

# Introduction to Biblical Greek

The Verb, Part 1  
Present, Active & Middle, Indicative

Voeltz Ch. 3

## Devotion – John 11:25-26

- εἶπεν αὐτῇ ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Ἐγὼ εἰμι ἡ ἀνάστασις καὶ ἡ ζωὴ· ὁ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμὲ κἂν ἀποθάνῃ ζήσεται,
- καὶ πᾶς ὁ ζῶν καὶ πιστεύων εἰς ἐμὲ οὐ μὴ ἀποθάνῃ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα· πιστεύεις τοῦτο;
- “even if he dies” = 3<sup>rd</sup> class condition of potential + aorist subjunctive

## Devotion – John 11:25-26 (cont.)

- “never die” = strong double negative;
- “never die” = with τὸν αἰῶνα “shall not die forever”

# Inflected Languages

- Unlike English, Greek is an inflectional language: Greek words change their form depending on how they are used in a sentence.
- In English, word order generally indicates subject and direct object:
  - The man saw the cat [man is subject and cat is direct object]
  - The cat saw the man [cat is subject and man is direct object]

# Verbs – Tense

- In English, tense tells time: I run, I will run, I ran
- Greek verb tense indicates kind of action:
  - Punctiliar
  - Linear (continual)
  - Perfected (completed w/ emphasis on lasting results) [English uses “have”]

## Verbs – Tense (cont.)

- Tense can indicate time, but secondarily
- The emphasis of the *present* tense is linear action rather than punctiliar
- “I am seeing” rather than “I see”
- Example tense: **Present**

# Verbs – Voice

- Indicates who does the acting
- **Active** = subject acts
- **Passive** = subject acted upon
- **Middle** = reflexive, subject acting upon or for self
- “I am speaking” “I am spoken to” “I am talking to myself!”

# Verbs – Mood

- The relationship to reality
- Reality – actual action; indicative
- Potential – potential action
- Example mood: **Indicative**



# Verbs – Person

- Indicates subject of the verb
- **1<sup>st</sup> Person:** Subject speaking
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Person:** Subject spoken to
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Person:** Subject spoken of
- Examples:
  - I am running
  - You are running
  - He is running

# Verbs – Number

- Number is closely related to person
- **Singular:** One person acting
- **Plural:** More than one acting

# Verb Identification

- Every verb must be identified: Tense, Voice, Mood, Person, and Number
- In this lesson we will learn all the persons and numbers for:
  - Present, Active, Indicative
  - Present, Middle, Indicative

# More on Inflection

- Tense, voice, mood, person, and number are indicated by suffixes, prefixes, and modifications of the stem
- The verbal paradigms which we look at first only change the suffix
- Be aware that the term “suffix” is only a quick and easy designation and not linguistically accurate

# Presentation of Verbs

	Singular	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> Person	I _____	We _____
2 <sup>nd</sup> Person	You _____	You _____
3 <sup>rd</sup> Person	He _____ She _____ It _____	They _____

# Present, Active, Indicative

- Tense: **present**; linear action, sometimes indicating present time
- Voice: **active**; subject does acting
- Mood: **indicative**; condition of reality

# PAI Paradigm

	Singular	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> Person	-Ω	-ΟΜΕΝ
2 <sup>nd</sup> Person	-ΕΙΣ	-ΕΤΕ
3 <sup>rd</sup> Person	-ΕΙ	-ΟΥΣΙ (V)

# PAI λύω Example

	Singular	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> Person	λύω	λύομεν
2 <sup>nd</sup> Person	λύεις	λύετε
3 <sup>rd</sup> Person	λύει	λύουσι (ν)



# PAI Samples

- λύω
- I am loosing
  
- λύετε
- You are loosing
  
- λυει
- He is loosing

# Present, Middle, Indicative

- Tense: **present**; linear action, sometimes indicating present time
- Voice: **middle**; subject acts upon or for self
- Mood: **indicative**; condition of reality

# PMI Paradigm

	Singular	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> Person	-ομαι	-ομεθα
2 <sup>nd</sup> Person	-η	-εσθε
3 <sup>rd</sup> Person	-εται	-ονται

# PMI λύω Example

	Singular	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> Person	λύομαι	λύομεθα
2 <sup>nd</sup> Person	λύῃ	λύεσθε
3 <sup>rd</sup> Person	λύεται	λύονται

# Hints for Memorizing Verbal Forms

- Always say the paradigm in the same order; I suggest the same order I used in class
- Practice both writing out the paradigm (just suffixes and with λύω) and saying it (again just suffix and with vocab. word)
- Write PAI on one side of index card and paradigm on other

# Vocabulary – Voeltz Section H

- ἄγω = I am leading
- ἀκούω = I am hearing
- βλέπω = I am seeing
- γράφω = I am writing
- θεραπεύω = I am healing

## Vocabulary (cont.)

- κηρύσσω = I am proclaiming
- κλέπτω = I am stealing
- λύω = I am loosing, breaking
- νίπτω = I am washing
- πέμπω = I am sending

## Vocabulary (cont.)

- σωζω = I am saving



# Hints for Memorizing Vocabulary

- Write word on index card with definition on other side
- Be sure to practice both saying and writing vocabulary words
- Do all of the exercises given in the homework

# Homework

- Read Chapter 3, but don't sweat trying to learn the linguistic stuff!
- Example: **completely** ignore the “Original” versions of the forms given in Section B!
- When I disagree with the text (for instance rendering of present as “I steal” rather than “I am stealing”), do what I say for the exercises

# Homework (cont.)

- Memorize the vocabulary (Section H)
- Do the Practice Sentences (Section J)
- Do as much of Section K as you can: practice pronouncing the clause and identify (parse) any verb you recognize. We will look at this verse next class