

# 6

## Second Declension Nouns (Module A)

Masculine Nouns and the Article

Morphology: The Nominal System (Part 1)

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### 6.0 Introduction

Languages vary how they communicate ideas. If English is the native language, then its distinct and linguistic organization is natural. An underlying morphology governs its unique expression of ideas through grammar and syntax.

Morphology governs how words undergo change to reflect their grammatical function in a sentence. The term is from the Greek words *morphē* (“form”) and *logos* (“study,” “research”). Among other items, a language’s morphology is the identification, analysis, and description of morphemes and other linguistic units.

The distinctive precision how Greek expresses word relationships is owed to its highly organized inflectional patterns. Most words are composed of stems and modified in predictable ways to reflect their grammatical function. Greek principally expresses these differences by attaching prefixes and suffixes to a word’s stem. Words also sometimes undergo internal changes as well. Its inflected word patterns assure the least grammatical and syntactical ambiguities that partially inflected languages inherently possess, such as English.

Lesson Six begins a multi-part series examining the Greek inflected nominal system. Among other parts of speech, the article, nouns, adjectives, pronouns, and pronominal adjectives share inflectional patterns. It is essential to gain a thorough

familiarity with the Greek nominal morphological forms in order to be a proficient reader of NTGreek.

## 6.1 Introduction to the Greek Inflectional System

Inflection refers to the spelling changes words undergo to reflect their grammatical function in a sentence. Inflection in nominal forms is called declension, and conjugation for verbs. The term “inflection” is derived from a Latin verb (< *inflecto*), meaning, “I bend.” Inflected words are “bent” or altered from the stem’s simplest form by internal modifications to its stem, or by the addition of affixes (*i.e.*, prefixes and/or suffixes).

The English inflectional system includes words or parts of words that are arranged in predictable patterns, consisting of stems and various suffixes. Thus “walking,” “walks,” and “walker” have in common the stem “walk,” and the suffixes “-ing,” “s,” and “-er” modify the stem. The same suffixes may also be attached to the verbal stems of “swim,” “jump,” “watch,” and “talk.” However, if a verbal stem terminates with the vowel “e,” then the stem undergoes an internal change before some of the suffixes are added as in “writing” and “writer” for “write.” The final “e” is always dropped before a suffix that begins with a vowel.

Inflectional affixes determine grammatical restrictions. For example, with the plural inflection “-s,” a change from singular to plural in the noun “boy/boys” requires a change in the verbal form from singular to plural: “the boy is tall,” “the boys are tall.” Plural inflection is sometimes indicated by internal spelling changes as in “man/men” and “foot/feet,” and at other times indistinguishable except by context as in the words “moose/moose” and “deer/deer.”

Most Greek words are inflected to a greater degree than English. Its article, nouns, pronouns, and adjectives have different forms to indicate gender, number, and grammatical function. Its verbal forms are also inflected to indicate gender, number, and grammatical function, as well as aspect (tense), voice, and mood. Therefore, it is possible to be initially overwhelmed by the Greek morphological complexity. There is not a grammar in existence able to remove the diligent study required to learn it. If advertised otherwise, they are selling something.

The Greek nominal system is the overarching term that includes the article, nouns, pronouns, adjectives, and numerals. However, before introducing the Greek morphological system, it is essential first to grasp the concept of inflection, and specifically how nouns function in sentences.

A noun is a word which names or designates a person, thing, or quality. The English word “noun” is derived from the Latin *nomen*, which means “a name”. Word order in English sentences primarily determines how they function. Consider the two following declarative sentences.

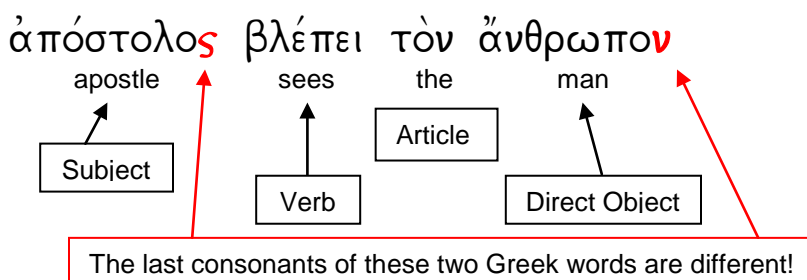
“An apostle sees the man.”      “The man sees an apostle.”

The two sentences have identical words; however, they convey very diverse 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 nouns’ spelling did not change to reflect a different function, their function changed according to English sentence word order.

Consistent with English structural orderliness, the subject normally precedes the verb and the object follows it. The subject is who or what does the action of a verb, and the object is who or what receives the action of a 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 patterns do not permit it. This is not true in Greek because of inflection.

Let us now examine a declarative sentence in Greek.



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Ἀπόστολος is the subject of the sentence as signified by the noun’s final *sigma*, and not because of sentence order. The object of the verb “sees” is ἄνθρωπον as represented by the final *nu*. Its function in the sentence also is not determined by Greek sentence order, but by its inflection. If it was the subject of the sentence, it would have been spelled as ἄνθρωπος.

The genius of inflection permits the sentence order to be varied in several ways and its meaning would essentially remain the same as illustrated.

βλέπει ἀπόστολος τὸν ἄνθρωπον

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ἀπόστολος τὸν ἄνθρωπον βλέπει

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τὸν ἄνθρωπον ἀπόστολος βλέπει

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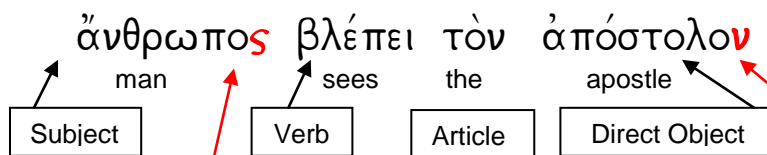
βλέπει τὸν ἄνθρωπον ἀπόστολος

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Changing the English order to reflect the above sentences' word order is not realistic; however, it is possible because of Greek inflection. It should be noted though that Greek sentence order is not completely free, for the definite article τόν always occurs before ἄνθρωπον.

Allowing for authors' stylistic differences, Greek sentence order normally follows verb, subject, and then object. Authors underscore ideas by removing them from their normal sentence order. Τὸν ἄνθρωπον in the third above example is emphasized because of its forward placement in the sentence—although undetected when translated into English!

The noun “man” may be the subject and “apostle” the object by again inflecting the nouns to indicate their grammatical function in the sentence.



Inflection of the two Greek nouns was changed to indicate their grammatical function in the sentence. The subject of the sentence again ends with *sigma*, and the direct object with *nu*.

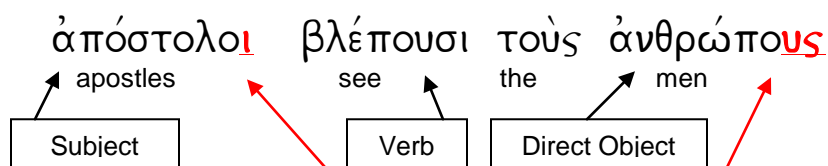
Word order may be once again be rearranged to emphasize an element.

- βλέπει τὸν ἀπόστολον ἄνθρωπος
- ἄνθρωπος τὸν ἀπόστολον βλέπει
- τὸν ἀπόστολον ἄνθρωπος βλέπει
- βλέπει τὸν ἀπόστολον ἄνθρωπος
- τὸν ἀπόστολον βλέπει ἄνθρωπος

Sentence order was essential in ancient times. When needed, it permitted word prominence in absence of modern underscoring and **boldface** fonts, exclamation statements, or rhetorical questions. Inflection permitted this flexibility, and word order with accompanying modifiers determined any needed emphasis—genius!

Numerous instances can be cited from NTGreek wherein a literary emphasis is intended by its sentence order. Luke in his prologue (1:1-4) emphasizes the word “certainty” (ἀσφάλεια) by placing it last in the sentence. Although English sentence order is mostly inflexible due to its inherent linguistic parameters, those who continue to learn NTGreek will gain appreciation of being able to read the Scriptures without the inherent 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.

βλέπουνι τοὺς ἀνθρώπους ἀπόστολοι

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ἀπόστολοι τοὺς ἀνθρώπους βλέπουνι

[Listen](#)

τοὺς ἀνθρώπους ἀπόστολοι βλέπουνι

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βλέπουνι τοὺς ἀνθρώπους ἀπόστολοι

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τοὺς ἀνθρώπους βλέπουνι ἀπόστολοι

[Listen](#)

Greek nouns inflect to indicate grammatical function. A synonym for the phrase “grammatical function” is “case.” Case refers to an inflectional form that indicates its grammatical function in a phrase, clause, or sentence. Case establishes the function of a word in relation to the verb or to other parts of the sentence, and inflection determines the case.

The above examples illustrated two of five Greek cases, the nominative case and the accusative case. Nominal forms inflected in the nominative case generally identify the subject of a verb or the predicate noun or predicate adjective. Nominal forms inflected in the accusative case identify the direct object of a transitive verb. The other three cases are genitive, dative, and vocative.

Every declinable word in the nominal system, such as a noun, pronoun, adjective, article, or numeral, inflects for 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, number, gender, stem, and declension. Substantive refers to any word or word group that functions as a noun.

### 6.1.1 Number

All Greek nouns inflect for singular or plural number. English nouns often indicate plurality by adding a phoneme 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 inflectional endings: ἄνθρωπο<sup>ς</sup> (man), ἄνθρωποι (men); ἀπόστολο<sup>ς</sup> (apostle), ἀπόστολοι (apostles).

The dual was also used during the Hellenistic Era to indicate two of something (two eyes, two feet, etc.) rather than referring to three or more items. Its usage gradually died out without leaving a trace in NTGreek.

### 6.1.2 Gender

The three genders in NTGreek are masculine, feminine, and neuter ("neuter" means "neither" in Latin). Only third person singular English pronouns ("he," "she," "it") and certain other nouns referring to persons (man, woman, steward, stewardess) indicate gender. English nouns are generally 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, for every noun has a particular gender under all conditions. For example, the nouns πούς ("foot") and δάκτυλος ("finger") are always masculine, whether or not they refer to a man's body parts. Similarly, χεῖρ ("hand") and κεφαλή ("head") are feminine, whether or not they refer to a woman's body parts.

Most Greek words have the grammatical gender that corresponds to their sex when referring to persons. However, this is not to say that the three genders are synonymous with the terms male sex, female sex, and sexless. Men and women do not have gender, but they have sex. The Greek nouns for "man" and "woman" have gender, but not sex.

Little rational exists for a Greek noun's particular gender. We cannot conclude 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. The gender for every Greek noun must be mastered when introduced in the vocabulary list at the end of this and future lessons.



“Masculine,” “feminine,” and “neuter” grammatical categories 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. 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.

Many categories are naturally designated according to gender. Names for winds, rivers, and months are masculine; names for countries, islands, towns, trees and abstract nouns are feminine; and names of fruits are neuter. Some nouns may rarely be either masculine or feminine. These types of nouns are of common gender.

**6.1.3 Stem.** A stem remain unchanged when various affixes modify a word’s grammatical function. Whereas case endings determine the noun’s function, the stem carries the basic meaning of the word.

**6.1.4 Declension.** All inflected nominal forms are classified according to one of three hierarchical patterns known as declensions. Ancient grammarians grouped substantives into one of these three declensions according to their similar patterns. The designations for these three distinct declensions are the first declension, the second declension, and the third declension.

“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 its inflectional forms are cited.

**6.1.4.1** A substantive’s declension is determined by its stem termination. First and second declensions nouns’ stems end with a vowel, and third declension nouns terminate with a consonant. All nouns (except common nouns) which inflect in the same way, or in much the same way, belong to one of 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.

**6.1.4.2 Declensions and paradigms.** Each declension is subdivided into 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 (non-contracted) second declension masculine nouns are ἄνθρωπος and ἀπόστολος (see §6.1.4.2.1), 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 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. Yippee!

The relationship that declensions are subdivided into related paradigms 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). Each stack could also 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.



**6.1.4.2.1 Structure of a paradigm.** The paradigms below for ἄνθρωπος and ἀπόστολος are like all substantive paradigms, because they 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.

The nominative singular and its abbreviated genitive singular is cited, as well as its article to indicate the noun’s gender. The gender of both nouns is masculine as indicated by the masculine article, ὁ.

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

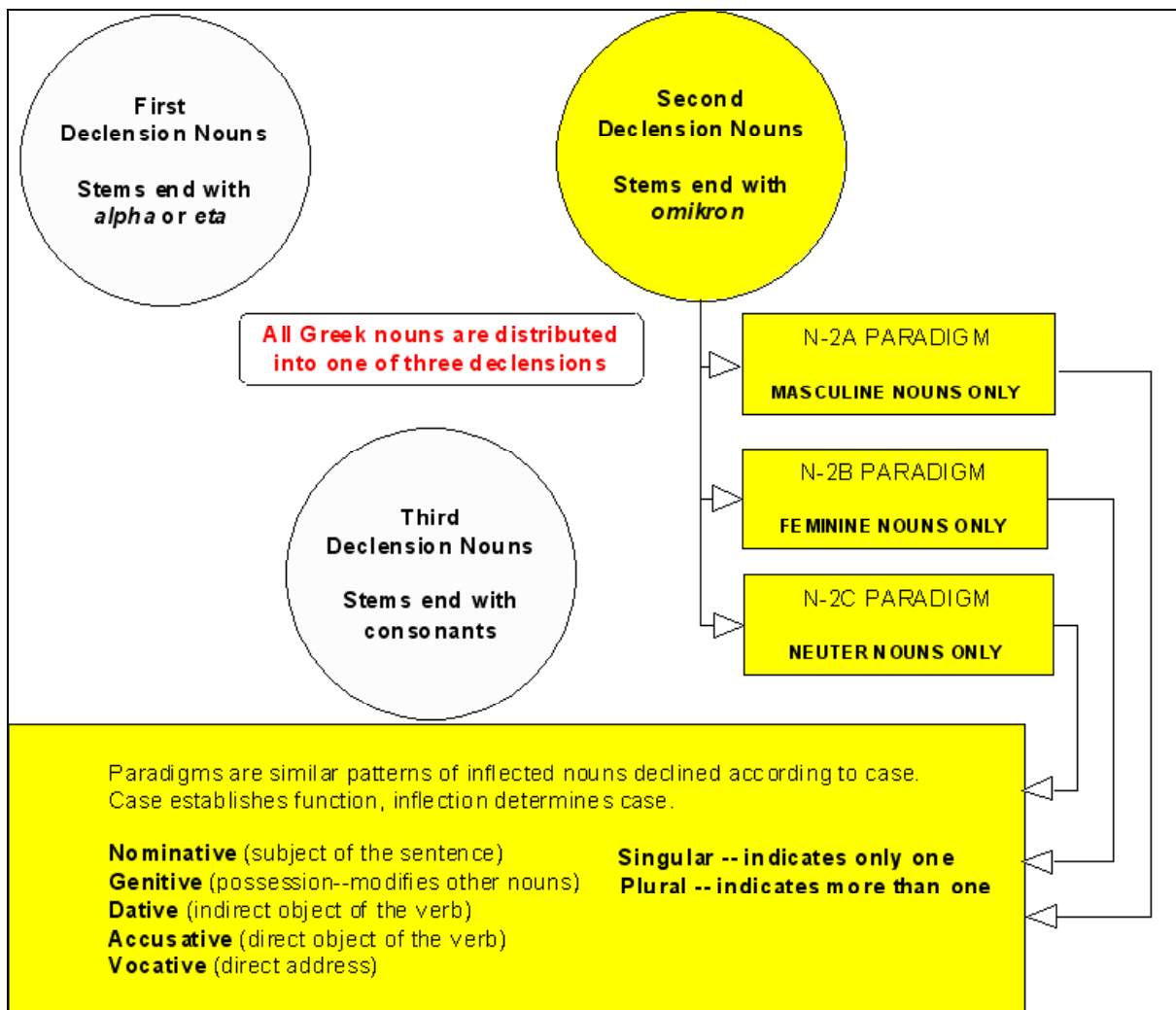
n-2a		Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative	ἄνθρωπο $\varsigma$	ἄνθρωποι $\iota$
	Genitive	ἄνθρώπου	ἄνθρώπων
	Dative	ἄνθρώπῳ	ἄνθρώποις
	Accusative	ἄνθρωπον	ἄνθρώπους
	Vocative	ἄνθρωπε	ἄνθρωποι

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

n-2a		Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative	ἀπόστολο $\varsigma$	ἀπόστολοι $\iota$
	Genitive	ἀποστόλου	ἀποστόλων
	Dative	ἀποστόλῳ	ἀποστόλοις
	Accusative	ἀπόστολον	ἀποστόλους
	Vocative	ἀπόστολε	ἀπόστολοι

**6.1.4.2.2 Paradigm nomenclature.** Paradigms are designated by a unique nomenclature according to its declensional—paradigm pattern. All the lesson’s vocabulary belongs to the “n-2a” paradigm, where “n” represents a noun, “2” the declension, and “a” masculine. The 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.



**6.1.4.3 Proper names' paradigm plural endings.** Plural case endings are not usually cited in paradigms for proper nouns. 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 paradigm case endings.

**6.1.4.4 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	ωι (contraction)	ις
	Accusative	ν	υς (compensation)
	Vocative	ε (replacement)	ι

The above case endings are a simplification of the actual inflected endings for second declension masculine nouns. More explanation for these endings ensues.



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

The great majority of the more than seven hundred nouns are masculine and neuter nouns. Only forty-seven nouns are feminine, with fourteen nouns sharing common gender.

The second declension is examined 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 the four essential matters about substantives, that is, their number, gender, stem, and declension, a foundation has been established to examine the Greek case system in conjunction with substantives.

## 6.2 Case System

Suffixes are appended to a substantive’s stem to indicate its grammatical function to the verb and/or other sentences’ elements—regardless to which declension it belongs. A substantive’s stem never appears alone because its suffix is what signals the noun’s different cases.

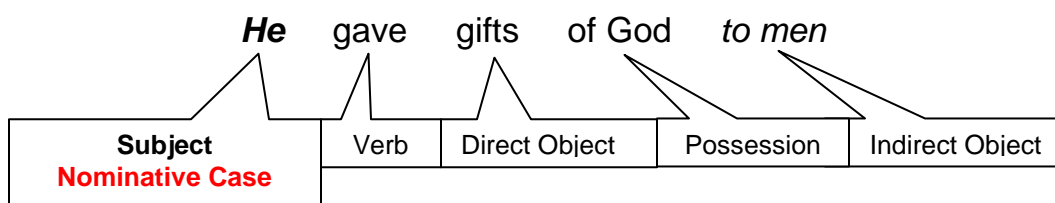
**6.2.1 The five-case system.** The five distinct Greek cases are the nominative, genitive, dative, accusative, and vocative cases. The case endings for certain substantives are identical, and thus their grammatical function by its case ending, but only by context.

Some grammars use an eight-case system, corresponding to the eight basic functions of the Greek substantive. In the eight-case system, both the genitive and ablative share the identical inflected form of the genitive; and the dative, locative, and instrumental share the dative form.

The essential difference between the five and eight-case systems is whether case is determined by form or usage. At this juncture, it is much simpler to employ the five-case system, with substantives' nuances to be left to advanced grammars. The different five cases are now discussed.

**6.2.2 The Significance of the Five Cases.** Each of the five cases' significance is individually introduced below by discussing three vital elements: their function, inflection, and translation.

**6.2.2.1 Nominative case.** The nominative case is primarily used to indicate the subject of a sentence. The subject is always the topic of the sentence, whether or not it is the agent producing the action of the verb. The subject is usually a common noun or pronoun.



Every substantive's lexical entry is its nominative singular. A lexicon alphabetically lists a language's vocabulary with contextual definitions. Every entry is in Greek in a Greek-English lexicon; however, all definitions are in English. An excerpt from [A Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature](#) by Walter Bauer is illustrated below.

ἄνθρωπος, ου, ὁ (Hom.+; loanw. in rabb.; ἡ ἄνθρωπος [Hdt. 1, 60, 5] does not appear in our lit.) 'human being, man, person'.

❶ a person of either sex, w. focus on participation in the human race, a human being—Ⓜ ἐγεννήθη ἄ. J 16:21; εἰς χεῖρας ἄ. Mk 9:31; ψυχὴ ἀνθρώπου Ro 2:9; συνείδησις ἄ. 2 Cor 4:2; μέτρον ἄ. Rv 21:17.

The lexical form for every word is that form which typically represents EVERY form of that word. Thus, knowledge of the lexical form is imperative to use properly a lexicon. This is no different than if I wanted to look up the definition for “men” in an English dictionary. I would first have to know that the dictionary form is “man” to find its definition.

Every substantive’s lexical entry is its nominative singular. Therefore, to find the definition for the Greek plural noun ἄνθρωποι in a lexicon, one would have to know that it is the nominative plural of ἄνθρωπος, its lexical form.

**6.2.2.1.1 Inflection.** Nominative substantives are inflected in both the singular and plural and identified by distinct forms.

nominative singular: ὁ ἄνθρωπος  
the man

nominative plural: οἱ ἄνθρωποι  
the men

The case endings *sigma* and *iota* are attached to the noun stem ἄνθρωπο.

ἄνθρωπο + σ ἄνθρωπο + ι

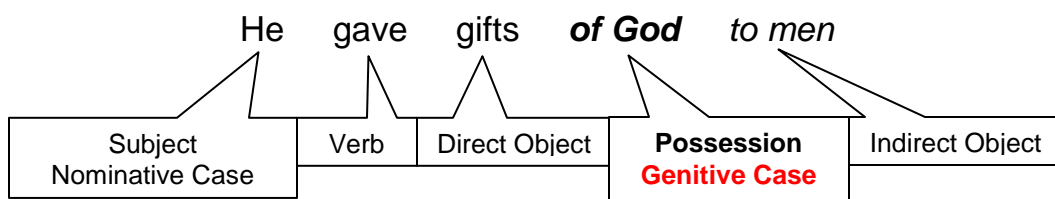
These different case endings distinguish between the nominative singular and plural. The ultima syllable in the singular is short, whereas it is long in the plural. The plural suffix combines with the stem vowel and forms a diphthong.

ἄνθρωπο + ι > ἄνθρωποι

**6.2.2.1.2 Translation.** Several different second declension masculine nouns are cited to illustrate 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, English sentence order indicates the differentiation between the function of nouns either as the nominative (subject) or as the accusative (the object) of a finite verb. The Greek substantive in the nominative case does not need to occur before the verb because of its inflection.

ἄνθρωπος, ἄνθρωποι man, men  
ἀπόστολος, ἀπόστολοι apostle, apostles  
υἱός, υἱοί son, sons

**6.2.2.2 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. The noun “God” (θεός) is in the genitive case (θεοῦ) to indicate who owns the gifts.



The word in the genitive usually follows the word it modifies 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.

**6.2.2.2.1 Inflection.** Genitive substantives are inflected in both the singular and plural and 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	οἱ	θρόνοι	ἀνθρώπων	
	the	thrones	(of) men	

The case endings **ο** and **ων** are appended to the noun stem ἀνθρωπο. The inflectional difference distinguishes between the singular and plural genitive case. The lexical entry for both of these forms 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 contraction, the form would look like ἀνθρωπο**ο**.

ἄνθρωπο (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.

ἄνθρωπο > ἄνθρωπο + ο > ἄνθρωποο > ἄνθρώπου

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

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

ἄνθρωπο > ἄνθρωπο + ων > ἄνθρωποων > 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**.

The morphological progression accounts for the genitive masculine singular and plural case endings from a purely linguistic perspective. From a practical viewpoint, it is trivia. Many say, “Just the facts, please!” However, ignorance of such 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. Vowel contraction is common and formed with regularity.

**6.2.2.2.2 Translation.** The method by which the genitive is translated deserves special explanation. A genitive frequently expresses possession, and 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”. It is recommended at this point to translate Greek genitive substantives with the English preposition “of.”

ἄνθρώπου, ἄνθρωπων of man, of men

κυρίου, κυρίων of lord, of lords

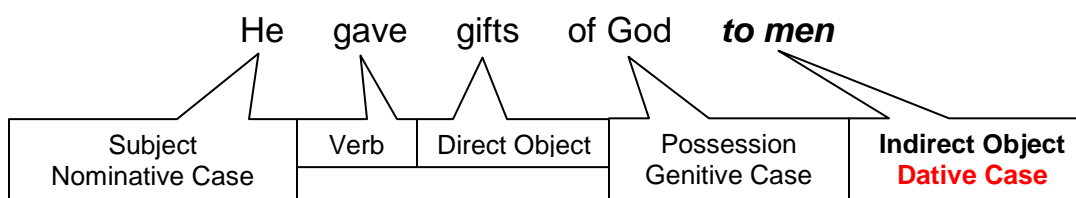
υἱοῦ, υἱῶν of son, of sons

If the genitive is translated by “-s,” it will be inadequate many times when the genitive substantive 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 *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.

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



**6.2.2.3.1 Inflection.** Dative substantives are inflected in both the singular and plural and are identified by distinct forms.

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

The case endings, **ῳ** and **ις** are appended to the noun stem ἀνθρωπο, which distinguishes between the singular and plural datives. The lexical entry for both of these forms is under the nominative singular, ἀνθρωπος.

The dative masculine singular is the stem + *iōta*. However, its case ending becomes the improper diphthong **ῳ** in every instance. The actual reason why *omikron* changed to *ōmega* remains a mystery. Perhaps it was done to differentiate the dative singular from the nominative plural.

ἀνθρωπο + **ι** > ἀνθρωποι > ἀνθρωπ**ωι** > ἀνθρώπ**ῳ**

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 **ōmega**. The **iōta** is retained as a subscript. This process is called “monophthongization”.

**6.2.2.3.2 Translation.** The dative functions much the same in Greek as in English. It 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 dative substantives is clearer than between the different usages of the genitive.

It is common for the dative substantive to designate personal interest. This nuance specifies the person or thing to or for whom something is done. The dative is also 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” is expressed in the dative as ἀνθρώποις. When the dative contextually expresses 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

The English preposition “to” is not required to express the indirect object: “He gave men gifts of God.” If the dative substantive is translated 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 dative substantive may also express instrument or spatial concepts. The dative of means contextually indicates the instrument or agent by which an action is occurs. It answers the question “How?” In these instances, the dative substantive 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

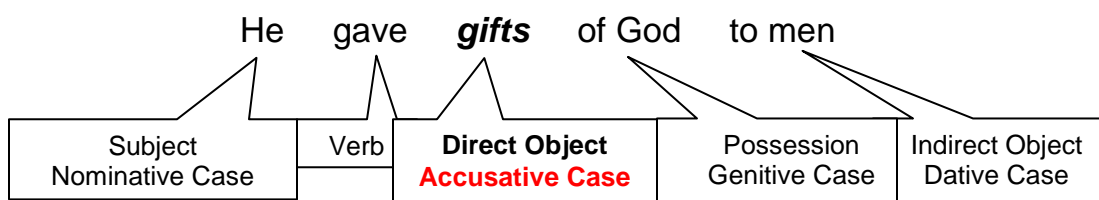
The dative substantive may also contextually express destination in time or space. This nuance is called the local dative and answers the question “Where?” It is commonly translated with the English prepositions “to” or “in,” and used with intransitive verbs (*i.e.*, verbs that do not take a direct object).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

ἀνθρώπῳ, ἀνθρώποις to man, to men  
in man, in men  
κυρίῳ, κύριοις 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 the following questions to help to make a determination of its nuance.

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

**6.2.2.4 Accusative case.** The accusative case predominantly indicates 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 takes an object; intransitive verbs never have direct objects (*i.e.*, “I sleep.”).



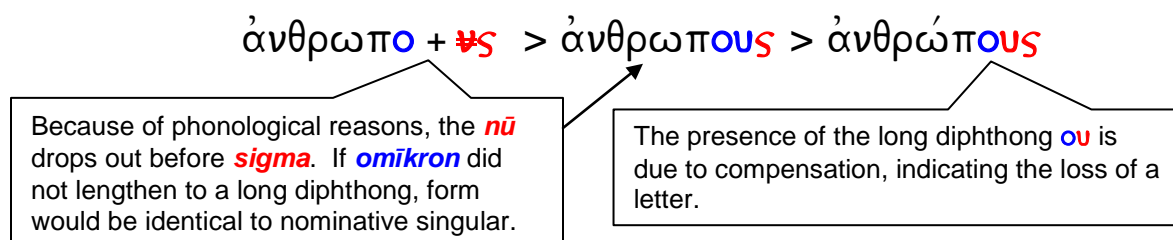
Like the dative case, substantives in the accusative case primarily relate to the verb. Broadly speaking, the accusative limits the action of a transitive verb as to extent (goal) or direction, answering the question, “How far?”

**6.2.2.4.1 Inflection.** Accusative substantives are inflected in both the singular and plural and identified by distinct forms.

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

The case endings **ν** and **ους** are appended to the noun stem ἄνθρωπο. They distinguish between the accusative singular and plural substantives. The lexical entry for both of these forms is under the nominative singular form, ἄνθρωπος.

The actual case ending for the accusative plural is -νς. 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*.

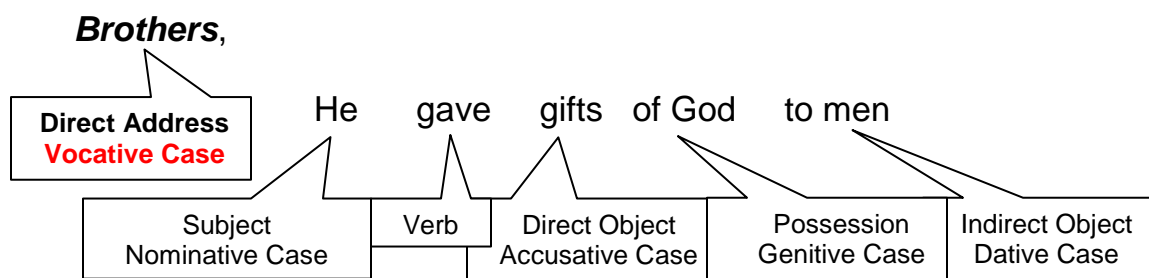


**6.2.2.4.2 Translation.** Like the nominative case (*i.e.*, ἄνθρωπος, “man”), the accusative translates into English without any helping words (*i.e.*, ἄνθρωπον, “man”; ἀνθρώπους, “men”).

ἄνθρωπον, ἀνθρώπους    man, men  
κύριον, κυρίους    lord, lords  
υἱόν, υἱούς    son, sons

Just as nominative substantives do not always precede the verb, accusative substantives do not always follow the verb. A substantive’s function is always indicated by its case ending, and not sentence order.

**6.2.2.5 Vocative case.** The vocative case is infrequently used. Its occurrence accounts for less than 1% of the total percentage of all nouns (nominative 31%, accusative 29%, genitive, dative, 14+%). For this reason, many grammars do not include it as a separate case.



Unlike other cases, the vocative case does not sustain any grammatical relationship to the rest of the sentence.

**6.2.2.5.1 Inflection.** Second declensional substantives inflect for the singular and identified by a distinct form. However, this is not true for vocatives in the other two declensions. The vocative plural is identical to the nominative plural.

The vocative singular case ending irregularly 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
<b>Nominative</b>	ἄνθρωπος	ἄνθρωποι
<b>Vocative</b>	ἄνθρωπε	ἄνθρωποι

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

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

**6.2.2.5.2 Translation.** Direct address to one or more persons is the vocative's single function. It functions the same as the English direct address: "Lord, save me!"; "My brothers, rejoice in the Lord". The vocative substantive names the person or thing addressed, by personal name, title, or descriptive phrase.

The Greek interjection ὦ ("O") occurs seventeen times with the vocative. Coupled with the vocative, it expresses a speaker's deep emotion.

	Singular	Plural
<b>Nominative</b> (vocative usage)	ὁ ἄνθρωπος <sup>ς</sup> , "man"	οἱ ἄνθρωποι <sup>ι</sup> , "men"
<b>Vocative</b>	ὦ ἄνθρωπε <sup>ε</sup> , "O man"	ἄνθρωποι <sup>ι</sup> , "men"
	The article never occurs before the vocative, although rarely absent before the nominative when used as a 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.

**6.2.3 Complete second declension masculine paradigm.** The case endings for all (non-contracted) second declension masculine nouns are indicated in red for easier identification. Summary comments concerning their formation follow. The masculine noun ἄνθρωπος serves for the n-2a paradigm. The case endings may be used with any masculine noun in the lesson's Vocabulary Study.

ἄνθρωπος, -ου, ὁ ἄνθρωπο + case ending

	n-2a	Singular	Plural
<b>CASE</b>	<b>Nominative</b>	ἄνθρωπος <sup>ς</sup> <sup>1</sup>	ἄνθρωποι <sup>ι</sup>
	<b>Genitive</b>	ἄνθρώπου <sup>ου</sup> <sup>2</sup>	ἄνθρώπων <sup>ων</sup> <sup>3</sup>
	<b>Dative</b>	ἄνθρώπῳ <sup>ῳ</sup> <sup>4</sup>	ἄνθρώποις <sup>ις</sup>
	<b>Accusative</b>	ἄνθρωπον <sup>ν</sup>	ἄνθρώπους <sup>ους</sup> <sup>5</sup>
	<b>Vocative</b>	ἄνθρωπε <sup>ε</sup> <sup>6</sup>	ἄνθρωποι <sup>ι</sup> <sup>7</sup>

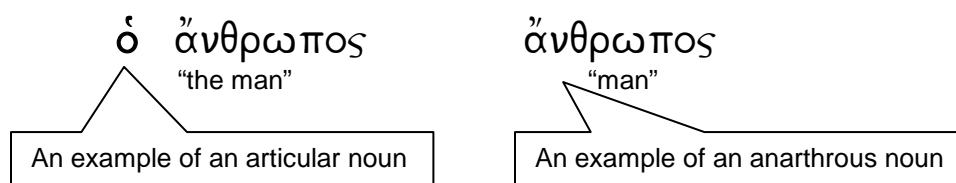
1. All case endings are appended to the nominative singular stem. It is the lexical entry for all inflected forms.

2. The actual case form ending is *omīkron*. However, contraction occurs because of hiatus.
3. The stem vowel *omīkron* is irregularly absorbed by the *ōmega* and not because of contraction as in the genitive singular.
4. The dative's singular stem vowel *omīkron* lengthened to *ōmega*, with the *iōta* retained as an *iōta* subscript.
5. The actual case ending is *-νς*. *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. *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 Article

The Greek article is a significant part of speech. In many instances, a proper translation hinges upon the simple observation of its usage or the lack of it.

**6.3.1 Terminology.** The article is the only article in Greek; there is not an indefinite article as such (*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” represents the best English translation for the article. 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.” It is common in anarthrous constructions that “a” or “an” is automatically included with translation.


**6.3.2.1** The article is never used arbitrarily, although at times difficult to express its significance when it fails to correspond with the English idiom. It generally serves in one of two functions, either syntactical (e.g., to indicate case relations) or semantic (e.g., to particularize nouns). Difficulties arise trying to set forth exact translation rules that cover every occurrence. Its significance in many instances will be learned by observation—and not by some rule!

**6.3.2.2** When the article is not used, the English definite article should not normally be supplied in translation. Thus, ἄνθρωπος means “man” and not “the man.” Exceptions to this principle will be considered in connection with the constructions in which they occur.

**6.3.2.3** 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.** The Greek article always precedes the substantive it modifies. The article sometimes may be separated from the substantive it modifies by two or more words. Regardless, the article ALWAYS precedes the substantive.

ὁ ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ ἄρτος



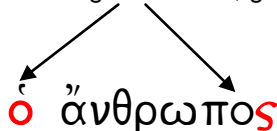
The nominative masculine singular article ὁ modifies the nominative masculine noun ἄρτος (“bread”) in the illustration, although separated by three words. The genitive masculine singular article τοῦ modifies and immediately precedes the genitive masculine noun οὐρανοῦ (“of heaven”). Determining which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

**6.3.4 Grammatical concord** (<Latin *concordia*, “of one mind”) refers to the agreement between inflected words in their basic components of case, gender, and number, because it is an inflected part of speech. Therefore, it must agree with the substantive it modifies in case, gender, and number.

If a nominative masculine singular noun functions as the subject of a sentence, the only article that may modify the noun is the nominative masculine singular.

Article and substantive agree in case, gender, and number

ὁ ἄνθρωπος





Because the article inflects according to case (nominative, genitive, dative, accusative), number (singular, plural), and gender (masculine, feminine, neuter), it mandates it 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.

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 paradigm's arrangement reflects all of its possible inflected forms. It 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 are not any feminine or neuter nouns in this lesson, memorize also their forms in preparation for Lesson Seven.

<a href="#">Listen</a>	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. It is the trustworthy indicator of the case, gender, and number for 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 their singular counterparts, except they modify plural nouns.

4. The article’s spelling begins either with a rough breathing or with *tau*. Forms that have the rough breathing lack any accent. The article’s acute accent changes to a grave accent when a word follows.
5. Except for the prefixed *tau*, the articles resemble the inflected endings for the corresponding noun. 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 be evident when second declension neuter nouns and first declension feminine nouns are introduced.
6. The article has a wide range of applications in NTGreek than in English. It is used 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 exemplify second declension masculine nouns (n-2a) with the articles. Masculine nouns are only represented since they are the ones so far introduced. 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 lesson’s vocabulary words, consult the study aids.

Do not be concerned why accents change on these nouns when declined.

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

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

ἄντίχριστος, -ου, ὁ (antichrist) ἄντιχριστο + case ending

		Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative	ὁ ἄντίχριστο <sup>ς</sup>	οἱ ἄντίχριστοι <sup>ι</sup>
	Genitive	τοῦ ἄντιχρίστου <sup>ου</sup>	τῶν ἄντιχρίστων <sup>ων</sup>
	Dative	τῷ ἄντιχρίστῳ <sup>ῳ</sup>	τοῖς ἄντιχρίστοις <sup>ις</sup>
	Accusative	τὸν ἄντίχριστον <sup>ν</sup>	τοὺς ἄντιχρίστους <sup>ους</sup>
	Vocative	ἄντίχριστ <sup>ε</sup> or ὁ ἄντίχριστο <sup>ς</sup>	οἱ ἄντίχριστοι <sup>ι</sup>

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

		Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative	ὁ ἀπόστολο <sup>ς</sup>	οἱ ἀπόστολοι <sup>ι</sup>
	Genitive	τοῦ ἀποστόλου <sup>ου</sup>	τῶν ἀποστόλων <sup>ων</sup>
	Dative	τῷ ἀποστόλῳ <sup>ῳ</sup>	τοῖς ἀποστόλοις <sup>ις</sup>
	Accusative	τὸν ἀπόστολον <sup>ν</sup>	τοὺς ἀποστόλους <sup>ους</sup>
	Vocative	ἀπόστολ <sup>ε</sup>	οἱ ἀπόστολοι <sup>ι</sup>

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

		Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative	ὁ θεός <sup>ς</sup>	οἱ θεοί <sup>ι</sup>
	Genitive	τοῦ θεοῦ <sup>ου</sup>	τῶν θεῶν <sup>ων</sup>
	Dative	τῷ θεῷ <sup>ῳ</sup>	τοῖς θεοῖς <sup>ις</sup>
	Accusative	τὸν θεόν <sup>ν</sup>	τοὺς θεούς <sup>ους</sup>
	Vocative	θεέ <sup>ε</sup> or ὁ θεός <sup>ς</sup>	οἱ θεοί <sup>ι</sup>

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

		Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative	ὁ λόγος	οἱ λόγοι
	Genitive	τοῦ λόγου	τῶν λόγων
	Dative	τῷ λόγῳ	τοῖς λόγοις
	Accusative	τὸν λόγον	τοὺς λόγους
	Vocative	λόγε	οἱ λόγοι

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

		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

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

ὕμνος, -ου, ὁ (hymn) ὕμνο + case ending

		Singular	Plural
CASE	Nominative	ὁ ὕμνο <sup>ς</sup>	οἱ ὕμνο <sup>ι</sup>
	Genitive	τοῦ ὕμν <sup>ου</sup>	τῶν ὕμν <sup>ων</sup>
	Dative	τῷ ὕμν <sup>ῳ</sup>	τοῖς ὕμνο <sup>ις</sup>
	Accusative	τὸν ὕμνο <sup>ν</sup>	τοὺς ὕμνο <sup>υς</sup>
	Vocative	ὕμν <sup>ε</sup> or ὁ ὕμνο <sup>ς</sup>	οἱ ὕμνο <sup>ι</sup>

## 6.4 Declension-Paradigm Abbreviations

These common abbreviations are used for terms relating to all declensions and paradigms.

nom. = nominative	sg. = singular	1 <sup>st</sup> decl. = first declension
gen. = genitive	pl. = plural	1 = first declension
dat. = dative	n- = noun	2 <sup>nd</sup> decl. = second declension
acc. = accusative	a- = adjective	2 = second declension
voc. = vocative	v- = verb	3 <sup>rd</sup> 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. In addition, the declension and inflected meaning is included in the parsing for all substantives.

To decline a substantive is to cite all its possible inflectional forms in both the singular and plural numbers. 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 ἄνθρωποι.

**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 for 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 would be parsed: genitive masculine/feminine/neuter plural from ὁ, meaning “of the.”

3. However, if the article τῶν modifies a noun, such as λόγων (a masculine noun), the article is parsed as genitive masculine plural from ὁ, “of the.” It is grammatically incorrect to include feminine/neuter genders as part of the parsing since the articular noun is masculine.

**6.5.3 Words parsed.** Below are examples of substantives parsed, as well as the article. Try this exercise: cover the right-hand column with a piece of paper, and then parse the words in the left-hand column. Uncover its parsing in the right-hand column to check your accuracy.

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.	τῇς	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”

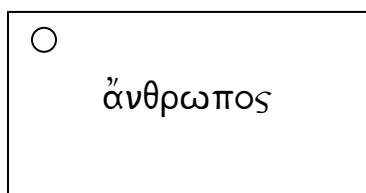


## 6.6 Learning Vocabulary

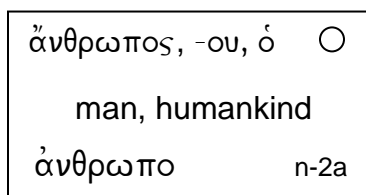
Vocabulary is an integral part of learning NTGreek. If you do not learn it well, interest in NTGreek will slowly dwindle and eventually die. Most students fail to learn NTGreek because of their failure to master sufficient vocabulary to read the Greek, which leads to an inadequate grasp of the language. This inadequacy leads from excitement to a downward cycle to discouragement and frustration—to ultimate extinction. Guaranteed!

If your desire is competently read NTGreek, vocabulary is essential. The larger the 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 vocabulary may 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

The vocabulary word is written on the card's front. On the card's back, cite the noun's definition with its stem in the lower left hand corner and declension-paradigm notation in the lower right hand corner. Above the definition is the lexical entry's form, followed by sufficient letters to indicate its genitive form, and then its article.

The noun's gender and genitive singular must be learned as a matter of course—no exceptions. The article designates the noun's gender. The noun's gender 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 later lessons.

A lot of time is invested while working through a lesson and preparing vocabulary cards. 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 reading through a lesson. Print neatly when placing all the pertinent information on the front and back sides 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 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. Slowly 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. Periodically review vocabulary during the 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 message in Greek.

## 6.7 Vocabulary Study

This is your first vocabulary study, so 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 vocabulary word's definition is furnished in the second column without an attempt to exhaust all of its 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	noun
	ἄγ-γε-λος (án-ge-los) n-2a	
ἄδελφός, -οῦ, ὁ Stem: ἄδελφο	brother	noun
	ἄ-δελ-φός (a-del-phós) n-2a	
ἄνθρωπος, -ου, ὁ Stem: ἄνθρωπο	man, humankind	noun
	ἄν-θρω-πος (án-thrō-pos) n-2a	
ἄντίχριστος, -ου, ὁ Stem: ἄντιχριστο	antichrist	noun
	ἄν-τί-χρι-στος (an-tí-chri-stos) n-2a 'Αντίχριστος is a compound word, composed of the preposition, Ἄντί, and the proper name, Χρίστος.	
ἄπόστολος, -ου, ὁ Stem: ἀποστολο	apostle, delegate	noun
	ἄ-πό-στο-λος (a-pó-sto-los) n-2a 'Απόστολος is a compound word, composed of the preposition, ἀπό, and the verb, στέλλω.	
βάρβαρος, -ου, ὁ Stem: βαρβαρο	barbarian	noun
	βάρ-βα-ρος (bár-ba-ros) n-2a	

<p>διάκονος, -ου, ὁ Stem: διακονο</p>	servant, deacon	noun
	<p>δι-ά-κο-νος (di-á-ko-nos) n-2a This noun may also be divided as διά-κο-νος</p>	
<p>δοῦλος, -ου, ὁ Stem: δουλο</p>	slave, bond-servant	noun
	δοῦ-λος (doû-los) n-2a	
<p>θεός, -οῦ, ὁ Stem: θεο</p>	God, god, ruler	noun
	<p>θε-ός (the-ós) n-2a This term may refer to the one and only true God, false deities, or a ruler. The definite article occurs often before the noun.</p>	
<p>θρόνος, -ου, ὁ Stem: θρονο</p>	throne	noun
	θρό-νος (thró-nos) n-2a	
καί	and	conjunction (connective)
	even, also, namely	adverb
	<p>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, etc. As an adverb, it modifies another adverb or verb or a prepositional phrase.</p>	
<p>κόσμος, -ου, ὁ Stem: κοσμο</p>	world, cosmos	noun
	κό-σμος (kó-smos) n-2a	
<p>κύριος, -ου, ὁ Stem: κυριο</p>	Lord, lord, master	noun
	κύ-ρι-ος (ký-ri-os) n-2a	
<p>λεπρός, -οῦ, ὁ Stem: λεπρο</p>	leper	noun
	λε-πρός (le-prós) n-2a	
<p>λόγος, -ου, ὁ Stem: λογο</p>	word, message, statement	noun
	λό-γος (ló-gos) n-2a	
<p>μῦθος, -ου, ὁ Stem: μυθο</p>	myth	noun
	μῦ-θος (mŷ-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 (nó-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: οἰκο	house	noun
	οἶ-κος (oî-kos) n-2a	
ὀρφανός, -ου, ὁ Stem: ὀρφανο	orphan	noun
	ὀρ-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	
ὕμνος, -ου, ὁ Stem: ὕμνο	hymn	noun
	ὕ-μνος (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	

If this Greek lesson has been helpful and you wish to contribute toward further resources concerning the same subject material, your [donation](#) of any amount will be helpful.

# 6

Study Guide  
Second Declension Nouns (Module A)  
Masculine Nouns and the Article  
Morphology: The Nominal System (Part 1)

Lesson Six introduced the Greek nominal inflectional system. The questions below cover some of the lesson's basics.

### Exercise One: Multiple choice.

- 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   | c. the subject of the sentence |
| b. the indirect object of the verb | d. direct address              |

13. The accusative case usually indicates

- |                                    |                                |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a. the direct object of the verb   | c. the subject of the sentence |
| b. the indirect object of the verb | d. direct address              |

14. One use of the genitive case is

- |                                    |                   |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| a. the direct object of the verb   | c. possession     |
| b. the indirect object of the verb | d. direct address |

15. What are the genders in Greek?

- |                         |                                |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a. masculine, feminine  | c. masculine, feminine, neuter |
| b. male, female, 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. ____ κυρίου |
| 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. Supply the declensional endings for the second declensional masculine noun κύριος.

	Singular	Plural
<b>Nominative</b>	κύριο____	κύριο____
<b>Genitive</b>	κυρί____	κυρί____
<b>Dative</b>	κυρί____	κυρίο____
<b>Accusative</b>	κύριο____	κυρίο____
<b>Vocative</b>	κύρι____	κύριο____

**Exercise Three: 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 Four: 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
ῥυμος						
Πέτρου	gen.					
Χριστόν		masc.			n-2a	
οἶκος			singular			