

## Athenaze 6β

Learning Objectives:

- learning vocabulary for 6β
- further reflections on the middle voice
- uses of the dative
  - review my overview of the Greek cases (Unit 1A)
  - the dative case in Greek combines three broad functions, each of which was distinguished by a different case in the original Indo-European:
    - a) reference or interest: the person or thing in regard to which a statement is true, or whose interests are involved (the “true” dative)
    - b) locative: location in a designated place
    - c) the instrument or means by which an action is performed, or the person or thing by which it is accompanied
  - reference or interest
    - indirect object (after verbs of giving, telling, showing, etc.)
      - *σίτον τῷ Μινωταύρῳ παρέχουσιν* (“they provide food to/for the Minotaur”)
    - dative of possession (with copulative verbs such as *εἰμί* and *γίγνομαι*)
      - *ἔστιν αὐτῷ παῖς* (“there is for him a child” — i.e., he has a child)
    - dative with intransitive verbs
      - *ἔπομαι*
      - *βοηθέω*
      - *ἡγέομαι*
      - *πείθομαι*
      - *προσχωρέω*
      - *συλλαμβάνω*
  - locative
    - dative of location — esp. with prepositions
      - *πρὸς τῇ νηί* (“near the ship”)
    - dative of time when
      - *τῇ ὑστεραία* (“on the next [day]”)
    - dative of respect
      - *ὀνόματι Θησεύς* (“Theseus by name [in respect to his name]”)
  - instrument
    - dative of instrument or means
      - *τῇ ἀριστερᾷ λαμβάνεται τοῦ θηρίου* (“he takes hold of the beast with/by means of his right [hand]”)

- prepositions — the cases
  - prepositions merely activate particular nuances that are already inherent in the case of the noun with which they are joined: the sense of the preposition joins with the grammatical force of the case to produce a particular significance
  - this explains how it is that a particular preposition can take more than one case
  - while it is impossible to account for every construction by means of broad generalizations, the Greek cases tend to be associated with the following concepts when employed with a preposition:
    - genitive:
      - separation from; origin, source; lack
      - something one clings to, hangs from, or depends on
      - that at which one aims
      - often translated in English by “of,” “from” (but can, in specific instances, indicate location or accompaniment)
    - dative:
      - location
      - instrument/accompaniment
      - often translated in English by “in,” “on,” “at”; “with”
    - accusative:
      - motion toward
      - extent, or motion along
      - often translated in English by “to,” “toward”; “along” (but can, in specific instances, indicate location around or along something)

Just for the record:

- most prepositions began as adverbs, usually designating place or time; their association with metaphorical relations (e.g., cause, agency, means, manner) developed later
- for a brief (and incomplete) overview of the most common prepositions and their use, see the accompanying page for Unit 6 β