Greek Study Notes

The following Study Notes have been prepared to assist students who have studied, or are studying, Hebrew but who need some basic orientation to Greek in preparation for taking Biblical Exegesis (BIBL 503).

Note that there will no longer be a test prior to BIBL 503 to examine students’ knowledge of this material. The assignments in BIBL 503 will do that.
These notes introduce essential information about Biblical Greek, knowledge of which is prerequisite for students seeking admission to BIBL 503 without prior credit from courses that cover this information in greater detail (e.g., LANG 550, 500). The data on the alphabet in the first section (I) should be memorized as thoroughly as possible, including the shape, pronunciation and position within the alphabet of each cursive (lower case) letter. The following section (II) should be read carefully with a view to understanding the main grammatical constituents of the language, which will be alluded to frequently in exegesis of the Greek NT; although the contents of the section need not be memorized in detail, you should be able to make use of these concepts in conjunction with basic Greek language tools such as those cited below in III. Grammatical information is derived from the introductory grammar of William D. Mounce, Basics of Biblical Greek: Grammar (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1993), abbreviated BBGG, with additional crossreferences to his treatment of topics summarized briefly here. For a helpful review of English grammatical terms relevant to Greek, see the introductory pages of John W. Wenham, The Elements of New Testament Greek (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1965); also BBGG: 22-27, 115-123, 233-234.

1. Writing System and Pronunciation

1. Alphabet (BBGG: 7-12)

Focus on the small or cursive letters in the fifth column of #3.2, on the characters used for transliteration in the third column of #3.2, and on their pronunciation in the sixth column of #3.2 and in #3.5. Detailed study of #3.3-4 is not essential: note, though, the comments on Gamma (#3.4.4) and the breathing marks (#3.4.6).
standard pronunciations that will help you learn the language the easiest.

Notice the many similarities among the Greek and English letters, not only in shape and sound but also in their respective order in the alphabet. The Greek alphabet can be broken down into sections. It will parallel the English for a while, differ, and then begin to parallel again. Try to find these natural divisions.

The name of a consonant is formed with the help of a vowel, but the sound of the consonant does not include that vowel. For example, μ is the letter “mu,” but when mu appears in the word, there is no “u” sound.

The following chart shows the name of the letter (in English and Greek), the English transliteration, the letter written as a capital and as a small letter, and its pronunciation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Greek Letter</th>
<th>English Letter</th>
<th>Capital</th>
<th>Small</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alpha</td>
<td>α</td>
<td>Α</td>
<td>α</td>
<td>a as in father</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta</td>
<td>β</td>
<td>Β</td>
<td>β</td>
<td>b as in Bible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gamma</td>
<td>γ</td>
<td>Γ</td>
<td>γ</td>
<td>g as in gone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delta</td>
<td>δ</td>
<td>Δ</td>
<td>δ</td>
<td>d as in dog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epsilon</td>
<td>ε</td>
<td>Ε</td>
<td>ε</td>
<td>e as in met</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeta</td>
<td>ζ</td>
<td>ζ</td>
<td>ζ</td>
<td>z as in daze⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eta</td>
<td>η</td>
<td>Η</td>
<td>η</td>
<td>e as in obey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theta</td>
<td>θ</td>
<td>Θ</td>
<td>θ</td>
<td>th as in thing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iota</td>
<td>ι</td>
<td>Ι</td>
<td>ι</td>
<td>i as in intrigue⁵</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kappa</td>
<td>κ</td>
<td>Κ</td>
<td>κ</td>
<td>k as in kitchen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lambda</td>
<td>λ</td>
<td>Λ</td>
<td>λ</td>
<td>l as in law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mu</td>
<td>μ</td>
<td>Μ</td>
<td>μ</td>
<td>m as in mother</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nu</td>
<td>ν</td>
<td>Ν</td>
<td>ν</td>
<td>n as in new</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xsi (xi)</td>
<td>χ</td>
<td>Ξ</td>
<td>ξ</td>
<td>x as in axiom⁶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omicron</td>
<td>ϐ</td>
<td>Ο</td>
<td>ο</td>
<td>o as in not⁷</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pi</td>
<td>π</td>
<td>Π</td>
<td>π</td>
<td>p as in peach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rho</td>
<td>ρ</td>
<td>Ρ</td>
<td>ρ</td>
<td>r as in rod⁸</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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⁴ Some pronounce the zeta as the “dz” combination. This helps to differentiate it from the sigma. Wenham (19) says that it is pronounced “dz” unless it is the first letter in the word and then is pronounced “z.”

⁵ The iota can be either long (“intrigue”) or short (“intrigue”). Listen to how your teacher pronounces the words and you will pick up the differences.

⁶ Some prefer a simple “x” sound for the xsi and not the double “xs” as in the word “axiom.” We feel that the “xs” combination helps to differentiate xsi from chi. However, your teacher may prefer that you spell the letter “xi” and not “xsi.”
Chapter 3: Alphabet and pronunciation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Greek</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sigma</td>
<td>σιγμα</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tau</td>
<td>ταυ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upsilon</td>
<td>υψιλόν</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phi</td>
<td>φι</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chi</td>
<td>χι</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psi</td>
<td>ψι</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omega</td>
<td>ωμεγα</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.3 Writing the letters

1. Notice how α β δ ε ι κ λ μ ν ο π ρ σ/ζ τ and υ look like their English counterparts.
2. In Greek there are five letters that are transliterated by two letters. θ is th; ξ is χς; φ is ph; χ is ch; ψ is ps. These are called double consonants.
3. It is important that you do not confuse the η (eta) with the English “n,” the ν (nu) with the “v,” the ρ (rho) with the “p,” the χ (chi) with the “x,” or the ω (omega) with the “w.”
4. There are two sigmas in Greek. ζ occurs only at the end of the word and σ occurs elsewhere: ἀπόστολος.
5. You will learn the alphabet best by pronouncing the letters out loud as you write them, over and over.

3.4 Pronouncing the letters

1. In pronouncing the Greek letters, use the first sound of the name of the letter. Alpha is an “a” sound (there is no “pha” sound); lambda is an “l” sound (there is no “amba” sound).
2. The following letters sound just like their English counterparts: α β γ δ ε ι κ λ μ ν ο π ρ σ/ζ τ.
3. The vowels in Greek are α, ε, η, ι, ο, υ, ω.
4. Gamma (γ) usually has a hard “g” sound, as in “get.” However, when it is immediately followed by γ, κ, χ, or ξ, it is pronounced as a “n.”
   For example, the word ἄγγελος is pronounced “angelos,” from

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7 The omicron is pronounced by some with a long “o” sound as in the word “obey.” It is pronounced by others with a short “o” sound as in the word “lot.” There is a question as to whether the actual pronunciation of this letter was in the Koine period. In modern Greek it is long as in omega. We have chosen to use a shorter pronunciation in order to differentiate the omicron from the omega.
8 Some prefer the “rh” sound.
9 Other suggestions are the u in “universe” and the oo in “book.”
10 Pronounced with a decided Scottish accent.
which we get our word ‘angel.’ The gamma pronounced like a ‘n’
is called a gamma nasal.\footnote{Most gamma nasals are formed from the \( \gamma \gamma \) combination.}

5. Alpha and iota can be either long or short. Iota may have changed
its sound (cf. ‘intrigue’, ‘intrigue’); alpha may not have.\footnote{There is much discussion on this type of issue among scholars. The long alpha (e.g., ‘father’) would have taken longer to say than the short alpha. (e.g., ‘cat’).} Epsilon
and omicron are always short while eta and omega are always long.

‘Long’ and ‘short’ refer to the relative length of time it requires to
pronounce the vowel.

6. Greek also has two breathing marks. Every word beginning with a
vowel and all words beginning with a rho have a breathing mark.

The rough breathing is a ’ placed over the first vowel and adds an
“h” sound to the word. \( \upsilon\rho \) is pronounced “huper.” Every word
that begins with a rho or upsilon takes a rough breathing.

The smooth breathing is a ’ placed over the first vowel and is not
pronounced. \( \upsilon\rho \) (which is not a real Greek word) would be pro-
nounced “uper.” \( \alpha\pi\omicron\sigma\omicron\tau\omicron\omicron\) is pronounced “a p\( \omicron \) sto los.”

3.5 Pronouncing diphthongs

1. A diphthong consists of two vowels that produce but one sound.
The second vowel is always an \( i \) or an \( u \). The final three diphthongs
in the following chart are less common than the others. Their pro-
nunciations are as follows.\footnote{The diphthong \( ow \) is used in classical Greek, but occurs in the N.T. only in the name \( \text{Μωυσῆς} \) where there is always a diaeresis indicating that it is not a diphthong.}

\[
\begin{align*}
\alpha & \text{ as in aisle} & \alpha \iota \omega \\
\epsilon & \text{ as in eight} & \epsilon i \\
\omicron & \text{ as in oil} & \omicron \kappa \iota \alpha \\
\alpha \nu & \text{ as in sauerkraut} & \alpha \upsilon \omicron \zeta \\
\omicron \upsilon & \text{ as in soup} & \omicron \upsilon \dot{e} \\
\upsilon & \text{ as in suite} & \upsilon \omicron \\
\epsilon \nu, \eta \upsilon & \text{ as in feud} & \epsilon \upsilon \omicron \upsilon / \eta \omicron \xi \alpha \omicron \nu \nu
\end{align*}
\]

2. An improper diphthong is made up of a vowel and an iota sub-
script. An iota subscript is a small iota written under the vowels \( \alpha, \eta, \) or \( \omega (\iota, \omicron, \varpi) \) and normally is the last letter in a word. This iota has
no effect on the pronunciation but is essential for translation, so pay

\footnote{Some suggest that the pronunciation of \( \eta \upsilon \) is the same as saying “hey you” if you run
the words together.}
close attention to it.

3. Words that begin with a diphthong must have breathing marks. The breathing mark is placed over the second vowel of the diphthong (αιτέω).

If the capitalized word begins with a diphthong, the breathing mark is still over the second vowel (Αιτέω). But if the word begins with two vowels that do not form a diphthong, the breathing mark stands in front of the capital (Ἡσοῦς).

4. In some words we find two vowels that normally form a diphthong, but in this case do not. To show that these two vowels are pronounced as two separate sounds, a diacritical mark ("”) is placed over the second vowel (Ἡσοῦας). The αι normally forms a diphthong, but in this word the diaeresis indicates that it forms two separate sounds: Ἡ σα πας. Cf. naïve in English.

Summary

1. It is essential that you learn the Greek alphabet right away. You cannot learn anything else until you do.

2. Learn the English name, how to write the letter, and how to pronounce the letter.

3. The vowels in Greek are α, ε, η, ι, ο, υ, and ω.

4. Every word beginning with a vowel must have either a rough or smooth breathing mark. If the word begins with a diphthong, the breathing mark is over the second vowel. If the word is capitalized, the breathing mark goes either before the first vowel or over the second vowel, depending on whether the two vowels form a diphthong.

5. A diphthong consists of two vowels pronounced as a single sound. The second vowel is always an iota or epsilon.

6. An improper diphthong is a diphthong with an iota subscript under the vowel. The iota subscript does not affect pronunciation but is important in translation.

Advanced Information

In most of the chapters there is information that some teachers consider essential, but others do not. We have included that kind of information in the "Advanced Information" section of each chapter.
2. Additional Writing Conventions (BBGG: 13-21)

Most Greek words contain a stressed syllable, which receives greater emphasis in speech (this is also the case in English). The stressed syllable is marked by either an acute accent, ' (άπόστολος, ‘apostle’); a grave accent, ' (Χριστός); or a circumflex, ' (Παῦλος). Of the punctuation marks used in printed texts, the semicolon (a raised dot) and question mark (a semicolon) differ from English usage.

3. Reading Practice

See the attached copy of the first verses of John 1.

II. Grammatical Forms

1. Nouns (BBGG: 22-85, 331-342)

Greek nouns are characterized by gender, number and case. Every noun will belong to one of three genders: masculine, feminine or neuter. Nouns are also marked for number: singular (one entity), or plural (more than one). Words referring to a given noun, such as adjectives and pronouns, are linked to it by being marked with the same gender and number. Case identifies the function of a noun within a clause or complete statement. There are four principal cases: nominative, typically the subject (e.g., ‘the Lord reigns’); genitive, corresponding in many respects to English ‘of’ and modifying other nouns (e.g., ‘the name of the Lord’); dative, corresponding to English phrases with ‘to, for’ but with a wider range of usage (e.g., ‘the Lord speaks to his people’); and accusative, typically the object of a verb (e.g., ‘the Lord heals his people’); more rarely, some nouns occur in the vocative case, used in direct address (e.g., ‘O Lord!’). Thus, a given noun will have eight main forms: each of four cases in the singular, and distinct forms for these cases in the plural.

All of this information is indicated by specific sets of eight endings or suffixes on each noun: for instance, the noun λόγος is identified as masculine singular nominative by the ending -ος; λόγον is masculine singular accusative; λόγων is masculine plural accusative; γραφή is feminine singular genitive. There are large groups of nouns that have identical or related endings: these are known as declensions, of which there are three in NT Greek (with subgroups within each). Most endings are unambiguously associated with a single gender, number and case. Some, though, are ambiguous: they may be associated with words of different genders within a single declension; or an identical ending may have a different value in different declensions.

Adjectives, which describe nouns and pronouns and agree with them in gender, number and case, are inflected in much the same way: e.g., ‘the good shepherd’, ‘the coming king’, ‘the shepherd is good’. Similarly the definite article (English ‘the’), which modifies nouns and adjectives.

2. Pronouns (BBGG: 86-114, 340-342)

Personal pronouns in English are distinguished by person and number (1st singular and plural - I/we; 2nd s. and p. - you; 3rd s. and p. - he/she/it, they). In addition, they have partially distinct forms for
different cases (e.g., 'I, me, my/of me, to me' and 'we, us, our/of us, to us'); and, in the third singular, for gender ('he/she/it, him/her/it', etc.). The Greek personal pronouns have similar sets of forms, including gender and case distinctions in the 3rd person singular and plural: e.g., ἐγὼ, 'I' (nominative); μου, 'of me' (genitive); μοι, 'to me' (dative); με, 'me' (accusative). Pronouns normally refer back to a preceding noun (the antecedent), with which they agree in gender and number: e.g., 'the Lord blesses his people and they serve him with all their heart'. As substitutes for nouns, pronouns will have comparable case functions: i.e. nominative for subject, accusative for object, etc.

Two sets of demonstrative pronouns correspond to English 'this/these', 'that/those', but in Greek they are inflected for all genders, numbers and cases, in which they agree with the noun they modify or refer to: e.g., 'these things'; 'these are the things'. The interrogative pronoun ('who, whom, whose, to whom?' and 'what?') is similarly inflected, used in questions. Likewise the relative pronoun ('who, whom,...' 'which', 'that'), which introduces relative clauses that usually describe a preceding noun: e.g., 'the king, who is returning to his kingdom, will come soon'.

4. Prepositions (BBGG: 55-62)

Prepositions (e.g., English 'in, with, from') are typically used before nouns and pronouns, forming a prepositional phrase that modifies another noun or a verb: e.g., 'they came with him', 'he entered after the others'. Greek has an equally wide range of prepositions: individual prepositions are often used with many different nuances of meaning, particularly those that are followed by several different cases for the noun or pronoun associated with them (genitive, dative, accusative).

5. Conjunctions

Conjunctions serve to define logical and temporal relations between phrases and especially clauses: they function either to join together independent statements or main clauses (coordinating conjunctions, such as 'and, but, or'); or to add a qualifying idea by means of a dependent clause (subordinating conjunctions, such as 'when, before, after, because, although, that'). Again, Greek possesses a comparable range of conjunctions.

6. Verbs (BBGG: 115-325, 343-387)

Greek verbs consist of a basic form or stem (which may vary), to which affixes (prefixes and suffixes) are added to specify the exact way they are being used in a given context. These affixes define the verb in terms of subject; tense; voice; and mood. The latter three concepts are particularly complex.

As in the case of pronouns, the subject of verbs is defined by person (1st, 2nd or 3rd) and number (singular or plural): each tense will thus consist of a set of six endings; e.g., λῶς, λῆς, λῇ, λῶμεν, λῆτε, λῶσιν (I loose, you loose, he/she/it looses, we loose, you loose, they loose). Gender and case are not marked for verbs as a rule.

Tense corresponds approximately to English tense, defining the aspect or type and to some extent the time of action: for instance, the English Present tense ('I go, you go, he goes...') describes action as
concurrent with the time frame of the speaker or writer. Type of action, or Aspect, defines the nature of the action: primarily durative (i.e. continuous, customary or repeated); simple or undefined (without reference to duration); and perfective or completed (a simple action with durative results). Time is essentially past, present and future. Greek has six tenses, in which these categories of aspect and time overlap in various ways, so that each of the Greek tenses is capable of translation by different English tenses, depending on the type of verb and the context (thus, the following examples do not exhaust the possibilities). The Present tense is present durative (cf. ‘I am going’, ‘I am accustomed to go, I go every day’) or simple (‘I see’). The Future is, similarly, future durative (‘I will be going’) or future simple (‘I will go’). The Imperfect is past durative (‘I was going’, ‘I used to go’; the Aorist is past simple (‘I went’). The Perfect is present completed, i.e. a past action resulting in a present durative state (‘I have gone’); the Pluperfect is past completed (‘I had gone’). Tense is implicit in the subject suffixes, which differ for the various tenses; and it is also marked by other prefixes and suffixes in many cases.

**Voice** defines the relationship of the subject to the verbal action. Like English, Greek has an Active voice according to which the subject performs the verbal action (‘he sees, he finds’); and a Passive voice, which identifies the subject as the goal or recipient of the action (‘he is seen, he is found’). In addition, it has a Middle voice, typically defining the subject as performing the action in relation to itself (e.g., ‘he dresses [himself]’, ‘he sees himself, he sees for/by himself’). In principle, each voice will be attested in all six tenses; and, like tense, it is marked by the specific form of the subject suffixes.

**Mood** defines the speaker’s or writer’s perspective on the realization of the verbal action. The Indicative mood presents an action as real or actually occurring (‘he will come’, ‘he saw’). The Subjunctive deals with possible situations, typically contingent on another event or as yet unfulfilled (‘if he comes,...’, ‘so that you may live’). The Imperative identifies an action as willed or commanded, rather than actually performed (‘do this’, ‘let them see’). Each of these moods is attested in a variety of tenses in each voice, the subject suffixes again playing the primary role in identifying them.

In addition to these moods, Greek possesses a range of participles (verbal adjectives, cf. ‘running water, the water is running’, ‘having run down the hill’) and infinitives (verbal nouns, cf. ‘to live is Christ’). Like the previous categories, they are characterized by tense and voice; however, they are not inflected for subject in the same way. Nevertheless, they are extremely important components of Greek syntax in their capacity to modify and define the circumstances of other verbs. For instance, a single participial form may be capable of the following and other translations into English: ‘while/because/although he was entering, he saw...’.

### III. BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR READING THE GREEK NT

#### 1. Greek Printed Texts

The following editions differ in minor details of text and punctuation, and in the range of textual variants cited, but both are widely used in scholarly study


2. Interlinear New Testaments

This type of resource provides a word-by-word literal gloss below each Greek word of the Greek text, and (in the volumes cited below) a consecutive translation in the margin; the more recent volume of Marshall is to be preferred. While interlinear do not necessarily parse forms, they can be used in conjunction with a parsing guide or analytical lexicon to identify the root underlying a given form, which can then be researched further in a concordance or lexicon. They also give a broader overview of a passage than parsing guides or analytical lexicons, allowing one to note repetition of identical or similar vocabulary and other patterns in the text. Cf. #3.

Berry, George R. *Interlinear KJV Parallel New Testament in Greek and English.* Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1993 [original publication 1897]

3. Bible Software

AcCordance Bible Software. OakSoft Software (www.oaksoft.com)
[Mac-based; widely held to be the most powerful and desirable Bible software package]

Bible Windows 6.0. Silver Mountain Software
[BHS, grammatically tagged; NT Greek texts; Vulgate; LXX; various lexicons including Classical Greek, versions, etc. $166.00 US, Eisenbrauns 3/02]

Bible Works 5.0. Hermeneutika
[Large range of morphologically tagged Bible versions - BHS, NT Greek texts, LXX, Latin; huge range of versions, etc. $300.00 US, Eisenbrauns 3/02]

Gramcord
[PC counterpart of AcCordance]

Original Languages Library. Logos 2000
[BHS; several Greek NT texts; LXX, grammatically tagged; Vulgate, etc.; and a wide range of lexicons, English versions and other resources. Morphological search capabilities not clear. $300.00 US, Eisenbrauns, 5/02]

4. Parsing Guides & Text Analyses (entries ordered by text)

These are ordered according to the sequence of the NT text and are therefore among the most useful and accessible tools for study of a specific NT passage: they take each word (or most words) in Matt. 1:1, 1:2, and so on. The final entry in this section, by Alsop, functions as a parsing guide but is in fact an index to the second edition of the most commonly used Greek-English lexicon (*BAG*, see below page 10; less useful now that the lexicon has been replaced by a 3rd ed., *BAGD*): thus, it simultaneously provides an analysis of all but the most common forms and indicates the precise page and subsection within *BAG* where it is discussed. Note, further, that the software listed in #3 will usually serve as the most efficient method of parsing a form within a text; and that it will also serve the purpose of (and often includes electronic versions of) the resources listed under each of the other headings.


### 5. Analytical Lexicons (entries ordered alphabetically)

Since standard Greek lexicons list words according to their basic forms (e.g., 3rd person singular Present Active Indicative for verbs), it is necessary to be able to distinguish the lexical form from its inflected form in which the stem may show a number of variations. An analytical lexicon lists every word as it stands in alphabetical order, including definition of its root. Thus, the word ἐλήλυθα (‘I have come’) will appear in a lexicon under ἐρχομαι but in an analytical lexicon under ἐλήλυθα. When a word is discussed without reference to its precise Biblical context, an analytical lexicon may be more suitable than a parsing guide or softward programme for identifying its root and meaning. Cf. #3.


### 6. Lexicons

The 3rd edition of Bauer is now the standard reference work for the NT. For (1) earlier, (2) contemporary and (3) later Christian usage, see respectively Liddell and Scott and Lust; Moulton and Milligan; Lampe.

{abbreviated BAG[D] or Bauer-Arndt-Gingrich-Danker}

[PA 881.B38 Ref & Stacks, 1st-2nd eds]


{Classical, Hellenistic [including NT] and later sources}
{Abbreviated Liddell-Scott or LS}


[originally published London: Hodder & Stoughton, 1930]

{usually abbreviated Moulton & Milligan}

[PA 881.M7 Ref]

7. Theological/Exegetical Dictionaries

[originally published in German, Stuttgart: Kohlhammer, 1978-1980]

[BS 2312.E913 Ref]

{abbreviated Kittel}

[PA 881.K513 Ref]

{abridged 1-volume edition}

[PA 881.T4713 Ref]


[PA 875.S613 Ref]

8. Greek Concordances

{Greek entries, English translation of passages}

[BS 2302.E54]
{Greek entries, English translation of passages}

{Greek entries and text}  [BS 2302.K655 Ref]

{Greek entries and text}  [BS 2302.M8 Ref]


9. Reference & Topical Grammars

The following titles represent a limited selection of the resources available, for possible future reference rather than utilization at this stage

{abbreviated BDF or Blass-Debrunner-Funk}  [PA 813.B513 Ref]


{see Turner, for volumes 3-4}


{usually abbreviated Moulton-Howard-Turner}  [PA 813.M7 Ref]

IV. Requirements and Assignments

Requirements

The competency exam, to be scheduled and administered by the Registrar’s office, will test the following areas of knowledge based upon the information provided in these notes.

- knowledge of the alphabet, so as to be able to read individual Greek words in both Greek script and transliteration and to look up words in lexicons and concordances: see Section I;
- familiarity with the main grammatical categories and concepts of the language, so as to be able to understand parsing guides, lexicons and other tools that use them: see Section II;
- acquaintance with the types of secondary literature that will be necessary to access information on the Greek of the Biblical text, including actual location and use of at least one volume or resource listed in each of IV.1-8;
- ability to use the secondary literature in order to identify the morphology and basic meaning of individual inflected words within a NT context; to research the meaning of such words in Greek and theological lexicons; and to identify the frequency and distribution of words within the Greek NT and individual sections of it, with the aid of concordances or other word-search resources

While memorization of the alphabet is essential, the exam will be conducted on an open-book basis and will not presuppose exact knowledge of morphology: any written or electronic resources found helpful are admissible, including these notes. If the number of participants is small, the exam will be held in the library, and it will be the responsibility of each student to locate the relevant bibliographic resources with which to answer the questions. If the numbers make this impracticable, you will be provided with photocopied materials within which you will be able to find the answers (primarily extracts from interlinears, concordances, dictionaries, etc.). In both cases, the exam will be subject to a time limit of ca. 2 hours, and it will assume prior familiarity with the types of data and bibliographic information listed above.

Sample Questions

1.1. What are the first five words of John 1:1? Write them out in Greek and transliteration
   - consult the UBS or Nestle text, parsing guide, interlinear or software

1.2. What is the part of speech of each of these words?
   - parsing guide or interlinear

1.3. What is the meaning of the second word here? What other meanings does it have?
   - lexicon; and/or theological lexicon

1.4. How often does it occur in John, and do any of those usages resemble that in 1:1? Does it appear to be a keyword there, and what is its OT background? How often does it occur in the NT as a whole? Are there any other books where it is especially frequent?
   - concordance and lexicons; note also that many of the words in BAGD are listed exhaustively
2.1. How often does the word λόγος occur in John? How many of those usages are applied to Jesus? Are there comparable usages elsewhere in the NT?
   -Concordance; plus Greek text, parsing guide, interlinear or software; or possibly a literal English version
2.2. What is the verb to which this form is related?

3.1. What is the form ἐγένετο in Jn. 1:3, and what is the basic/lexical form underlying it? How many times do various forms of this word occur in Jn. 1?

4.1. Identify other groups of related words (e.g., noun/verb/adjective) that are repeated within Jn. 1:1-18. How many of them appear to be key words (i.e. frequently used and theologically or thematically significant) within John?

5.1. What is the number and gender of αἵματος? Is this typical NT usage? What are its implications?

6.1. What is the significance of σὰρξ in Jn. 1:14? Is this a prominent Johannine word (in the Gospel and letters)?
6.2. What is the meaning of ἐκκίνωσεν? To what other Greek words is the term related? What is the imagery associated with its usage here?

**Exam**

The exam will contain a series of questions comparable to the above, including a few drawn directly from the sample questions; it will focus on two or three different passages, which it will be necessary to locate and examine on the basis of a Greek text with respect to its morphology and lexical forms.
The Word Became Flesh

1 'Εν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος, καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν, καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος. 2 οὕτος ἦν ἐν ἀρχῇ πρὸς τὸν θεόν. 3 πάντα δὲ αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο, καὶ χωρὶς αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο οὐδέ ἐν. a ὁ γέγονεν b 4 ἐν αὐτῷ ζωὴ ἦν b, καὶ η ἡζωὴ ἦν τὸ φῶς τῶν ἀνθρώπων. 5 καὶ τὸ φῶς ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ φαίνει, καὶ η σκοτίᾳ αὐτοῦ οὐ κατέλαβεν.

6 Ὁ γένετο ἀνθρωπός, b ἀπεσταλμένος παρὰ θεοῦ, ὁνομα αὐτοῦ Ἰωάννης. 7 οὕτως ἦλθεν εἰς μαρτυρίαν ἵνα μαρτυρήσῃ περὶ τοῦ φωτός, ἵνα πάντες πιστεύσωσιν δι' αὐτοῦ.

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1-4 (C) οὐδὲ ἐν. ὁ γέγονεν ἐν p35c C (I) οὐδὲν for οὐδὲ ἐν) L Wsupp 050* itb vgww syr,c, (pal) copsa, fay Naassenes Theodotus acc. to Clement Valentinians acc. to Irenaeus 1st and Clement Diatessaron, n Ptolemy Heracleon Theophilus Perateni Irenaeus Clement Tertullian Hippolytus Origen Eusebius Ambrosiaster Hilary Athanasius Cyril-Jerusalem Ambrose 2/3 Epiphanius Augustine Cyril // οὐδὲ ἐν. ὁ γέγονεν ἐν (1071 οὐδὲν for οὐδὲ ἐν) Θ 28 700 892 1195 1241 1242 c Diatessaron vgy // οὐδὲ ἐν ὁ γέγονεν. ἐν Nc K X P Ψ 050c (f1 οὐδὲν for οὐδὲ ἐν) f13 33 565 1009 1010 1079 1216 1320 1242* 1253 1344 1365 1546 1646 Byz Lect vg syr,p,h copb bo arm geo Adamantius Alexander Ephraem Ambrose 1/3 Didymus Epiphanius Chrysostom Jerome Nonnus Ps-Ignatius // οὐδὲ ἐν ὁ γέγονεν ἐν (p76 οὐδὲν for οὐδὲ ἐν and omit ἐν) p75c (Nc οὐδὲν for οὐδὲ ἐν) A B Δ 063

2 4 (A) ἦν (see footnote 1) p60,75 A B C K L X Θ Π Ψ 050 063 0234 f1 f13 28 33 565 700 892 1009 1010 1071 1079 1195 1216 1230 1241 1242 1253 1344 1365 1546 1646 2148 Byz Lect vg syr,p,h,pal copb bo arm geo Theodotus acc. to Clement Diatessaron Irenaeus 1st Clement 3/5 Origen Cyprian Eusebius Chrysostom Nonnus Cyril Theodoret // ἐστιν Ν D itb,a, b, c, e, f, f2,q syr,p,copsa, fay Naassenes acc. to Hippolytus Theodotus acc. to Clement Valentinians acc. to Irenaeus Diatessaron 1 Perateni acc. to Hippolytus Irenaeus 1st, Clement 2/5 mss acc. to Origen Cyprian Ambrosiaster Victorinus-Rome Hilary Augustine // omit Wsupp

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a 3 a major, a none: WH BF2 RVms ASVms RSVms NEB Jer Seg 3 a none, a major: (TR)
WHms Bov AV RV ASV RSV NEBms (Zür) (Luth) Jerms Seg
b 6 b minor: Bov BF2 RV ASV (NEB) Zür Luth // b none: TR WH AV RSV Jer Seg

1-2 Jn 17.5; 1 Jn 1.1-2 1 ὁ λόγος He 19.13 3 Wed 9.1; Jn 1.10; 1 Cor 8.6; Col 1.16-17; He 1.2 4 ἐν αὐτῷ ζωὴ ἦν Jn 5.26 5 Jn 3.19 6 Mt 3.1; Mk 1.4; Lk 1.13, 17, 76; 32
8 οὐκ ἦν ἐκεῖνος τὸ φῶς, ἀλλ' ἵνα μαρτυρῆσῃ περὶ τοῦ φωτὸς. 9 Ἡν τὸ φῶς τὸ ἀληθινόν, εἰς τὸν κόσμον, ἐρχόμενον εἰς τὸν κόσμον. 10 ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ ἦν, καὶ ὁ κόσμος δὲ αὐτὸν ἐγένετο, καὶ ὁ κόσμος αὐτῶν οὐκ ἐγνω. 11 εἰς τὰ ιδιὰ ἠλθεν, καὶ οἱ ιδιοὶ αὐτῶν οὐ παρέλαβον. 12 ὡσοι δὲ ἔλαβον αὐτὸν, ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς ἐξουσίαν τέκνα θεοῦ γενέσθαι, τοῖς πιστεύσονσι εἰς τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ, 13 οἱ οὐκ ἐξ αἰμάτων οὐδὲ ἐκ θελήματος σαρκὸς οὐδὲ ἐκ θελήματος ἀνδρὸς ἀλλ' ἐκ θεοῦ ἐγεννήθησαν.

14 Καὶ ὁ λόγος σαρξ ἐγένετο καὶ ἐσκήνωσεν ἐν ἡμῖν, καὶ ἐθεασάμεθα τὴν δοξαν αὐτοῦ, δοξαν ὡς μονογενοῦς παρὰ πατρὸς, πλήρης χάριτος καὶ ἀληθείας. 15 Ἰωάννης μαρτυρεῖ περί αὐτοῦ καὶ κέραγεν λέγων, Ὁτός ἦν ὁ εἶπον, Ὅ οπίσω μου ἔρχομεν ἐμπροσθέν μου γέγονεν, ὃτι πρῶτος μου ἦν. 16 ὃτι ἐκ τοῦ πληρώματος

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3 13 [A] οἱ οὐκ...ἐγεννήθησαν. p66 B3 C D ε K L Wsupp X Π Ψ 063 (p56 A B* Δ Θ 28.1071 1365 ἐγεννήθησαν) f1 f13 33 565 700 892 1009 1010 1079 1195 1216 1230 1241 1242 1253 1344 1546 1646 2148 Byz Lect 69vid itaur.c.e.f.82.q vg syr p h pal cop sa bo arm geo Valentinians sec. to Tertullian (Clement) Origen lat. Eusebius Hilary Athanasius Cyril-Jerusalem Chrysostom Cyril Theodoret // οὐκ...ἐγεννήθησαν. D* ita // ὁι οὐκ...ἐγεννήθη. itb (syr c p masc oii [sic]) Irenaeus lat. Tertullian Origen lat. (Ambrose) (Sulpicius) Augustine Ps-Athanasius vid

4 15 [A] λέγων, Ὁτός ἦν ὁ εἶπον, Ὅ οπίσω μου ἔρχομεν p66.c75 (p66 Δ 1646* ὁ πίσω) B2 A B3 (C 36 ἐλεγων) (D* omit λέγων) K L Θ Π Ψ 063 f1 f13 (28 εἶπον) 33 565 700 892 1009 1010 1071 1079 1195 1216 1230 1241 1242 1253 1344 1436 1546 1646 2148 Byz Lect ita aur.c.e.f.82.q (itb omit λέγων) itc add ὃς vg syr c p h pal cop sa bo arm geo Origen Nonnos // λέγων, Ὁτός

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9 c minor, c minor: Bov BF2 RV (RV1 ms) ASV (ASVms) (RSV) (NEB) (Zūr) (Jer)
1 Jermas (Seg) // c none, c none: WH // c minor, c none: TR AV RV1ms2 ASVms2 NEBms Luth Jerms2

15 d d no paren: TR Bov BF2 AV RV ASV NEB Zūr Luth Jer Seg // d paren, d paren: WH RSV