

Athenaze 4a

Learning Objectives:

- learning vocabulary for 4a
- the 1st/2nd/3rd-person plural of the present indicative active for regular (thematic, o/ε) verbs, ε-contract verbs, and εἶμί — forms and translation
 - λύομεν, λύετε, λύουσι(ν)
 - φιλοῦμεν, φιλεῖτε, φιλοῦσι(ν)
 - ἐσμέν, ἐστέ, εἰσί(ν)
- review of the present active indicative (sg. and pl. of all persons), imperative (2nd sg. and pl.), and infinitive of:
 - λύω
 - φιλῶ
 - εἶμί
- patterns of contraction for ε-contract verbs
- introductory overview of the three declensional groups in Attic Greek
 - 1st declension — alpha declension
 - 2nd declension — omicron declension
 - masculine nouns in -ος
 - neuter nouns in -ον
 - 3rd declension — athematic declension (i.e., not defined by a characteristic vowel at the end of the stem)
- 1st-declension nouns
 - feminine nouns in -η — κρήνη
 - feminine nouns in -ᾱ (following ι, ε, ρ) — ὑδρία
 - feminine nouns in -ᾶ — μέλιττᾶ
 - feminine nouns in -ᾶ (following ι, ε, ρ) — μάχαιρᾶ
- the definite article used with the above noun forms (ἡ)
- adjectives like καλός used with the above noun forms (καλή)

Grammatical Terms and Items of Particular Importance for You to Learn

- declension

Notes

- 1st-declension nouns in -ᾶ have stems ending in σ (or ξ, ψ, or σσ [which in Attic Greek appears as ττ]), ζ, λλ, or αιν. Stems of this class ending in ι, ε, ρ include: ρα (after a diphthong or ν — e.g., μάχαιρα), abstract nouns such as ἀλήθεια (formed from adjectives ending in -ης or -οος), and nouns in -εια and -τρια designating females.
- although diphthongs and digraphs are generally long by nature, final -αι is usually treated as short for purposes of accentuation — as in καλαῖ κρήναι. (Cf. final -οι in the second declension.) Final -αις, however, is treated as long — as in καλαῖς κρήναις. This distinction accounts for the difference in the accent on the first syllables of κρήναι and κρήναις.

- genitive plurals of first declension nouns regularly have a circumflex on the last syllable (e.g., κρηνώων). This is due to the contraction: κρηνώ-ων → κρηνώων.
- just for the record, the case endings for the 1st/2nd declension are:

	Singular		Plural	
	Masc./Fem.	Neut.	Masc./Fem.	Neut.
Nom.	-s or none	-ν	-ι	-ᾶ
Gen.	-s or -ιο	-s or -ιο	-ων	-ων
Dat.	-ι	-ι	-ις (-ισι)	-ις (-ισι)
Acc.	-ν	-ν	-νς (-ᾶς)	-ᾶ
Voc.	none	-ν	-ι	-ᾶ

For the most part, then, declining a 1st/2nd-declension noun in Attic Greek is merely a matter of attaching the appropriate ending onto the stem. Other accommodations appear in places, however:

First Declension (stem in \bar{a} — e.g., κρήνᾱ-)

- Nom. Sg. — κρήνη. The stem usually ends in \bar{a} , which in Attic is lengthened to η except after ι , ϵ , or ρ . Nouns in $-της$ employ the alternate ending with $-s$. Nouns in $-ᾶ$ simply employ the stem.
- Gen. Sg. — κρήνης. When the final syllable is accented, it receives a circumflex ($\acute{\alpha}\delta\epsilon\lambda\phi\eta\acute{\varsigma}$): this would seem to be by analogy with the 2nd declension gen. sg. Nouns in $-της$ employ the 2nd-declension ending in $-ου$.
- Dat. Sg. — κρήνῃ. Final $-ηι$ is printed as $-ῃ$ in our texts. When the accent falls at the end of the stem, $-ῆι$ → $-ῆ$ ($\acute{\alpha}\delta\epsilon\lambda\phi\eta\acute{\varsigma}$).
- Nom./Voc. Pl. — κρήναι. Notice that the \bar{a} of the stem is retained in this form. This perhaps suggests that the transformation $\bar{a}\iota$ → $\alpha\iota$ occurred quite early. Since final $\alpha\iota$ here is considered short for purposes of accentuation, this form receives an acute accent when accented on the final syllable ($\acute{\alpha}\delta\epsilon\lambda\phi\alpha\acute{\iota}$), although one might expect a circumflex.
- Gen. Pl. — κρηνώων. As noted above, this regularly has a circumflex on the last syllable, regardless of the accent of the nom. sg. This is due to the contraction: κρηνώ-ων → κρηνώων.
- Dat. Pl. — κρήναις. The combination $\bar{a}\iota\varsigma$ results in the diphthong $\alpha\iota\varsigma$. When the accent falls on the last syllable of the stem, $\bar{a}\iota\varsigma$ → $\alpha\acute{\iota}\varsigma$ ($\acute{\alpha}\delta\epsilon\lambda\phi\alpha\acute{\iota}\varsigma$).
- Acc. Pl. — κρήνας. $\bar{a}\nu\varsigma$ becomes $\bar{\alpha}\varsigma$ as the ν is dropped. In the case of nouns with a stem in $-ᾶ$, the $\check{\alpha}$ is lengthened through a process known as compensatory lengthening. When the accent falls on the final syllable, the acute accent is retained ($\acute{\alpha}\delta\epsilon\lambda\phi\acute{\alpha}\varsigma$). (Cf. below for the similar procedure in the 2nd declension, where an illustration is provided.)

Second Declension (stem in $-o/\epsilon$ — e.g., ἀγρό-/ἀγρέ-)

- Gen. Sg. — ἀγροῦ. The ending $-οιο$ is transformed to $-οο$ through the dropping of the intervocalic ι ; $-οο$ then becomes $-ου$ through contraction.
 - in the case of ἀγρός, ἀγρόιο → ἀγρόο → ἀγροῦ

This transformation also accounts for the circumflex accent when this form is accented on the final syllable.

- Dat. Sg. — ἀγρῶ. The long ω here is due to the combination of the $-ο$ of the stem with $\bar{\alpha}\iota$ (the original case ending of the Indo-European form). Final $\bar{\alpha}\iota$ is printed as $\bar{\omega}$ in our texts. If the final syllable of the stem receives the accent, this is reflected by a circumflex over the resulting contraction: $\bar{\omega}$.

- Voc. Sg. Masc./Fem. — *ἀγρέ*. The short -ε here is due to a variation of the stem vowel between ο and ε. As in the 1st declension, the masc./fem. voc. sg. = the bare stem.
- Nom./Voc. Masc./Fem. Pl. — *ἀγροί*. Since final -οι here is considered short for purposes of accentuation, this form receives an acute accent when accented on the final syllable, although one might expect a circumflex.
- Gen. Pl. — *ἀγρῶν*. Unlike in the 1st declension (cf. above), the accentuation of this form gives no indication of the contraction of the -ο of the stem with the gen. pl. ending -ων (except, as usual, when the -ο of the stem receives the accent: -ό-ων → -ῶν). Thus, e.g., *ἀνθρώπων* vs. the 1st-declension *κρηνῶν*. This is likely a reflection of the very early date of this contraction.
- Dat. Pl. — *ἀγροῖς*. The combination -ο-ις results in the diphthong -οις. When the accent falls on the last syllable of the stem, -ό-ις → -οῖς.
- Acc. Pl. Masc./Fem. — *ἀγρούς*. -οις becomes -οις as the υ is dropped and the ο is lengthened through a process known as compensatory lengthening. When the accent falls on the final syllable, the acute accent is retained (i.e., unlike many of the other forms above, the digraph ου here does not represent a combination of two originally distinct vowel sounds):
 - in the case of *ἀγρός*, *ἀγροῖς* → *ἀγρούς*
- Nom./Acc./Voc. Pl. Neut. — *δένδρα*. The origin of this form is a bit obscure but seems to represent an early feminine collective form in -ᾱ (perhaps attached to a stem ending in -ε?) that was later shortened to -ᾱ̃.

None of the above is essential for this course, and much of it is speculative. (You need to remember: resources such as this one are based on professors' lecture notes and are subject to the limitations of the genre!) But it is important to get into the habit of thinking about how various forms come to be generated, since this will often serve as a useful aid to understanding and memorization. (In this case, e.g., why some case-endings receive a circumflex accent when they are accented while others, such as the acc. pl., do not.) Points of particular importance will be covered in the main body of my notes (e.g., the length of final -αι, or the accentuation of the gen. pl. of 1st-declension nouns); items of potential interest will be relegated to an appendix, as above.