

Vocabulary Flash Cards

Alternative Arrangements

Vocabulary flash cards are an excellent method of reviewing both old and new vocabulary words. Not only are they the best way to learn vocabulary, you may also use them in other ways. For example, key ideas may be written out and reviewed. In addition, declensions such as the article can be put on a card for easy reviewing. These types of cards will need to be larger than 2" x 4". A full size index card would work for these purposes.

Lesson Six suggested one way in which a vocabulary card may be structured for a noun. There are other ways, however. What is important is that the following essential information be contained on the card.

- **Lexical form of the vocabulary word**

The vocabulary study at the conclusion of every lesson cites the lexical form—the nominative singular. This is the form of the word that should occur on the front of the vocabulary flash card.

- **The definite article**

The definite article must be memorized with the noun—no exceptions. The article is the key to the gender of the noun. Whether the article appears with the lexical form on front of the card, or on the back, it must be memorized inseparable with the noun.

- **The genitive singular**

The genitive singular must be memorized with the noun—no exceptions. The genitive singular is the key to the declensional pattern of the noun. The vocabulary studies at the conclusion of the lesson will include enough letters to determine the genitive singular of a noun. Normally, the genitive singular is signified by a hyphen with a letter or letters following. The genitive singular always follows the lexical form, and then the article in the vocabulary studies.

ἄνθρωπος, -ου, ὁ

Lexical form Genitive singular Definite article

- **The 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 means you need to know only know a noun's stem and add the different case endings. To read Greek well, it is essential to identify the stem of a word. This is mandatory to learn NTGreek vocabulary.

- **Part of speech**

Parts of speech are the building blocks to put phrases, clauses, sentences and paragraphs together. To put them together properly, each piece needs to be identified correctly and what role it plays in its context.

For centuries, words have been generally categorized into nine different slots, depending on how they functioned in a sentence. The different function slots are as follows:

- **article** – a word that can modify any substantive
- **noun** – name of a person, place, thing, quality, action or idea.
- **pronoun** – a word that substitutes for a noun.
- **adjective** – a word that modifies, qualifies or describes nouns.
- **verb** – indicates action or state of being.
- **adverb** – a word that modifies or qualifies a verb, an adjective or another adverb.
- **preposition** – a word that defines more clearly the significance of the case of a noun that follows it.
- **conjunction** – a word that connects words, phrases or clauses.
- **interjection** – an exclamatory word that expresses feeling.

The part of speech of the word being learned must appear somewhere on the vocabulary card—preferably on the backside of the card. Your knowledge of a word's part of speech will be instrumental in understanding an author's thought.

On the next page are several examples of vocabulary cards for the noun. You may arrange the information on the card that suits your needs the best. Also individual binder rings may be purchased from an office supply store to hold your cards together. This will require a hole punched somewhere in the card.

Possible Arrangements for Noun Vocabulary Cards

ἄνθρωπος

Front view of vocabulary card

ὁ ἄνθρωπος, -ου n-2a
man, humankind
ἄνθρωπο noun

Back view of vocabulary card

This first arrangement may be the best because the lexical form on the front of the card necessitates knowing all the pertinent information concerning the noun before turning over the card. This method is perhaps the most difficult, but the most rewarding in the end.

Notice that the declension in which the noun belongs is also cited on the back of the card—very important!

This arrangement, however, may require small printing for placing all of this information on the back.

ὁ ἄνθρωπος
noun

Front view of vocabulary card

ἄνθρωπο n-2a
man, humankind
ἄνθρωπος, -ου, ὁ

Back view of vocabulary card

This arrangement identifies the gender (by the article) and part of speech associated with the lexical form on front of the card.

However, not all nouns are articular. The gender of the noun must be memorized apart from its article.

This arrangement of the pertinent information may help those who have difficulty associating the proper gender of the noun.

ἄνθρωπος, -ου, ὁ

Front view of vocabulary card

ἄνθρωπο
man, humankind
n-2a noun

Back view of vocabulary card

Apart from the noun's stem and declension being cited on the back of the card, this arrangement is a popular for commercially prepared flash cards.

This arrangement of the essential information does not crowd the back of the card for space.

Regardless what arrangement is chosen, the essential information for every noun must be on every vocabulary flash card!

The lesson's vocabulary study also includes another word that is not a noun, *καί*. Like nouns, *καί* has a lexical form. However, unlike nouns, it is not declined. By function, *καί* may function either as a connective conjunction or as an adverb. Both of these functions need to be placed on the back of the vocabulary flash card.

καί

Front view of vocabulary card

Conjunction: and
Adverb: even, also, namely

Back view of vocabulary card

The context will indicate how *καί* is functioning, whether as a conjunction (joining two words of like nature) or two clauses, two sentences, or even two paragraphs.

As with noun flash cards, the front of the card should cite the lexical form of the word. The different functions of the word should be clearly indicated on the back of the card.

Go [here](#) for on-line flash cards for Lesson Six.