

Chapter Four

2nd Declension Nouns

Vocabulary

ἄγγελος, ὁ	messenger, angel	καί	and, also, even (conj.)
ἄδελφος, ὁ	brother	καρπός, ὁ	fruit
ἄνθρωπος, ὁ	man, person, human	κύριος, ὁ	lord
ἀπόστολος, ὁ	apostle	λίθος, ὁ	stone
ἄρτος, ὁ	bread, loaf	λόγος, ὁ	word
δουλος, ὁ	slave, servant	νόμος, ὁ	law
δῶρον, τό	gift	οἶκος, ὁ	house, household
θάνατος, ὁ	death	ὄχλος, ὁ	crowd, multitude
ἱερόν, τό	temple	υἱός, ὁ	son

The Greek Noun

Greek nouns as English nouns, are words used to name a person, place, or thing. The Greek noun contains case, gender, and number. To complicate matters there are three declensions or grouping of Greek nouns. A declension is the grouping of nouns according to their endings but has no effect on the translation.

A noun may or may not possess a *definite article*. In the Greek there is no indefinite article corresponding to the English “a” or “an.” To express the indefinite idea in Greek, the article is omitted. So, ὁ υἱός is translated “the son,” but υἱός is simply “son” or “a son.”

2nd Declension Article - Masculine

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	ὁ	οἱ
Genitive	τοῦ	τῶν
Ablative	τοῦ	τῶν
Dative	τῷ	τοῖς
Locative	τῷ	τοῖς
Instrumental	τῷ	τοῖς
Accusative	τον	τους

2nd Declension Article - Neuter

	Singular	Plural
Nominative	τό	τά
Genitive	τοῦ	τῶν
Ablative	τοῦ	τῶν
Dative	τῷ	τοῖς
Locative	τῷ	τοῖς
Instrumental	τῷ	τοῖς
Accusative	τό	τά

Case has to do with the function of the noun as it relates to the verb or to other parts of the sentence. Greek has eight distinctive cases, but of these eight cases, one only has to remember four (or five forms when the vocative form is different from the nominative).

1. *Nominative*. The nominative is the case of designation. It is the “naming” case. The nominative serves as the subject of the sentence or clause. It is translated as υἱός “a son,” or when used with the article ὁ υἱός “the son.”
2. *Genitive*. The genitive is the case of description. The genitive specifies or qualifies the word it modifies. It expresses possession and is translated as υἱοῦ “of a son,” or when used with the article τοῦ υἱοῦ “of the son.”
3. *Ablative*. The ablative is the case of separation or origin. It uses the same form as the genitive and is translated υἱοῦ “from a son,” or when used with the article τοῦ υἱοῦ “from the son.”
4. *Dative*. The dative is the case of reception. It is translated as υἱόω “to a son,” or when used with the article τῷ υἱόω “to the son.”
5. *Locative*. The locative is the case of location or position. It uses the same form as the dative and is translated as υἱόω “in a son,” or when used with the article τῷ υἱόω “in the son.”
6. *Instrumental*. The instrumental is the case of means or instrument. It uses the same form as the dative and is translated as υἱόω “with or by a son,” or when used with the article τῷ υἱόω “with or by the son.”
7. *Accusative*. The accusative is the case of limitation. The action extends to and is limited to the object. It’s main usage is with the direct object of the phrase. It is translated as υἱόν “son,” or when used with the article τοῦ υἱόν “the son.”
8. *Vocative*. The vocative is the case of address. In the plural the case always has the same form as the nominative, but in the singular the forms are often different. It is translated as υἱέ “Son,…”

2nd Declension endings - Masculine

	Singular	Plural	Translation
Nominative	-ος	-οι	“a, the”
Genitive	-ου	-ων	“of”
Ablative	-ου	-ων	“from”
Dative	-ῳ	-οις	“to”
Locative	-ῳ	-οις	“in”
Instrumental	-ῳ	-οις	“with, by”
Accusative	-ον	-ους	“a, the”
Vocative	-ε	-οι	“O”

2nd Declension endings - Neuter

	Singular	Plural	Translation
Nominative	-ον	-α	“a, the”
Genitive	-ου	-ων	“of”
Ablative	-ου	-ων	“from”
Dative	-ῳ	-οις	“to”
Locative	-ῳ	-οις	“in”
Instrumental	-ῳ	-οις	“with, by”
Accusative	-ον	-α	“a, the”
Vocative	-ον	-α	“O”

Examples

1. Masculine of λόγος

Singular			Plural		
N	λόγος	a word	NV	λόγοι	words
GA	λόγου	of/from a word	GA	λόγων	of/from words
DLI	λόγῳ	to/in/by a word	DLI	λόγοις	to/in/by words
Ac	λόγον	a word	Ac	λόγους	words
V	λόγε	O word			

2. Neuter of ἱερόν

Singular			Plural		
NV	ἱερόν	a temple	NV	ἱερά	temples
GA	ἱεροῦ	of/from a temple	GA	ἱερῶν	of/from temples
DLI	ἱερῳ	to/in/by a temple	DLI	ἱεροῖς	to/in/by temples
Ac	ἱερόν	a temple	Ac	ἱερά	temples

Practice

A. Decline the following nouns using the following format: case, gender, number, translation (e.g., λόγου – g/a.m.sg. – of/from a word).

1. λόγῳ 2. λόγοις 3. ἱερόν 4. ἱερά 5. λόγους 6. λόγοι

B. Decline the following nouns using the following format: case, gender, number, translation (e.g., του λόγου – g/a.m.sg., with def. art. – of/from the word).

1. τῷ λόγῳ 2. τοῖς λόγοις 3. τό ἱερόν 4. τή ἱερά 5. τοῦς λόγους 6. οἱ λόγοι

C. Translate the following sentences.

1. ὁ δουλος φέρει δωρον.
2. ὁ ἀπόστολος λέγει λόγον.
3. λαμβάνω δωρα καρπων καί αρτου.
4. γράφομεν τοις ἀδελφοίς.