	<i>horse</i>	m	38
9	λόγος	<i>word/reason/story</i>	m	34
10	μισθός	<i>pay</i>	m	21
11	ναύαρχος	<i>naurarch; ship's captain</i>	m	22
12	νεκρός	<i>corpse</i>	m	22
13	νόμος	<i>law/custom</i>	m	33
14	ξένος	<i>stranger/guest-friend</i>	m	25
15	ὁδός	<i>road</i>	f	30
16	οἶκος	<i>household</i>	m	40
17	ὄπλον	<i>armor</i>	n	77

17	ὄπλον	<i>armor</i>	n	77
18	ὄρκος	<i>oath</i>	m	24
19	πεδίον	<i>field/plain</i>	n	27
20	πεζός	<i>infantry</i>	m	36
21	πιστός	<i>trust</i>	m	24
22	πολέμαρχος	<i>polemarch [general]</i>	m	30
23	πολέμιος	<i>enemy</i>	m	156
24	πόλεμος	<i>war</i>	m	79
25	σῖτος	<i>grain</i>	m/n	38
26	στάδιον, στάδιος	<i>stade [200 m]</i>	m/n	31
27	στρατηγός	<i>general</i>	m	68
28	στρατόπεδον	<i>encampment; army</i>	n	34
29	σύμμαχος	<i>ally</i>	m	172
30	τρόπαιον	<i>trophy</i>	n	27
31	φίλος	<i>friend</i>	m	85
32	φρουρός	<i>guard/garrison</i>	m	33
33	χρόνος	<i>time</i>	m	64
34	χωρίον	<i>land/territory</i>	n	48