

6

Second Declension Nouns (Module A)

Masculine Nouns and the Article

Morphology: The Nominal System (Part 1)

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§6.0 Introduction

Every language has its own distinctive means by which to communicate ideas. If English is the native language, then communicating in English is natural because its distinctiveness is understood. What constitutes the English language unique among the other languages of the world is its method of expressing its ideas as it relates to unique syntax, grammar and vocabulary. All other languages or systems of expressing concepts are foreign unless having gained some familiarity with them.

The method of expressing ideas within a language is integrated into its complete linguistic organization. English has its linguistic orderliness, as does Greek. What differentiates Greek from English, however, is Greek's distinctive precision of expressing word relationships with other words. This is accomplished in Greek by a highly organized system of inflection.

Most Greek words are composed of stems that modify in various ways according to their grammatical function in the sentence. The system of different but related forms is the language's morphology, which in Greek is principally a matter of different prefixes and suffixes attached to the stem of a word. A well-developed inflected language dramatically reduces grammatical ambiguities that a partially inflected language such as English

inherently possesses. This difference alone merits learning NTGreek. Grammatical precision was vital for transmission of theological truth as articulated by the NTGreek authors.

Lesson Six begins a multi-part series exploring the Greek inflected nominal system. Among other parts of speech, nouns, adjectives, pronouns, and pronominal adjectives share inflectional characteristics and patterns, and so constitute part of the nominal system. It is essential to gain a thorough familiarity with the Greek full range of nominal morphological forms in order to be a proficient reader of NTGreek.

The Greek language is one of the most highly inflected languages in the world. This assures the least grammatical ambiguities when reading the Greek New Testament.

§6.1 Introduction to the Greek Inflectional System

Inflection refers to the spelling changes words undergo in accordance with their grammatical function in a sentence. Inflection in nominal forms is called **declension**, and for verbs, **conjugation**. The word *inflection* is derived from a Latin verb (< *inflecto*), meaning, “I bend”. Inflected words are “bent” or altered from the simplest form (stem) by changes to the stem of the word, or by changes caused by the addition of affixes.

English has a limited inflectional system that includes words or parts of words that are arranged in formally similar sets consisting of a stem and various affixes. Thus “walking”, “walks”, and “walker” have in common the stem “walk” and the affixes “-ing”, “s”, and “-er”. An inflectional affix carries certain grammatical restrictions with it; for example, with the plural inflection “-s”, a change from singular to plural in the noun “boy/boys” requires a change in the verb form from singular to plural: “the boy is tall,” “the boys are tall.” Sometimes, plural inflection is indicated by internal spelling changes as in “man/men” and “foot/feet”, and at other times, indistinguishable except by context: “moose/moose” and “deer/deer”.

Similarly, Greek is inflectional, but to a higher degree than English. Although Greek contains uninflected parts of speech, most undergo inflection. These parts of speech, including nouns, pronouns, adjectives, verbs, participles, and the article (“the”) have different forms to indicate gender (masculine, feminine, and neuter), number (singular or plural), and function (direct address, subject, possession, and indirect and direct

object). Without careful study, one becomes bewildered by the complexity of the Greek inflectional system. There is not a grammar in existence that can remove the diligent study necessary to learn their inflectional system. If advertised otherwise, they are selling something.

Essentially, the term “nominal system” is the overarching term which includes nouns, pronouns (personal, demonstrative, relative, reflexive, interrogative, reciprocal, possessive, and emphatic), adjectives, numerals, and not least, the (definite) article.

However, before introducing the Greek inflectional system, it is essential first to grasp the concept of inflection. This will be accomplished by distinguishing how a **noun** may function differently within sentences. A noun is a word which names or designates a person, thing, or quality. Essentially, it is an appellation. The English word “noun” is derived from the Latin *nomen*, which means “a name”.

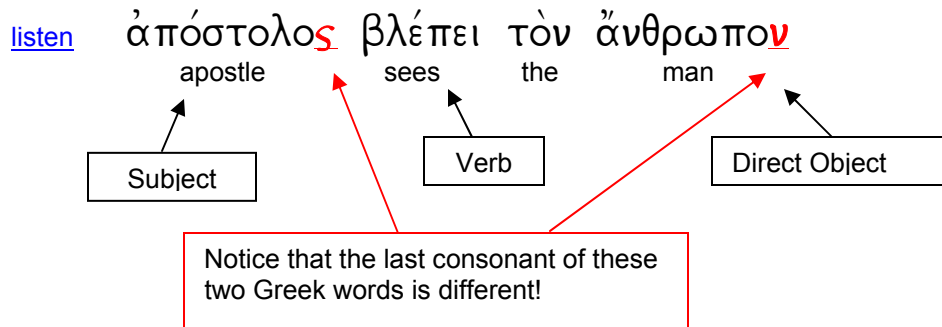
Although English has a limited inflectional system, it is sentence order, not inflection, that primarily determines how words function in a sentence. Consider the two following sentences.

“An apostle sees the man.” “The man sees an apostle.”

These two declarative sentences contain identical words; however, they convey very different meanings. The divergent meanings are determined by the relationship in each sentence that the nouns “apostle” and “man” sustain with the verb “sees”. Although the spelling of these nouns did not change to reflect their different function (*i.e.*, either subject [performer of the action of the verb] or object [receiver of the action of the verb]), their function changed according to their placement in the sentence order.

Consistent with English language structure, the subject precedes the verb, and the object follows the verb. Word order is so vital in English that very little flexibility is permitted. For example, “Sees an apostle the man”, or “The man an apostle sees” is non-sensible because English’s linguistic orderliness does not permit it. This is not true in Greek because of the genius of inflection.

Let us now examine the same declarative sentences in Greek.



The noun, “apostle” (ἀπόστολος) is the subject of the sentence. However, it is not the subject because it occurs before the verb (as in English), but because of its inflected form (the final *sigma* denotes this). Likewise, the object of the verb (“sees”) is “man” (ἄνθρωπον), not because it follows the verb, but because of its inflected form (the final *nu* denotes this). This same sentence would make good sense in Greek if its word order be changed in any of the following ways:

- [listen](#) (1) βλέπει ἀπόστολος τὸν ἄνθρωπον
- [listen](#) (2) ἀπόστολος τὸν ἄνθρωπον βλέπει
- [listen](#) (3) τὸν ἄνθρωπον ἀπόστολος βλέπει
- [listen](#) (4) βλέπει τὸν ἄνθρωπον ἀπόστολος
- (5) τὸν ἄνθρωπον βλέπει ἀπόστολος

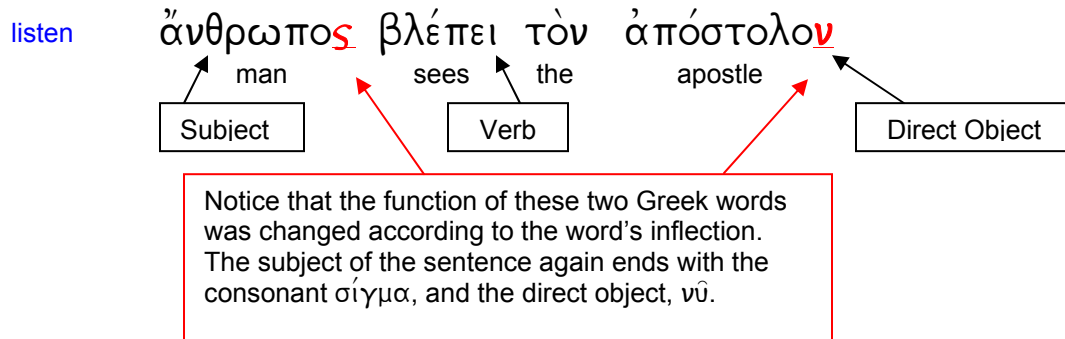
All the examples above are possible in Greek. The first, however, follows normal Greek sentence word order (subject typically follows the verb).

In most instances, changing English sentence order to reflect the Greek author’s original authorial intent would be catastrophic. However, because Greek indicates the function of a noun according to inflection, sentence order is not as crucial. It should be noted, however, that Greek sentence order is not completely free. For example, in all the above Greek examples, the definite article, τὸν, always occurred before ἄνθρωπον.

When elements are moved from their “normal” sentence order, prominence is placed upon that element. This is the genius of inflection. Thus, τὸν ἄνθρωπον (the direct object of βλέπει) in examples 3 and 5 is especially emphasized because it is moved out of its normal sentence order (normally after the verb) and placed first in the sentence, although this is undetectable when translated into English! The same is true

concerning ἀπόστολος (the subject of the verb, βλέπει) in example 2, because it is “fronted” (moved forward) in the sentence.

Conversely, “man” can be made the subject and “apostle” the object in the sentence by inflecting the nouns respectively to indicate their grammatical function in the sentence.

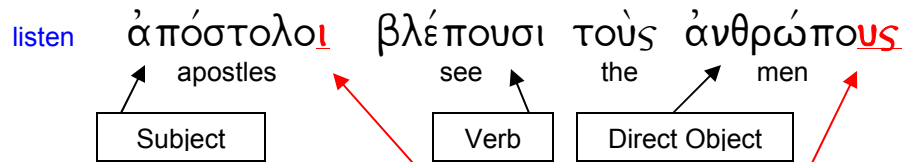


Once again, because of inflection, the sentence order may be rearranged to emphasize different elements within this declarative sentence.

- listen (1) βλέπει τὸν ἀπόστολον ἄνθρωπος
- listen (2) ἄνθρωπος τὸν ἀπόστολον βλέπει
- listen (3) τὸν ἀπόστολον ἄνθρωπος βλέπει
- listen (4) βλέπει τὸν ἀπόστολον ἄνθρωπος
- listen (5) τὸν ἀπόστολον βλέπει ἄνθρωπος

Numerous instances can be cited from the Greek New Testament wherein a literary emphasis is intended by its sentence order. For example, Luke in his prologue (1:1-4) emphasizes the word “certainty” (ἀσφάλεια) by placing it last in the sentence. Future lessons will underscore this deliberate and significant literary device. Although English sentence order is inflexible due to its inherent linguistic parameters, those who continue to learn NTGreek will gain appreciation of being able to read God’s Word without the interference of a translation.

Greek plural subjects and plural direct objects are also inflected. Whereas their function in the sentence remains the same, a spelling change occurs to indicate the plural. Let us look at an example where both the subject and the direct object are in the plural form.



Notice that the last consonant of the plural subject changed to *iōta*, whereas the plural direct object changed to *upsilon + sigma*. The spelling of the verb also changed from βλέπει to βλέπουσι to indicate the grammatical change from a singular subject to a plural subject, as well as the spelling of the definite article from τὸν to τοὺς to indicate the plural direct object. Did you notice how the definite article ending corresponds to the noun it modifies?

Like their singular counterparts, the sentence order may be rearranged to convey an author's particular emphasis within this declarative sentence.

- listen (1) βλέπουσι τοὺς ἀνθρώπους ἀπόστολοι
- listen (2) ἀπόστολοι τοὺς ἀνθρώπους βλέπουσι
- listen (3) τοὺς ἀνθρώπους ἀπόστολοι βλέπουσι
- listen (4) βλέπουσι τοὺς ἀνθρώπους ἀπόστολοι
- listen (5) τοὺς ἀνθρώπους βλέπουσι ἀπόστολοι

Thus far, it has been shown that Greek nouns are inflected to indicate their grammatical function, irrespective of sentence order. Another way of saying this is that, when a particular suffix is applied to the ending of a Greek noun, it determines its **case**, or its grammatical function in the sentence (cf. §6.2). The English term “case” derives its origin from the Latin verb *cado*, “I fall”, by way of the noun *casus*, “a falling”.

Every declinable word in the nominal system, such as a noun, pronoun, adjective, article, or numeral, inflects for case. Case establishes the function of a word in relation to the verb or to other parts of the sentence, and inflection determines the case. Almost sixty percent of all words in NTGreek use case endings. The basis for learning the Greek nominal system, therefore, is to master their case system!

Before examining the Greek case system, four matters need to be briefly addressed about all substantives: their number, gender, stem and declension. The word **substantive** refers to any word or word group that functions as a noun.

§6.1.1 Number

As in English, there are two numbers in NTGreek: **singular** and **plural**. Number is that quality of a noun which indicates whether it is singular or plural. English nouns often indicate plurality by adding a sound at the end of a word: dog, dogs; book, books; wall, walls. Likewise, Greek nouns indicate a change in a word's number by different endings: ἄνθρωπος (man), ἄνθρωποι (men); ἀπόστολος (apostle), ἀπόστολοι (apostles).

In an earlier period of Greek, there was another number in addition to the singular and plural, the **dual**. The dual indicated two of something (two eyes, two feet, etc.) rather than referring to three or more. The dual died out during the Hellenistic Era, with no trace of it found in NTGreek.

§6.1.2 Gender

The three genders in NTGreek are **masculine**, **feminine**, and **neuter** (the term “neuter” means “neither” in Latin). In English, only third person singular pronouns (“he”, “she”, “it”) and certain other nouns referring to persons (man, woman, steward, stewardess) have gender. For the most part, English nouns are regarded as neuter or simply lacking in gender. In contrast, all Greek nouns have gender, despite the fact that they do not always indicate sex. It is very important for a variety of reasons to know the gender of each noun as it is learned. The gender for every noun will be identified in the vocabulary list that follows each lesson.

Greek nouns are not inflected for gender as they are for number and their grammatical function in the sentence. Every noun has a particular gender that is retained under all conditions. For example, the nouns πούς (“foot”) and δάκτυλος (“finger”) are always masculine, whether or not they refer to parts of a man's body. Similarly, χεῖρ (“hand”) and κεφαλή (“head”) are feminine, whether or not they refer to parts of a woman's body.

Most Greek words referring to persons have the grammatical gender that corresponds to their sex. However, this is not to say the three genders, masculine, feminine and neuter are synonymous with the terms male sex, female sex, and sexless. Men and women do not have gender, they have sex. What is to be underscored is that the words for “man” and “woman” in Greek (as in many other languages) have gender, but not sex.

Many times, little rational reason exists for a particular gender for a Greek word. We cannot conclude, for instance, that the Greeks thought “wisdom” was a uniquely feminine trait because the noun, σοφία, is a feminine noun; for their word, “foolishness” (μωρία) is also feminine. Therefore, gender of nouns must be learned and mastered when introduced in the vocabulary list at the end of this and future lessons.



The grammatical categories, “masculine”, “feminine”, and “neuter” give rise to confusion. These terms were introduced in the fifth century B.C. by Protagoras of Abdera, a grammarian and the first self-proclaimed “sophist”. **It is best to remember that gender is a grammatical category, not a physiological one.** Thus, gender does not necessarily correspond to a word’s natural sex. For instance, κοράσιον is neuter, and means “little girl”; παιδάριον, means “little boy” and is neuter. In many instances, gender in Greek is only grammatical.

Many categories are naturally designated according to gender. For example, most names of winds, rivers, and months are masculine; the names of countries, islands, towns, trees and abstract nouns (like “love” and “truth”) are feminine; and the names of fruits are neuter. Some nouns may be either masculine or feminine such as ὁ θεός (“God/god”) and ἡ θεός (“goddess”). These nouns are said to be of common gender.

§6.1.3 Stem. The Greek nominal system is based on word **stems** that remain constant when various suffixes modify the word’s grammatical function in the sentence. This is accomplished in Greek by an intricate organized system of inflection that is inextricably linked to the study and eventual mastery of the NTGreek case system (see below, §6.2). Whereas case endings determine the noun’s function, the stem carries the basic meaning of the word.

§6.1.4 Declension. Because Greek indicates word function by means of inflected endings, Greek nouns (as well as all nominal forms) may be classified according to the manner in which their endings change into one of three **declensions**. Ancient grammarians grouped substantives into one of these three declensions according to their similar patterns. The

designations for these three distinct declensions are simply ***the first declension, the second declension*** and ***the third declension***.



The English word, “declension”, is derived from the Latin verb, *declino*, referring to the declining, falling, or inflection of the endings of a substantive according to its different usages in a sentence. Furthermore, a substantive is said to be fully declined when all the forms that represent its various functions are cited (cf. §6.5).

§6.1.41 A noun’s declension is determined by its stem termination. A stem will end with either a vowel (first and second declension) or a consonant (third declension). Except for “common nouns”, all nouns inflected in the same way, or in much the same way, belong to one these declensions. The difference between these declensions is a matter of form, not function, in the same way that “men” and “books” are both plural nouns despite differences in the formation of their plural.

§6.1.42 Declensions and paradigms. Each of the three declensions consists of a group of similar paradigms. A ***paradigm*** is an orderly arrangement of all the possible inflected forms of a word, and serves as the model for all other words that fit the inflectional pattern. The term is derived from the Greek noun παράδειγμα, “pattern”. The words used in this lesson to illustrate the paradigm for all (uncontracted) second declension masculine nouns are ἄνθρωπος and ἀπόστολος (§6.1.421), although any of the other four hundred plus masculine nouns of the same declension and paradigm would have served just as well. At first, paradigms may seem intimidating. However, Greek builds words in regular patterns. What is encouraging is that, if the paradigm of the Greek (definite) article is memorized and one other paradigm, and the eight rules that govern the inflection of substantives, then the nominal inflectional system is essentially mastered. Guaranteed!



The relationship which a declension and its related paradigms sustains with one another may be like taking a deck of cards and separating the spades, hearts, clubs, and diamonds into four different stacks. Although each stack has the same number of face and numbered cards, they are distinct from each other because of their suit. These stacks represent the different declensions (albeit there are only three

declensions). These stacks in turn could be subdivided again by separating and grouping the face and numbered cards of each suit. In like manner, paradigms are subdivisions of a declension, being divided according to similar inflected endings.

§6.1.421 Structure of a paradigm. The paradigms below for ἄνθρωπος and ἀπόστολος are like all substantive paradigms, because they all follow a consistent pattern. For the most part, case endings are simply appended to a noun's stem. In these paradigms, ἄνθρωπο and ἀποστολο are the stems. Stems are never accented; however, the appropriate breathing marks are indicated. The inflected endings are represented in red for easier identification.

For information sake, in addition to the basic paradigm, the nominative singular with its abbreviated genitive singular is cited above the chart along with its article to indicate its gender; in these instances, the gender of both nouns is masculine (indicated by the masculine [definite] article, ὁ).

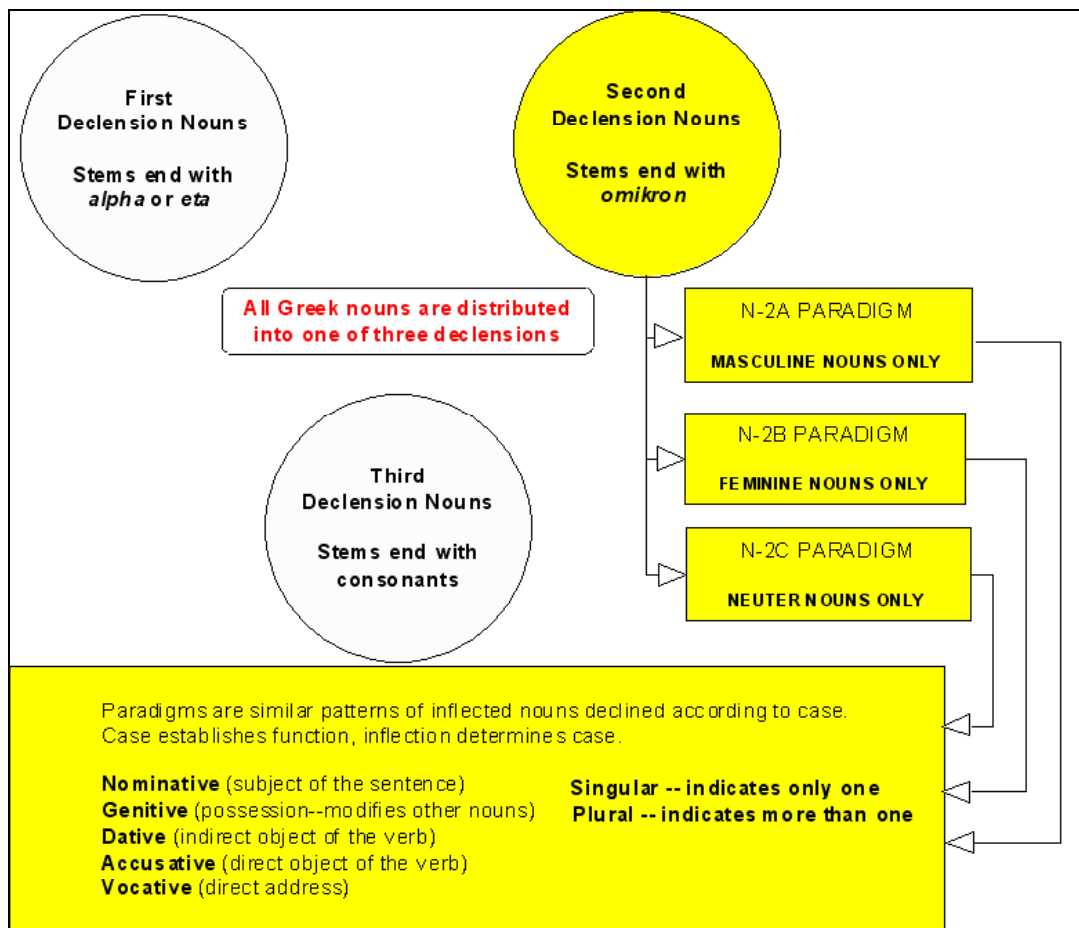
ἄνθρωπος, -ου, ὁ (man, humankind) ἄνθρωπο + case ending

n-2a		Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative	ἄνθρωπος	ἄνθρωποι
	Genitive	ἄνθρώπου	ἄνθρώπων
	Dative	ἄνθρώπῳ	ἄνθρώποις
	Accusative	ἄνθρωπον	ἄνθρώπους
	Vocative	ἄνθρωπε	ἄνθρωποι

ἀπόστολος, -ου, ὁ (apostle) ἀποστολο + case ending

n-2a		Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative	ἀπόστολος	ἀπόστολοι
	Genitive	ἀποστόλου	ἀποστόλων
	Dative	ἀποστόλῳ	ἀποστόλοις
	Accusative	ἀπόστολον	ἀποστόλους
	Vocative	ἀπόστολε	ἀπόστολοι

§6.1.422 Paradigm nomenclature. Both paradigms are designated by a unique nomenclature according to its declensional—paradigm pattern. In both examples, “n-2a” represents “noun—second declension, masculine”. This designation is a shorthand method to distinguish between two other paradigms belonging to the same declension, feminine (“n-2b”) and neuter (“n-2c”) nouns (not all of the paradigms for the second declension are shown in the illustration). The relationship between second declension nouns and their related paradigms to other declensions is illustrated below.



§6.1.43 Paradigm plural endings. Plural case endings are not usually cited in paradigms for proper nouns. Generally, proper names do not have plural endings. However, there are exceptions like the proper noun, Χριστός (“Christ, Messiah”) when the context is speaking of false “christs” or “messiahs” (χριστοί). Regardless if a noun is a common or proper noun, they share the same case endings in a paradigm.

§6.1.44 Paradigm endings. As an example of a complete set of paradigm endings, the second declension masculine case endings are represented below. Except for two contracted masculine nouns, these ten endings are the only case suffixes required to be learned in order to know every second declension masculine noun in NTGreek.

n-2a		Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative	ς	ι
	Genitive	ου (contraction)	ων (absorption)
	Dative	ω (contraction)	ις
	Accusative	ν	ους (compensation)
	Vocative	ε (replacement)	ι

N.B. The author recognizes the above case endings as a simplification of the actual inflected endings for second declension masculine nouns. More explanation for these endings ensues.



Older grammars required students to memorize fifty-five “key” paradigms to learn all the declension-paradigm case endings. How ridiculous! It is easier and more efficient to memorize only the declension-paradigm inflectional endings.

Of the more than seven hundred nouns belonging to the second declension, the great majority are masculine and neuter nouns. Only forty-seven nouns are feminine (cf. §7.1), with fourteen nouns sharing common gender (both masculine and feminine).

The second declension will be studied first because it contains the largest number of NTGreek nouns, and it is the easiest declension to learn of the three because all but two nouns have *omikron* as their stem vowel. For this reason, the second declension is called the *omikron*-declension.

Having discussed four essential matters about all substantives, their number, gender, stem, and declension (and how paradigms relate to a declension), a foundation has been established to examine the Greek case system in conjunction with substantives.

§6.2 The NTGreek Case System

Regardless of which declension or what paradigm a substantive belongs, suffixes are appended to its stem to indicate its grammatical function and relationship to the verb and/or other elements in its phrase, clause, or sentence. The reason a substantive's stem can never appear by itself is that the suffix is what signals its different grammatical functions. This grammatical function indicated by the suffix is the substantive's **case**. Case establishes the grammatical function of a substantive to other words, whereas its inflection (or suffix) determines the case.

The genius of case represented by inflection allows word order to be freer. Case allows an author to come the closest in his expression of thought without being bound by word order as in English. Translations of the New Testament Scriptures, no matter how good, cannot express the original thought of a Greek author when it is constrained by sentence order. Substantives inflected for case also assures the least grammatical ambiguities. This is a significant consideration when we reflect upon the reason we are studying Greek—to read the Greek New Testament.

§6.2.1 The five-case system. NTGreek consists of five distinct cases in the singular and four in the plural. These cases are the **nominative case**, the **genitive case**, the **dative case**, the **accusative case**, and the **vocative case**. In the plural, the nominative and vocative cases share the same case ending. The vocative singular and plural case endings for first and third declensions are also identical. In neuter substantives the nominative, accusative, and vocative for both the singular and plural share case endings. Thus, at times a substantive's case cannot be determined by its case ending. In these instances, context will determine usage.

Although there are five distinct cases, some commentaries and grammars insist upon employing eight cases corresponding to what they consider are the eight basic functions of the Greek substantive. In the eight-case system, both the genitive and ablative share the inflected form of the genitive; and the dative, locative, and instrumental share the dative form.

The disagreement is whether case is determined by form or usage. Even if the latter is correct, it is much simpler for an introductory Greek grammar to employ the five-case system, with nuances to be left to the reader. The best way is to learn the five cases while at the same time recognizing the eight case functions in translation.

The case endings, **ς** and **ι** are attached to the noun stem ἄνθρωπο.

ἄνθρωπο + **ς** ἄνθρωπο + **ι**

These different case endings distinguish between the nominative singular and plural. The lexical form for the nominative plural, ἄνθρωποι is always cited in a Greek-English lexicon under its nominative singular form.

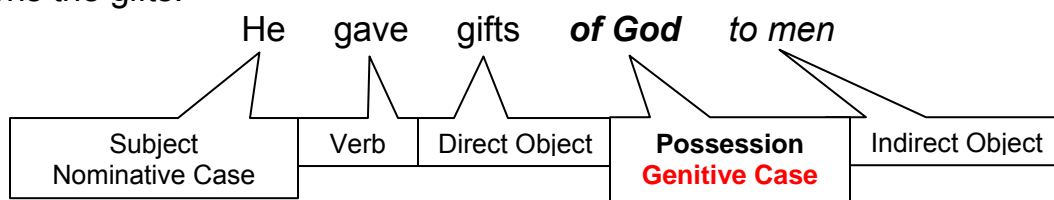
The ultima syllable in the singular is short, whereas it is long in the plural. The plural suffix combines with the stem vowel and forms a diphthong:

ἄνθρωπο + **ι** > ἄνθρωποι

§6.2.212 Translation. Several different second declension masculine nouns are cited below to show that the nominative case is translated straightforward without the necessity of additional words to indicate its function in both the singular and plural forms. However, only English sentence order can make the differentiation between these nouns functioning either as the nominative (subject) or as the accusative (the object) of a finite verb (§6.2.243). The substantive in the nominative case does not have to occur before the verb as in English.

ἄνθρωπο**ς**, ἄνθρωποι **ι** man, men
 ἀπόστολο**ς**, ἀπόστολοι **ι** apostle, apostles
 υἱό**ς**, υἱοί **ι** son, sons

§6.2.22 Genitive case. A frequent use of the genitive case is to indicate possession (*i.e.*, “gifts **of God**”). The noun in the genitive modifies another noun, and thus limits the noun it modifies in some manner. In Greek, the noun, “God” (θεός) would be in the genitive case (θεοῦ) to indicate who owns the gifts.



The genitive case has many other important uses, including description and source. The latter nuance is described in an eight-case system as the **ablative genitive**.

The word in the genitive usually follows the word it is modifying unless it is being emphasized; in which case it precedes.

normal sentence order λόγος ἀνθρώπου (“word of man”)
 emphatic sentence order ἀνθρώπου λόγος (“word of man”)

Not all nouns whose nominative singular terminates with a *sigma* are second declension nouns. Many neuter nouns of the third declension also end with *sigma*. Therefore, the genitive singular case form is cited with the nominative in a lexicon to indicate to which declension the noun belongs. Therefore, to be certain of the inflectional pattern of any noun, the genitive singular as well as the nominative singular needs to be known.

§6.2.221 Inflection. Substantives in the genitive case are inflected in both the singular and plural forms which are identified by distinct forms.

genitive singular	ὁ	θρόνος	ἀνθρώπου	Many Greek words have been merely transliterated to create words in the English language. θρόνος is one such instance.
	the	throne	(of) man	
genitive plural	ὁ	θρόνος	ἀνθρώπων	
	the	throne	(of) men	

The case endings, **ο** and **ων** are appended to the noun stem, ἀνθρωπο which distinguishes between the singular and plural genitive case. The main entry for both of these forms in a Greek-English lexicon is under the nominative singular form, ἀνθρωπος.

ἀνθρωπο + **ο** > ἀνθρώπου ἀνθρωπο + **ων**

The stem vowel and the genitive masculine singular case ending contract to form the diphthong **ου**. Without this contraction, the form would look like ἀνθρωπο**ο**: ἀνθρωπο (stem) + **ο** (genitive masculine singular ending). However, when these two vowels combine, they contract to form the diphthong **ου** as illustrated in the diagram below.

ἀνθρωπο > ἀνθρωπο + ο > ἀνθρωποο > ἀνθρώπου

When the stem vowel **omikron** combines with the genitive masculine singular ending, which is another **omikron**; these two like vowels contract to form **ου**.

In the genitive masculine plural, the *omikron* has been irregularly absorbed by the *omega* (and not because of contraction as in the genitive singular).

ἄνθρωπο > ἄνθρωπο + ων > ἄνθρωπων > ἄνθρωπων

The stem vowel *omikron* does not combine with the genitive masculine plural ending (contraction), but is rather irregularly absorbed by the *omega* in the case ending *ων*.

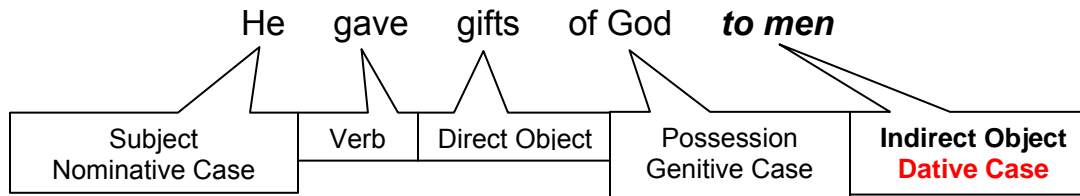
From a purely linguistic perspective, the above morphological progression is exciting and accounts for the genitive masculine singular and plural case endings. From a practical viewpoint of a beginning NTGreek student, however, it is trivia. Many students say, “Just the facts, please!” However, they do not realize that in the end, ignorance of such foundational morphological changes actually hurts the learning curve more than it helps. Vowel contractions are common, and will be encountered many times, not only in the Greek nominal inflectional system, but in the verbal system as well. Greek vowel contraction is common and formed with regularity.

§6.2.222 Translation. The manner in which the genitive case is translated into English deserves special treatment. Since a frequent use of the genitive case is to express possession, it may be expressed by the “-s” appended to the substantive: “He gave **God’s** gifts to men”. Another way to indicate possession is the use of the helping word “of”: “He gave gifts **of God** to men”. For the beginning student, it is recommended to translate Greek substantives in the genitive case with the English preposition “of”.

ἄνθρώπου, ἄνθρώπων of man, of men
κυρίου, κυρίων of lord, of lords
υἱοῦ, υἱῶν of son, of sons

If one opts to translate the genitive case by “-s”, the translation will be inadequate many times when the substantive in the genitive denotes another use. The genitive may also indicate *source* (Rom. 1:1: “the gospel **of God**”), *content* (Jn. 21:8: “the net [full] **of fish**”), *partitive* (1 Cor. 15:9: “the least **of the apostles**”), *relationship* (Jn. 21:15: Simon [son] **of John**”), and not least, *description* (1 Thess. 5:5: “for you all are **sons of light**”). These and other uses of the genitive case will be learned in future lessons.

§6.2.23 Dative case. The dative case usually indicates the indirect object of the verb as it does in English. An indirect object is a noun or noun phrase that names the person (usually) or thing indirectly affected by the action of the verb. It is common with verbs of giving and speaking, and usually occurs in conjunction with a direct object (*i.e.*, accusative case).



§6.2.231 Inflection. Substantives in the dative case are inflected in both the singular and plural forms which are identified by distinct forms.

dative singular	τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ	The Greek article, τῷ and τοῖς are used here for illustrative purposes. The dative case does not necessarily need the article.
	to the man	
dative plural	τοῖς ἀνθρώποις	
	to the men	

The case endings, **ῳ** and **οῖς** are appended to the noun stem, ἀνθρωπο, which distinguishes between the singular and plural dative case. The main entry for both of these forms in a Greek-English lexicon is under the nominative singular form, ἀνθρωπος.

The dative masculine singular is actually the stem + *iōta*. In every instance in NTGreek, this case ending becomes the improper diphthong, **ῳ**. At some time during the morphological development of this case ending, the stem vowel, *omikron*, lengthened to *omega*, with the *iōta* dative masculine singular case ending retained as an *iōta* subscript. The actual reason why *omikron* changed to *omega* remains a mystery. Perhaps it was done in this manner to differentiate the dative singular from the nominative plural.

ἀνθρωπο + ι > ἀνθρωποι > ἀνθρωπωι > ἀνθρώπῳ

The stem vowel **omikron** and the dative masculine singular case ending **iōta** first combine to create a diphthong.

The diphthong reduces to a single vowel sound by the **omikron** first lengthening to an **omega**. The **iōta** is retained as a subscript. This process is called “monophthongization”.

§6.2.232 Translation. The dative case functions the same in Greek as it does in English. The dative case is almost as flexible as the genitive case. However, the dative is supplementary to the predicate or verbal idea whereas the genitive is associated with modifying other nouns. Because of this distinction, the nuance of the substantive in dative case is clearer than between the different usages of the genitive.

It is common for the substantive in the dative case to designate **personal interest**. The substantive in the dative specifies the person (or thing) to or for whom something is done. Furthermore, the dative of personal interest is used in conjunction with a transitive verb (*i.e.*, a verb which may have a direct object). In the sentence, “He gave gifts of God to men”, the phrase “to men” (the indirect object) would be expressed in the dative case (τοῖς ἀνθρώποις). Also note that the verb “gave” is a transitive verb. When the dative is used for personal interest, it is customarily translated with the English helping prepositions “to” or “for”.

ἀνθρώπῳ, ἀνθρώποις	to man, to men for man, for men
κυρίῳ, κυρίοις	to lord, to lords for lord, for lords
υἱῷ, υἱοῖς	to son, to sons for son, for sons

However, the preposition “to” is not required in English to express the indirect object: “He gave **men** gifts of God”. If the indirect object is translated in English without the help of a preposition, it must conform to English word order (subject, verb, indirect object, direct object). The difference in the English word order distinguishes between these two constructions.

“He gave gifts of God **to men**.” “He gave **men** gifts of God.”

The nuance of the substantive in the dative case, however, may not express personal interest. Although identical to the dative case ending, the substantive may express instrument or spatial concepts. When the substantive in the dative indicates the instrument or agent by which an action is effect, it is commonly called the **dative of means**. The dative of instrument or means answers the question “How?” In these instances, the substantive in the dative case is translated with the help of

the English prepositions “by” or “with”: “The boy was bitten **by a dog**”; “I defended the boy **with a bat**”.

ἀνθρώπῳ, ἀνθρώποις	by man, by men with man, with men
κυρίῳ, κυρίοις	by lord, by lords with lord, with lords
υἱῷ, υἱοῖς	by son, by sons with son, with sons

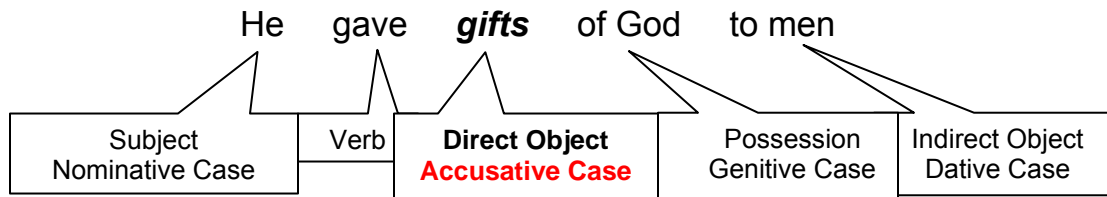
The substantive in the dative may express destination in time or space. This nuance of the dative is called the **local dative**, and answers the question “Where?” The local dative is commonly translated with the English prepositions “to” or “in”, and is used with intransitive verbs (*i.e.*, verbs that do not take a direct object). NTGreek usually uses Greek prepositions to express motion toward a place or the destination (termination) of a verb of movement. In “My son came **to me**”, for instance, the local dative expresses the destination of the trip (also note that the verb “came” is intransitive).

ἀνθρώπῳ, ἀνθρώποις	to man, to men in man, in men
κυρίῳ, κυρίοις	to lord, to lords in lord, in lords
υἱῷ, υἱοῖς	to son, to sons in son, in sons

When making a decision how a dative should be translated, ask yourself the following questions to help to make a determination of its nuance.

1. Is the substantive in the dative conveying personal interest? If so, translate with the English prepositions “to” or “for”.
2. Is the substantive in the dative expressing the instrument or means by which the action of the verb is accomplished? Does the dative answer the question, “How?” If so, translate with the English prepositions “by” or “with”.
3. Is the substantive in the dative expressing the destination in time or space? Does the dative answer the question, “Where?” If so, translate with the English prepositions “to” or “in”.

§6.2.24 Accusative case. The Greek accusative case is employed predominantly to indicate the direct object of a verb. A direct object is a substantive or a substantive phrase denoting the person or thing receiving the action of an active transitive verb, participle, or infinitive. A transitive verb is one that takes an object; intransitive verbs do not.



Like the dative case, substantives in the accusative case primarily relate to the verb. Broadly speaking, the accusative limits the action of a transitive verb as to extent (goal) or direction, answering the question, “How far?”

§6.2.241 Inflection. Substantives in the accusative case are inflected in both the singular and plural forms which are identified by distinct forms.

accusative singular	τὸν ἄνθρωπον	The Greek articles τὸν and τοὺς are used for illustration purposes only. The accusative does not necessarily need the article.
	the man	
accusative plural	τοὺς ἀνθρώπους	
	the men	

The case endings, **v** and **us** are appended to the noun stem, ἄνθρωπο, which distinguishes between the singular and plural accusative case. The main entry for both of these forms in a Greek-English lexicon is under the nominative singular form, ἄνθρωπος.

The actual case ending for the accusative plural is -vς. However, *nū* drops out when immediately followed by *sigma* because of phonology. The stem vowel *omikron* is lengthened to *ou* to compensate for the loss of the *nū*.

ἄνθρωπο + ~~νς~~ > ἄνθρωπος > ἀνθρώπους

Because of phonological reasons, the **nū** drops out before **sigma**. If **omikron** did not lengthen to a long diphthong, form would be identical to nominative singular.

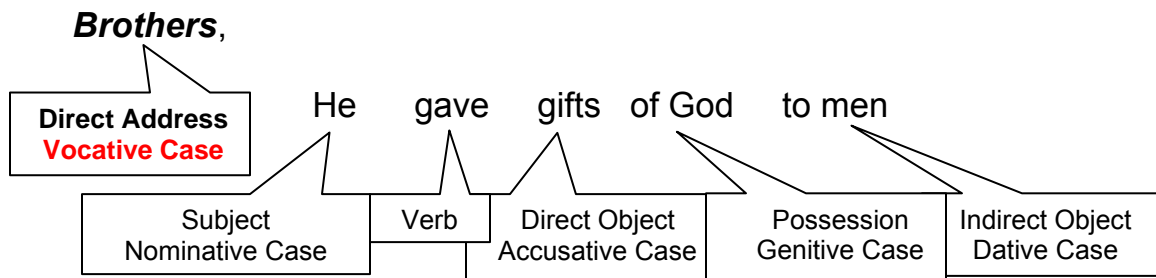
The presence of the long diphthong **ou** is due to compensation, indicating the loss of a letter.

§6.2.242 Translation. Like the nominative case (*i.e.*, ἄνθρωπος, “man”), the accusative case translates into English without any helping words (*i.e.*, ἄνθρωπον, “man”; ἄνθρώπους, “men”).

ἄνθρωπον, ἄνθρώπους man, men
 κύριον, κυρίου lord, lords
 υἱόν, υἱούς son, sons

Just as the substantive in the nominative case will not always precede the verb, the substantive in the accusative case will not always follow the verb as in English. The function of a substantive is always indicated by its case form in Greek, and not sentence order.

§6.2.25 Vocative case. The vocative case is infrequently used in NTGreek. The occurrence of the vocative accounts for less than 1% of the total percentage of all nouns in NTGreek (nominative 31%, the accusative 29%, the genitive 25%, and the dative, 15%). For this reason, many grammars do not include them as a separate case in paradigms.



Unlike other cases, the vocative case does not sustain any grammatical relationship to the rest of the sentence. This is the reason in the illustration above the vocative case is removed from the other cases and the verb.

§6.2.251 Inflection. Nouns in the vocative case are inflected in both the singular and plural forms which are identified by distinct forms.

What is unique about the vocative case is that in most instances, it shares the nominative case endings in both the singular and plural. In the second declension, however, the vocative masculine singular is regularly a separate case form. In these instances, the vocative singular case ending

surprisingly replaces the noun's stem vowel. There is no historical morphological explanation for this transformation.

ἄνθρωπο > ἄνθρωπε

Otherwise, the vocative shares the nominative case ending for the plural.

n-2a	Singular	Plural
Nominative	ἄνθρωπος	ἄνθρωποι
Vocative	ἄνθρωπε	ἄνθρωποι


Because the nominative and vocative plural case endings are identical for second declension masculine nouns, there are a maximum of four separate case forms in the plural and five in the singular.

The nominative case is often used in direct address like the vocative. However, the nominative case normally uses the article when functioning as a vocative, whereas the vocative never has the article.

§6.2.252 Translation. The vocative case has a single function: direct address to one or more persons, and functions the same as the English direct address: “**Lord**, save me!”; “My **brothers**, rejoice in the Lord”. The substantive in the vocative case names the person or thing being addressed, by personal name, title or descriptive phrase.

The Greek interjection ὦ (“O”) occurs seventeen times with the vocative in NTGreek. This interjection, coupled with the vocative, expresses deep emotion on the part of the speaker or author.

	Singular	Plural
Nominative (vocative usage)	ὁ ἄνθρωπος, “man”	οἱ ἄνθρωποι, “men”
Vocative	ὦ ἄνθρωπε, “O man”	ἄνθρωποι, “men”

 The Greek article never occurs before the vocative, although it is rarely absent before the nominative when used as the vocative.

English translations may include the interjection “O” before the vocative in both the singular and plural forms. When the interjection is present, it is proper to translate the interjection to indicate deep emotion. Otherwise, it should not be added to the translation if not present.

§6.2.3 Complete second declension masculine paradigm. The case endings for all (uncontracted) second declension masculine nouns are indicated below in red for easier identification. Summary comments concerning their formation follow. The masculine noun, ἄνθρωπος serves for the n-2a paradigm. These case endings may be used with any masculine noun in the Vocabulary Study of this lesson.

ἄνθρωπος, -ου, ὁ ἄνθρωπο + case ending

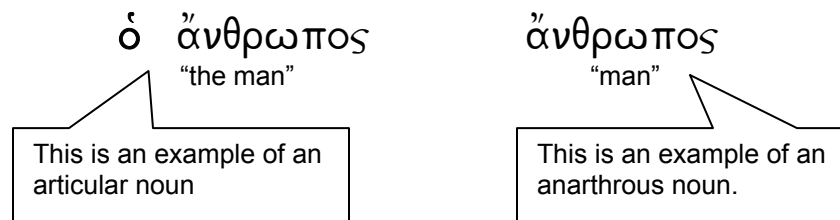
n-2a		Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative	ἄνθρωπος ¹	ἄνθρωποι
	Genitive	ἄνθρώπου ²	ἄνθρώπων ³
	Dative	ἄνθρώπῳ ⁴	ἄνθρώποις
	Accusative	ἄνθρωπον ⁵	ἄνθρώπους ⁵
	Vocative	ἄνθρωπε ⁶	ἄνθρωποι ⁷

1. All case endings are appended to the nominative singular stem. The nominative singular form is the lexical form for all forms of the paradigm. This is true for all nouns, regardless of declension.
2. The actual case form ending is *omīkron*. However due to the undesired combination with the stem vowel *omīkron*, contraction occurs.
3. The stem vowel *omīkron* has been irregularly absorbed by the *ōmega*, and not because of contraction as in the genitive singular.
4. At some time during the morphological development of the dative singular case ending, the stem vowel *omīkron* lengthened to *ōmega*, with the *iōta* retained as an *iōta* subscript.
5. The actual case ending is *-vς*. However, *nū* drops out when immediately followed by *sigma* because of phonology. The stem vowel *omīkron* is lengthened to *ou* to compensate for the loss of the *nū*.
6. The *epsilon* irregularly replaces the stem vowel *omīkron*.
7. The vocative and nominative plural share case endings. Context (function), and not form, determines meaning.

§6.3 The Definite Article

A significant part of speech is the Greek definite article. In many instances, a proper translation will hinge upon the simple observation of the usage of the article or the lack of it.

§6.3.1 Terminology. The definite article is the only article in Greek; there is not an indefinite article as in English (*i.e.*, “a”, “an”). Therefore, the Greek definite article may simply be referred to as “article”. When a substantive has the article, the noun is **articular**. When a substantive lacks the article, the noun is **anarthrous**.



§6.3.2 Translation. The best English translation of the Greek article is normally, “the”. Thus, ὁ ἄνθρωπος means “the man”, a definite man, a particular man where the addressor or the addressee (or both) know which “man” is being referred. In contrast, ἄνθρωπος means “a man” or perhaps simply “man” (since NTGreek does not have an indefinite article). It is common in anarthrous constructions that in English “a” or “an” is automatically included with the translation.

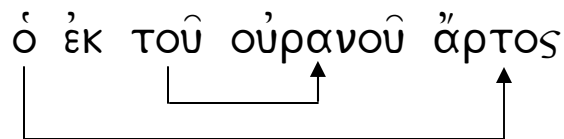
§6.3.21 The Greek article is never used arbitrarily, although at times it is difficult to express its significance in English. One grammarian has succinctly stated, “The article is never meaningless in Greek, though it often fails to correspond with the English idiom” (A. T. Robertson, *Historical Grammar*, 1934:756). The Greek article generally serves in one of two functions, either syntactical (*e.g.*, to indicate case relations) or semantic (*e.g.*, to particularize some noun). Difficulty arises when trying to set forth exact translation rules that will cover every instance wherein the Greek article is employed. The significance of the article in many instances will be learned by observation in context—and not by some rule!

§6.3.22 Normally, when the Greek article does not appear, the student should not supply the definite article into the English translation. Thus, ἄνθρωπος means “man”; it does not mean “the man”. Exceptions to this

principle will be considered in connection with the constructions in which they occur (cf. §6.3.23).

§6.3.23 The article appears frequently before Greek proper names. When translating proper names into English, the English idiom requires the absence of the article (*i.e.*, ὁ Πέτρος, “Peter”) unless required by context.

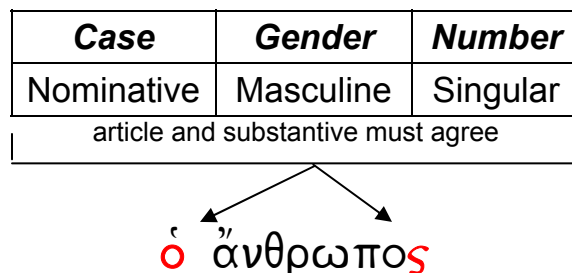
§6.3.3 Position. When the Greek article modifies a substantive, the article always precedes the noun. Sometimes, the article may be separated from the substantive it modifies by two, three, or more words. Regardless, the article will precede the substantive it modifies.



In the illustration above, the nominative masculine singular article ὁ modifies the nominative masculine noun ἄρτος (“bread”), although separated by three words. On the other hand, the genitive masculine singular article τοῦ modifies and immediately precedes the genitive masculine noun οὐρανοῦ (“of heaven”). Determining which article points to what noun involves grammatical concord.

§6.3.4 Grammatical concord. *Grammatical concord* refers to the agreement between inflected words in their basic components: case, gender, and number. The Greek article is an inflected part of speech. Therefore, it must always agree with the substantive it modifies in case, gender, and number. There are no exceptions.

If a nominative masculine singular noun functions as the subject of a sentence, the only article that can correspond to the noun is the nominative masculine singular.



If we extend the implications of the above illustration to all the cases (nominative, genitive, dative, and accusative), the singular and plural of each case, and include the three genders (masculine, feminine, and neuter), then this requires the article to have twenty-four forms. These twenty-four forms are required to preserve grammatical concord between itself and all the possible inflected substantives it modifies (cf. §6.3.5).

The principle of concord also is important for understanding that a word can be articular, even though the article is not immediately adjacent to its related substantive (as in the example above: ὁ ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ ἄρτος).

§6.3.5 Article paradigm. The article may be arranged in a paradigm to reflect all of its inflected forms. The article is declined in a pattern similar to that of the noun. The memorization of this paradigm will be a great asset when confronted with the case and gender of unfamiliar nouns.

Although there were not any feminine or neuter nouns introduced in this lesson, memorize these forms because they are necessary for the next.

listen	Singular			Plural		
	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
Nominative	ὁ	ἡ	τό	οἱ	αἱ	τά
Genitive	τοῦ	τῆς	τοῦ	τῶν	τῶν	τῶν
Dative	τῷ	τῇ	τῷ	τοῖς	ταῖς	τοῖς
Accusative	τόν	τήν	τό	τούς	τάς	τά
Vocative	----	----	----	----	----	----

1. The article is declined only in four of the five cases. Because the vocative does not sustain any grammatical relationship to the rest of the sentence, there is not a separate form for the vocative.
2. The article does NOT belong to any one declension. The nominative masculine singular article ὁ will modify a masculine noun whether it is in the first, second, or third declension. The article is the trustworthy indicator of the case, gender, and number of any noun it modifies.
3. Since the article is inflected, it has case significance: ὁ (“the”) points to the subject of the sentence, whereas τοῦ (“of/from the”) indicates the genitive, τῷ (“to/for/by/with/in the”) the indirect object, and τόν (“the”)

the direct object. The plural articles are translated the same as the singulars, except they modify plural nouns.

4. The spelling of the article begins either with a rough breathing or with *tau*. Those forms that have the rough breathing lack any accent. When a word follows the article, the acute accent on the article changes to a grave accent.
5. Except for the prefixed *tau*, the endings for the articles resemble, though they do not duplicate, the endings for the corresponding noun forms. The masculine articles resemble second declension masculine endings, the feminine articles the first declension feminine nouns, and the neuter the second declension neuter nouns. This will become evident when we study second declension neuter nouns and first declension feminine nouns.
6. The Greek article has a wide range of applications in NTGreek. The article is used in conjunction with other articles, nouns, adjectives, pronouns, prepositions, particles, conjunctions, finite verbs, adverbs, infinitives, and participles.

§6.3.6 Second declension masculine paradigms. The following paradigms are examples of second declension masculine nouns (n-2a) with their accompanying articles. Because only masculine nouns have been introduced, these are the only kinds of nouns represented. The masculine article is properly shown with its inflected noun, agreeing in case, gender, and number, in both the singular and the plural. For a complete set of paradigms for the vocabulary words in this lesson, consult the study aids for this lesson.

For now, do not be concerned with the reason accents change on these nouns as they are declined (cf. §10.0).

ἄνθρωπος, -ου, ὁ (man, humankind) ἄνθρωπο + case ending

		listen	Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative		ὁ ἄνθρωπος	οἱ ἄνθρωποι
	Genitive		τοῦ ἀνθρώπου	τῶν ἀνθρώπων
	Dative		τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ	τοῖς ἀνθρώποις
	Accusative		τὸν ἄνθρωπον	τούς ἀνθρώπους
	Vocative		ἄνθρωπε	οἱ ἄνθρωποι

ἀντίχριστος, -ου, ὁ (antichrist) ἀντιχριστο + case ending

		listen	Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative		ὁ ἀντίχριστος ^ς	οἱ ἀντίχριστοι
	Genitive		τοῦ ἀντιχρίστου	τῶν ἀντιχρίστων
	Dative		τῷ ἀντιχρίστῳ	τοῖς ἀντιχρίστοις
	Accusative		τὸν ἀντίχριστον	τοὺς ἀντιχρίστους
	Vocative		ἀντίχριστε or ὁ ἀντίχριστος ^ς	οἱ ἀντίχριστοι

ἀπόστολος, -ου, ὁ (apostle) ἀποστολο + case ending

		listen	Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative		ὁ ἀπόστολος ^ς	οἱ ἀπόστολοι
	Genitive		τοῦ ἀποστόλου	τῶν ἀποστόλων
	Dative		τῷ ἀποστόλῳ	τοῖς ἀποστόλοις
	Accusative		τὸν ἀπόστολον	τοὺς ἀποστόλους
	Vocative		ἀπόστολε	οἱ ἀπόστολοι

θεός, -οῦ, ὁ (God, god) θεο + case ending

		listen	Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative		ὁ θεός ^ς	οἱ θεοί
	Genitive		τοῦ θεοῦ	τῶν θεῶν
	Dative		τῷ θεῷ	τοῖς θεοῖς
	Accusative		τὸν θεόν	τοὺς θεούς
	Vocative		θεε or ὁ θεός ^ς	οἱ θεοί

θρόνος, -ου, ὁ (throne) θρονο + case ending

		listen	Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative		ὁ θρόνο ς	οἱ θρόνο ι
	Genitive		τοῦ θρόνο υ	τῶν θρόνο ων
	Dative		τῷ θρόνο ω	τοῖς θρόνο ις
	Accusative		τὸν θρόνο ν	τοὺς θρόνο υς
	Vocative		θρόνο ε or ὁ θρόνο ς	οἱ θρόνο ι

κύριος, -ου, ὁ (Lord, lord, master) κυριο + case ending

		listen	Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative		ὁ κύριο ς	οἱ κύριο ι
	Genitive		τοῦ κυρί ου	τῶν κυρί ων
	Dative		τῷ κυρί ω	τοῖς κυρί ις
	Accusative		τὸν κύριο ν	τοὺς κυρί ους
	Vocative		κύριο ε	οἱ κύριο ι

λόγος, -ου, ὁ (word, message, statement) λογο + case ending

		listen	Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative		ὁ λόγο ς	οἱ λόγο ι
	Genitive		τοῦ λόγο υ	τῶν λόγο ων
	Dative		τῷ λόγο ω	τοῖς λόγο ις
	Accusative		τὸν λόγο ν	τοὺς λόγο υς
	Vocative		λόγο ε	οἱ λόγο ι

νόμος, -ου, ὁ (law, Law) νομο + case ending

		listen	Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative		ὁ νόμος	οἱ νόμοι
	Genitive		τοῦ νόμου	τῶν νόμων
	Dative		τῷ νόμῳ	τοῖς νόμοις
	Accusative		τὸν νόμον	τοὺς νόμους
	Vocative		νόμῃ or ὁ νόμος	οἱ νόμοι

Πέτρος, -ου, ὁ (Peter) Πετρο + case ending

		listen	Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative		ὁ Πέτρος	Do not expect plural forms (although they may occur on occasion) for proper names. A proper name is a specific classification of a noun that names a particular person or place, and should begin with a capital letter to follow modern convention.
	Genitive		τοῦ Πέτρου	
	Dative		τῷ Πέτρῳ	
	Accusative		τὸν Πέτρον	
	Vocative		Πέτρε	

υἱός, -οῦ, ὁ (son) υἱο + case ending

		listen	Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative		ὁ υἱός	οἱ υἱοί
	Genitive		τοῦ υἱοῦ	τῶν υἱῶν
	Dative		τῷ υἱῷ	τοῖς υἱοῖς
	Accusative		τὸν υἱόν	τοὺς υἱούς
	Vocative		υἱέ	οἱ υἱοί

ῥῆνος, -ου, ὁ (hymn) ῥῆνο + case ending

		listen	Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative		ὁ ῥῆνος	οἱ ῥῆμοι
	Genitive		τοῦ ῥῆμου	τῶν ῥῆμων
	Dative		τῷ ῥῆμῳ	τοῖς ῥῆμοις
	Accusative		τὸν ῥῆμον	τοὺς ῥῆμους
	Vocative		ῥῆμε or ὁ ῥῆμος	οἱ ῥῆμοι

§ 6.4 Declension-Paradigm Abbreviations.

Abbreviations are useful when space is at a premium. The standard abbreviations below are used for terms relating to all declensions and paradigms in many NTGreek language tools.

nom. = nominative	sg. = singular	1 st decl. = first declension
gen. = genitive	pl. = plural	1 = first declension
dat. = dative	n- = noun	2 nd decl. = second declension
acc. = accusative	a- = adjective	2 = second declension
voc. = vocative	v- = verb	3 rd decl. = third declension
masc. = masculine	cv- = compound verb	3 = third declension
fem. = feminine	a, b, c, d, e, f, etc. paradigm hierarchy	The periods that follow the abbreviations are optional.
neut. = neuter		

Some common abbreviations in this grammar that will soon be encountered are to be understood in the following manner.

n-2a (noun-second declension “a” paradigm [masculine nouns])

n-2b (noun-second declension “b” paradigm [feminine nouns])

n-2c (noun-second declension “c” paradigm [neuter nouns])

Other abbreviations will be explained as they are encountered.

§6.5 Grammatical Parsing

Grammatical parsing pertains to the “breaking apart” and identifying the separate grammatical components of an inflected word. To parse a substantive is to identify it according to case, gender, number, and lexical form. Parsing verbs includes additional elements. In addition, the declension and inflected meaning should be included in parsing all substantives. To parse a substantive and to decline it are different.

To **decline** a substantive is to cite all the possible different inflectional forms in both the singular and plural numbers. A substantive’s complete paradigm reflects all the forms that represent its various functions. Therefore, if asked to decline the noun ἄνθρωπος for example, you would first give the five singular forms, ἄνθρωπος, ἀνθρώπου, ἀνθρώπῳ, ἄνθρωπον and ἄνθρωπε, followed by the five plural forms, ἄνθρωποι, ἀνθρώπων, ἀνθρώποις, ἀνθρώπους, and ἀνθρώποι.

§6.5.1 Parsing order. This grammar follows the following order when parsing a substantive. After some practice, it will become second nature.

1. Case (nominative, genitive, dative, accusative, vocative)
2. Gender (masculine, feminine, neuter)
3. Number (singular, plural)
4. Lexical form (the nominative singular form for substantives and the nominative masculine form for all articles)
5. Declension-paradigm notation (*i.e.*, n-2a, n-2b, n-2c)
6. Inflected meaning

§6.5.2 Guidelines. A few principles should be kept in mind while declining substantives or the article.

1. The lexical form of any parsed article is the nominative masculine singular—always. Thus the parsing of τήν is accusative feminine singular of ὁ (and not ἡ), “the”. Furthermore, do not include a declension for the article (such as 1st, 2nd, or 3rd declension), because the article does not belong to any one declension.
2. Give all possibilities when parsing an isolated word that has multiple possibilities. Thus, the article, τῶν, by itself would be parsed: genitive masculine/feminine/neuter plural from ὁ, meaning “of the”.

3. However, if the article, τῶν, appears before a noun, such as λόγων (a masculine noun) the article would be parsed: genitive masculine plural from ὁ, “of the”. It would be grammatically incorrect to include feminine/neuter gender since the articular noun is masculine.

§6.5.3 Words parsed. Below are many examples of parsed Greek substantives and the article. Study these examples carefully. Try this exercise: cover the right-hand column with a piece of paper, and then parse the words in the left-hand column, only uncovering the answer in the right-hand column to check your accuracy in parsing.

1.	ἄνθρωπος	nom. masc. sg. of ἄνθρωπος, n-2a, “man, mankind”
2.	ἀνθρώπου	gen. masc. sg. of ἄνθρωπος, n-2a, “of man”, “of mankind”
3.	ἀνθρώπῳ	dat. masc. sg. of ἄνθρωπος, n-2a, “to man”, “to mankind”
4.	ἄνθρωπον	acc. masc. sg. of ἄνθρωπος, n-2a, “man”, “mankind”
5.	ἄνθρωπε	voc. masc. sg. of ἄνθρωπος, n-2a, “(O) man”
6.	ἄνθρωποι	nom./voc. masc. pl. of ἄνθρωπος, n-2a, “men”
7.	ἀνθρώπων	gen. masc. pl. of ἄνθρωπος, n-2a, “of men”
8.	ἀνθρώποις	dat. masc. pl. of ἄνθρωπος, n-2a, “to men”
9.	ἀνθρώπους	acc. masc. pl. of ἄνθρωπος, n-2a, “men”
10.	ὁ	nom. masc. sg. of ὁ, “the”
11.	τοῦ	gen. masc./neut. sg. of ὁ, “of the”
12.	τῷ	dat. masc./neut. sg. of ὁ, “to the”
13.	τόν	acc. masc. sg. of ὁ, “the”
14.	τούς	acc. masc. pl. of ὁ, “the”
15.	ἡ	nom. fem. sg. of ὁ, “the”
16.	τῆς	gen. fem. sg. of ὁ, “of the”
17.	τῇ	dat. fem. sg. of ὁ, “to the”
18.	τήν	acc. fem. sg. of ὁ, “the”
19.	τῶν	gen. masc./fem./neut. plural of ὁ, “of the”

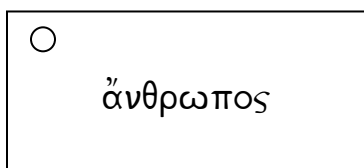
20.	οἱ	nom. masc. pl. of ὁ, “the”
21.	τοῖς	dat. masc./neut. plural of ὁ, “to the”
22.	ταῖς	dat. fem. pl. of ὁ, “to the”
23.	τό	nom./acc. neut. sg. of ὁ, “the”
24.	τά	nom./acc. neut. pl. of ὁ, “the”
25.	αἱ	nom. fem. pl. of ὁ, “the”
26.	κύριε	voc. masc. sg. of κύριος, n-2a, “(O) lord/Lord”
27.	λόγοι	nom./voc. masc. pl. of λόγος, n-2a, “words”
28.	υἱοῖς	dat. masc. pl. of υἱός, n-2a, “to sons”
29.	Πέτρῳ	dat. masc. sg. of Πέτρος, n-2a, “to Peter”
30.	ἀντίχριστον	acc. masc. sg. of ἀντίχριστος, n-2a, “antichrist”
31.	ἀποστόλους	acc. masc. pl. of ἀπόστολος, n-2a, “apostles”
32.	θεοῦ	gen. masc. sg. of θεός, n-2a, “of God”
33.	θεοῖς	dat. masc. pl. of θεός, n-2a, “to gods”
34.	λόγων	gen. masc. pl. of λόγος, n-2a, “of words”
35.	θρόνοι	nom./voc. masc. pl. of θρόνος, n-2a, “thrones”
36.	κυρίων	gen. masc. pl. of κύριος, n-2a, “of lords”
37.	θρόνοις	dat. masc. pl. of θρόνος, n-2a, “to thrones”
38.	ἀποστόλου	gen. masc. sg. of ἀπόστολος, n-2a, “of (an) apostle”
39.	ἀποστόλῳ	dat. masc. sg. of ἀπόστολος, n-2a, “to (an) apostle”
40.	ἀπόστολε	voc. masc. sg. of ἀπόστολος, n-2a, “(O) apostle”
41.	τῷ	dat. masc./neut. sg. of ὁ, “to the”
42.	τάς	acc. fem. pl. of ὁ, “the”
43.	κύριος	nom. masc. sg. of κύριος, n-2a, “lord”, “Lord”
44.	θεόν	acc. masc. sg. of θεός, n-2a, “God”, “god”
45.	θρόνων	gen. masc. sg. of θρόνος, n-2a, “of thrones”

§6.6 Learning Vocabulary

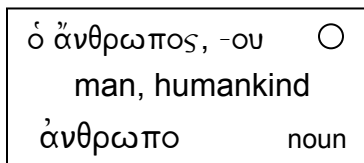
Vocabulary is an integral part of learning NTGreek. If you do not learn vocabulary, your interest in NTGreek will slowly dwindle and eventually die. Most students fail to learn NTGreek because of their failure to master sufficient vocabulary to read the Greek text by sight, leading to an inadequate grasp of the language. Less one reads, the less adequate they become. This inadequacy leads from excitement to a downward cycle to discouragement and frustration—to ultimate extinction. Guaranteed!

On the other hand, if your desire is to read NTGreek with competence, the acquisition of a large vocabulary is essential. The larger your vocabulary, the more rapidly and extensively you can read. Your goal is to master basic vocabulary at first, then build on it as you read NTGreek. This will lead to rapid reading and a broad experience, eventually leading to careful exegesis of the biblical text. There is no substitute for a large vocabulary.

§6.6.1 Vocabulary flash cards. One of the best ways to learn new vocabulary is to make your own vocabulary flash cards. Construct 2” x 4” cards on lined or unlined heavy stock paper. This size is easily transportable and they can be reviewed about anywhere and at anytime. Punch a hole in the upper left-hand corner of each card. Individual 1 ½ “or 2” binder rings may be purchased from an office supply store to bind the individual flash cards together.



FRONT VIEW



BACK VIEW

If the word is a noun, the front side of the card should display only its lexical form (nominative singular). On the back of the card, the noun’s definition is cited, with its stem in the lower left hand corner and its part of speech in the lower right hand corner. Above the definition is the article and the lexical form together, followed by sufficient letters to indicate its form in the genitive. For alternative methods for making vocabulary flash cards, consult the study aids for Lesson Six.

In the case of nouns, the article and genitive singular must be learned as part of the vocabulary word—no exceptions. The article designates the noun’s gender. The gender of Greek nouns is NOT intuitive; it must be

learned for each noun. The addition of the genitive singular abbreviated form assures the word's declensional pattern. This will be more important when other declension-paradigm nouns are added. Furthermore, as part of all vocabulary studies, a word's breathing (if any), accent, stem, and part of speech should be included and learned. It is very important to learn a word's part of speech (*i.e.*, article, noun, pronoun, adjective, adverb, preposition, verb, etc.) because it will assure its proper translation and placement in a sentence diagram (when introduced in a later lesson).

Working through a new Greek lesson and preparing vocabulary cards is a lot of work and time invested. Remember that you are not studying a Greek lesson as an end, but a means to an end. You are preparing yourself to read the Greek New Testament. The rewards will be sweet.

§6.6.2 Vocabulary study tips. Individuals study differently. However, there are several proven strategies for memorizing vocabulary words.

- **Make all your vocabulary cards at one time.** The best time to make new vocabulary cards is immediately after you have studied a lesson. Print neatly when placing all the pertinent information on the front and back of the card. Double-check your work! It is frustrating to unlearn a mistake that could have been easily avoided. In addition, know your new vocabulary before tackling the study guide and other lesson aids associated with this lesson.
- **New vocabulary is required to be written as well as heard!** If you cannot say it, you cannot memorize it. Practice the vocabulary words aloud many times. Be sure to put the accent on the correct syllable each time and make special note of any rough breathing mark. Enunciate each syllable at first, then work up to speed.
- **New vocabulary should be studied at peak attention times.** Short blocks of time without any interruptions (this means the television is off!) are more productive than counterproductive times when there are many interruptions and you are tired. Review the vocabulary periodically during the day (at least four times a day). Always study new vocabulary words before old vocabulary. If possible, look at the flash cards once more before going to sleep.
- **Repetition and review must become a part of your life to be skilled in reading God's inspired Word in Greek.**

§ 6.7 Vocabulary Study

This is your first vocabulary study. Before listing the lesson's vocabulary, a few introductory remarks will help to explain its format.

The vocabulary study is divided into three columns. The first column gives the lexical form. If the word is a noun, it is in the nominative singular form, followed by its genitive singular and article to denote its gender. Of course, all nouns in this vocabulary study are masculine and follow the same declension-paradigm pattern (n-2a).

The meaning of the vocabulary word is furnished in the second column. There is not an attempt to exhaust all possible meanings. The third column classifies the part of speech. It is important to learn the different parts of speech as the lessons progress so that the function of the word may be properly understood within its context. The word is also divided into its syllables and transliterated. The declension-paradigm is also cited.

Vocabulary word	Meaning	Part of Speech
ἄγγελος, -ου, ὁ Stem: ἄγγελο	angel, messenger ἄγ-γε-λος (án-ge-los) n-2a	noun
ἄδελφός, -οῦ, ὁ Stem: ἀδελφο	brother ἄ-δελ-φός (a-del-phós) n-2a	noun
ἄνθρωπος, -ου, ὁ Stem: ἄνθρωπο	man, humankind ἄν-θρω-πος (án-thrō-pos) n-2a	noun
ἄντίχριστος, -ου, ὁ Stem: ἀντιχριστο	antichrist ἄν-τί-χρι-στος (an-tí-chri-stos) n-2a Ἄντίχριστος is a compound word, composed of the preposition, Ἄντί, and the proper name, Χρίστος.	noun
ἄπόστολος, -ου, ὁ Stem: ἀποστολο	apostle, delegate ἄ-πό-στο-λος (a-pó-sto-los) n-2a Ἄπόστολος is a compound word, composed of the preposition, ἀπό, and the verb, στέλλω.	noun
βάρβαρος, -ου, ὁ Stem: βαρβαρο	barbarian βάρ-βα-ρος (bár-ba-ros) n-2a	noun

διάκονος , -ου, ὁ Stem: διακονο	servant, deacon	noun
	δι-ά-κο-νος (di-á-ko-nos) n-2a This noun may also be divided as διά-κο-νος (cf. §5.2.1[8])	
δοῦλος , -ου, ὁ Stem: δουλο	slave, bond-servant	noun
	δοῦ-λος (doû-los) n-2a	
θεός , -οῦ, ὁ Stem: θεο	God, god	noun
	θε-ός (the-ós) n-2a This term may refer to the one and only true God of Scripture, or a deity (or deities) of false religions. The definite article occurs often before the noun: ὁ θεός, τοῦ θεοῦ, τῶ θεῶ.	
θρόνος , -ου, ὁ Stem: θρονο	throne	noun
	θρό-νος (thró-nos) n-2a	
καί	and	conjunction (connective)
	even, also, namely	adverb
	καί (kaí) Καί may function either as a conjunction or as an adverb. Include both parts of speech on the same card with its corresponding definition. As a conjunction, it functions as a connective, joining two words of like nature (two nouns, two verbs, two adjectives, two adverbs, etc.), or two clauses, two sentences, or even two paragraphs. As an adverb, it modifies another adverb or verb.	
κόσμος , -ου, ὁ Stem: κοσμο	world, cosmos	noun
	κό-σμος (kó-smos) n-2a	
κύριος , -ου, ὁ Stem: κυριο	Lord, lord, master	noun
	κύ-ρι-ος (ký-ri-os) n-2a	
λεπρός , -οῦ, ὁ Stem: λεπρο	leper	noun
	λε-πρός (le-prós) n-2a	
λόγος , -ου, ὁ Stem: λογο	word, message, statement	noun
	λό-γος (ló-gos) n-2a	
μῦθος , -ου, ὁ Stem: μυθο	myth	noun
	μῦ-θος (mý-thos) n-2a	

Νικόδημος , -ου, ὁ Stem: Νικοδημο	Nicodemus	noun, proper name
	Νι-κό-δη-μος (Ni-kó-dē-mos) n-2a	
νόμος , -ου, ὁ Stem: νομο	law, Law	noun
	νό-μος (νό-mos) n-2a	
ὁ, ἡ, τό	the	article (demonstrative pronoun)
	ὁ (ho), ἡ (hē), τό (to) The lexical form of the article is the nominative masculine singular.	
οἶκος , -ου, ὁ Stem: οἶκο	house	noun
	οἶ-κος (oī-kos) n-2a	
ὄρφανός , -ου, ὁ Stem: ὄρφανο	orphan	noun
	ὄρ-φα-νός (or-pha-nós) n-2a	
Πέτρος , -ου, ὁ Stem: Πετρο	Peter	noun, proper name
	Πέ-τρος (Pé-tros) n-2a	
υἱός , -ου, ὁ Stem: υἱο	son	noun
	υἱ-ός (hui-ós) n-2a	
ῥῆμα , -ου, ὁ Stem: ῥημο	hymn	noun
	ῥῆ-μα (hý-mnos) n-2a	
χορός , -ου, ὁ Stem: χορο	chorus, dancing	noun
	χο-ρός (cho-rós) n-2a	
Χριστιανός , -ου, ὁ Stem: Χριστιανο	Christian	noun, proper name
	Χρι-στι-α-νός (Chri-sti-a-nós) n-2a	
Χριστός , -ου, ὁ Stem: Χριστο	Christ	noun, proper name, title
	Χρι-στός (Chri-stós) n-2a	
ψαλμός , -ου, ὁ Stem: ψαλμο	psalm	noun
	ψαλ-μός (psal-mós) n-2a	

Click [here](#) for Lesson Six vocabulary flash vocabulary tools.

6

Study Guide

Second Declension Nouns (Module A)

Masculine Nouns and the Article

Morphology: The Nominal System (Part 1)

There are two major building blocks in NTGreek: the nominal and verbal forms. This lesson introduced the Greek nominal inflectional system. The questions below emphasize the basics covered in Lesson Six.

Exercise One: Multiple choice. Choose the best answer.

- How many case forms are there for the Greek article?
 - eighteen
 - twenty-four
 - twelve
 - twenty
- What vowel is the predominant stem vowel for the second declension?
 - α
 - υ
 - ο
 - ω
- The article always
 - has a rough breathing
 - precedes the noun
 - has a smooth breathing
 - begins with a *tau*.
- When a substantive has the article, the noun is considered
 - anarthrous
 - a vocative
 - articular
 - declined
- How many declensions are there in NTGreek?
 - one
 - two
 - three
 - four

6. The cases in NTGreek are
- a. vocative and nominative
 - b. genitive
 - c. dative and accusative
 - d. answers a and b
 - e. answers b and c
 - f. answers a, b, and c
7. Which declension contains the largest number of Greek nouns?
- a. first declension
 - b. second declension
 - c. third declension
 - d. fourth declension
8. The great majority of nouns belonging to the second declension are
- a. masculine and neuter
 - b. feminine and neuter
 - c. masculine and feminine
 - d. masculine, feminine, and neuter
9. The nominative case is primarily used to indicate
- a. the direct object
 - b. the indirect object
 - c. the subject of the sentence
 - d. the position of the article
10. The article agrees with the substantive it modifies in
- a. gender and number
 - b. gender, number, and case
 - c. number and case
 - d. gender and case
11. In Greek, a noun's gender is
- a. sexual
 - b. grammatical
 - c. intuitive
 - d. answers a and c

12. The dative case usually indicates
- a. the direct object of the verb
 - b. the indirect object of the verb
 - c. the subject of the sentence
 - d. direct address
13. The accusative case usually indicates
- a. the direct object of the verb
 - b. the indirect object of the verb
 - c. the subject of the sentence
 - d. direct address
14. One use of the genitive case is
- a. the direct object of the verb
 - b. the indirect object of the verb
 - c. possession
 - d. direct address
15. What are the genders in Greek?
- a. masculine, feminine
 - b. male, female, neuter
 - c. masculine, feminine, neuter
 - d. masculine, feminine, unisex
16. Grammatical parsing pertains to
- a. the “breaking apart” and identifying the separate grammatical components of an inflected word.
 - b. citing all the possible different inflectional forms in both the singular and plural numbers.
 - c. designating the appropriate declension-paradigm nomenclature to a substantive.
 - d. designate the relationship between second declension nouns and their related paradigms to other declensions.
 - e. differentiate between the five and eight case system.

17. The final form of the masculine dative singular is due to

- a. contraction
- b. replacement
- c. absorption
- d. compensation

18. A paradigm is

- a. a noun's declension determined by its stem termination.
- b. an orderly arrangement of all the possible inflected forms of a word, and serves as the model for all other words that fit the inflectional pattern.
- c. a word that names or designates a person, thing, or quality.
- d. that which establishes the grammatical function of a substantive to other words, whereas its inflection determines the case.

19. What is the approximate percentage of all NTGreek words that have a case ending?

- a. 40%
- b. 50%
- c. 60%
- d. 80%

Exercise Two: Fill in the blank.

1. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate form of the Greek article.

	Singular			Plural		
	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
Nominative						
Genitive						
Dative						
Accusative						

2. Fill in the blank with the correct Greek article (if required) before each of the following nouns.

- a. ____ λόγος f. ____ ἄνθρωπον k. ____ κυρίους
 b. ____ κύριω g. ____ ἀποστόλων l. ____ θρόνου
 c. ____ θεοί h. ____ υἱοῖς m. ____ Χριστῶ
 d. ____ θεῶν i. ____ ἄνθρωπε n. ____ κόσμον
 e. ____ λόγους j. ____ ἀποστόλους o. ____ χοροῦ

3. Transliterate the following words from your vocabulary into English.

- a. ἄγγελος i. ὕμνος
 b. ἀντίχριστος j. θρόνος
 c. Χριστιανός k. ψαλμός
 d. Νικόδημος l. μῦθος
 e. ὀρφανός m. λεπρός
 f. Πέτρος n. χορός
 g. ὀρφανού o. ἀδελφός
 h. Βάρβαρος p. διάκονος

4. In the table below, supply the declensional endings for the second declensional masculine noun, κύριος.

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	κύριο____	κύριο____
Genitive	κυρί____	κυρί____
Dative	κυρί____	κυρίο____
Accusative	κύριο____	κυρίο____
Vocative	κύρι____	κύριο____

Exercise Three: Dictation. First, listen to the instructor pronounce a word from the lesson’s vocabulary list. Then spell the Greek word with the appropriate breathing and/or accent marks. After you have spelled the Greek word, give its definition in the right hand column.

	Word		Definition
listen	1.		
listen	2.		
listen	3.		
listen	4.		
listen	5.		
listen	6.		
listen	7.		
listen	8.		
listen	9.		
listen	10.		
listen	11.		
listen	12.		
listen	13.		
listen	14.		
listen	15.		
listen	16.		
listen	17.		
listen	18.		
listen	19.		
listen	20.		

Exercise Four: True or False. Choose whether the statement is true or false.

1. The method of expressing ideas within a language is integrated into its complete linguistic organization. True False
2. Greek nouns inflect for gender as they do for number. True False
3. Greek nouns are classified into one of three declensions. True False
4. An indirect object is a noun or noun phrase that names the person or thing indirectly affected by the action of the verb. True False
5. The nominative singular form is a noun's lexical entry. True False
6. All Greek nouns have gender despite the fact that they do not always indicate sex. True False
7. The Greek nominal system is based on word stems that remain constant when various suffixes modify the word's grammatical function in the sentence. True False
8. Whereas case endings determine a noun's function, the stem carries the basic meaning of the word. True False
9. It was not until Modern Greek that substantives were grouped into one of three declensions according to their similar patterns. True False
10. A noun's declension is determined by its stem termination. True False
11. ἄνθρωπος follows the n-3a paradigm. True False
12. The genius of case represented by inflection allows word order to be freer in Greek. True False
13. A frequent use of the genitive case is to indicate possession. True False
14. Substantives in the dative case are inflected in both the singular and plural forms. True False

Exercise Five: Parsing. Parse the following words. As a guide, some of the blanks have been filled in.

Inflected Word	Case	Gender	Number	Lexical Form	Decl-P	Definition
ἀδελφοῦ					n-2a	
ἄγγελος		masc.				
ἀντιχρίστῳ	dat.					
διακόνων						
κόσμοις			plural			
θεοῦς						
θρόνε				θρόνος	n-2a	
δούλῳ			singular			slave
ῥῆμος						
Πέτρου	gen.					
Χριστόν		masc.			n-2a	
οἶκος			singular			