

UNIT 1

Aesop: Three Instructive Stories

GRAMMAR ASSUMED:

Nouns of the 1st and 2nd Declensions

Case (nom., gen., dat., acc., voc.)

The Article; Predicate and Attributive Position

3rd Person Singular Verbs in **-εῖ**

THE RACE

- τὰ γυῖα τῆς χελώνης ἐπισκώπτει ὁ λαγῶς. *ἡ δὲ λέγει
 “ἐγὼ τῇ ταχυδρομῖα ὁ ἄριστος.” ὁ δὲ “λόγω μὲν μόνῳ,”
 νομίζει “λέγει ἡ χελώνη, ἔργῳ δ’ οὐ,” καὶ λέγει “*ἄγε
 δ’, ὦ φίλε, ἔργῳ γνῶθι.” *ἡ δ’ ἀλώπηξ ἡ δικαιοτάτη
 5 καὶ σοφωτάτη κρίνει τὴν νίκη. ἡ μὲν χελώνη οὐ
 ῥαθυμία ἄρχεται τῆς ὁδοῦ. ὁ δὲ λαγῶς, ὅτι λίαν τοῖς
 γυίοις πιστεύει καὶ τῇ ταχυδρομῖα, καθεύδει. μετὰ δὲ
 χρόνον ὀλίγον ἤκει ἐπὶ τὸ *τέλος, ἧ εὕρισκει τὴν
 χελώνην, ἡ δὲ τῆς νίκης ἔχει τὴν τιμὴν.
 10 *ὁ λόγος *οὖν ὅτι *τῇ ῥαθυμῖα *πολλοὺς ἀνθρώπους
 *ἡ φύσις καταλύει.

VOCABULARY AND READING AIDS:

- 1 τὸ γυῖον, -ου: limb, leg
 ἡ χελώνη, -ης: turtle
 ἐπι-σκώπτει: (verb; like πέμπει & παιδεύει) mocks, laughs at
 ὁ λαγῶς, -οῦ: rabbit
 *ἡ δὲ: the article here is used as a pron. (§ 46, pp. 126–27), but he or
 but she. The article reflects the grammatical gender of its antecedent,
 not its biological sex, so to what noun does ἡ refer?
 δέ: (postpositive conj.) but, and. A postpositive conj. follows the first
 word of its clause (see H&Q Vocabulary Notes on γὰρ pp. 54–55)
 λέγει: (verb) says (cf. λόγος)
 2 ἐγώ: (pron.) 1st person nom. sg.; I (am)
 ἡ ταχυ-δρομῖα, -ας: race-speed, swiftness at running
 ἄριστος, -η, -ον: (adj.) best, foremost (see § 38, p. 89)
 μόνος, -η, -ον: single, solo, alone, one
 3 νομίζει: (verb) thinks, believes
 οὐ or οὐκ: (neg. adv.) not; δ’ for δὲ before a vowel.

- 3-4 *ἄγε δέ, ὦ φίλε: but come, friend
- 4 γνῶθι: (*verb*) 2nd sg. *impv.* (a command, see § 89, p. 305 and 122, pp. 462-63), learn, recognize
- *ἡ δ' ἄλώπηξ: fox
- 4-5 Δικαιοτάτη καὶ σοφωτάτη: most just and most wise
- 5 κρίνει: (*verb*) decides, determines, judges
- ἡ νίκη, -ης: victory
- μέν: (*postpositive conj.*) (so) now, on the one hand; often not translated
- 6 ἡ ῥα-θυμία, -ας: easiness of mind (θυμός), carelessness
- ἄρχεται: (*verb*) begins, starts (+ *gen.*)
- ὅτι: (*conj.*) that, because
- λίαν: (*adv.*) too (much), excessively
- 7 πιστεύει: (*verb*) trusts (+ *dat.*)
- καθεύδει: (*verb*) goes to sleep
- μετά: (*prep.* + *acc.*) after
- 8 ὁ χρόνος, -ου: time
- ὀλίγος, -η, -ον: (*adj.*) small, little; few
- ἤκει: (*verb*) arrives, has arrived
- ἐπί: (*prep.* + *acc.*) at, to, onto
- *τέλος: end, goal, finish line; note this word is neuter, so the ending -ος can be either *nom.* or *acc.* case (§ 82.2, p. 261).
- ἧ: (*rel. adv.*) where
- εὕρισκει: (*verb*) finds
- 9 ἔχει: (*verb*) has, holds, is holding
- ἡ τιμή, -ῆς: honor, office (*i.e.*, something granted in recognition)
- 10 *ὁ λόγος: you will need to understand a verb like “is” here.
- *οὖν: (*postpositive conj.*) therefore, then
- *τῆ: the article, because it marks a noun as definite/specific, often can function like a possessive pron., *i.e.*, her, its, etc. (§ 16.4 (5), p. 30).
- *πολλούς: (*adj.*) *m. acc. pl.*; many
- 11 *ἡ φύσις: one’s inborn nature
- καταλύει: (*verb*) destroys, undoes

THE STATUE SELLER

ξύλινους *Ἑρμείας δημιουργὸς κατασκευάζει καὶ
 προσφέρει εἰς ἀγορὰν καὶ πωλεῖ. ἐπεὶ δ' *οὐδεὶς ὠνητῆς
 *αὐτὸν παύει, ἐκκαλέσασθαι τοὺς ἀνθρώπους τῆς
 χώρας ἐθέλει, καὶ λέγει ὅτι ἀγαθοποιὸν θεὸν καὶ τῶν
 5 δώρων δωρητικὸν *πιπράσκει. τῶν *δ' ἀνθρώπων ἐν
 ἀγορᾷ τις λέγει πρὸς αὐτόν: “ὦ δημιουργέ, καὶ τί τὸν
 ξύλινον Ἑρμείαν, εἰ δῶρα πέμπει, πωλεῖς; *ἄμεινόν *γε
 τῶν κερδῶν παρὰ αὐτοῦ ἀπολαύειν.” *ὁ δ' ἄνθρωπος
 “διότι ἐγὼ μὲν ταχινῶν κερδῶν δέομαι, αὐτὸς δὲ
 10 βραδέως πέμπει τὰς ὠφελίας.”

VOCABULARY AND READING AIDS:

- 1 **ξύλινος, -η, -ον:** (*adj.*) wooden
***ὁ Ἑρμείας, -ου:** (a statue of) Hermes; *this is a masculine 1st declension noun (§ 37.2, pp. 88–89) so use the adjective to determine the case and number here.*
ὁ δημιουργός, -οῦ: craftsman, laborer
κατα-σκευάζει: (*verb*) is making, makes, furnishes
- 2 **προσ-φέρει:** (*verb*) is importing, imports
πωλεῖ: (*verb*) is selling, sells
ἐπεὶ: (*conj.*) when, since, because
***οὐδεὶς:** (*adj.*) *m. nom. sg.*; no, not any, not a
ὁ ὠνητής, -οῦ: buyer, customer, *like Ἑρμείας above (§ 37.2, pp. 88–89)*
- 3 ***αὐτόν:** (*pron.*) *3rd m. acc. sg.*; he, him, his; (*see §96, p. 317*)
παύει: (*verb*) stops (someone)
ἐκ-καλέσασθαι: (*verb*) *infinitive*; to summon
- 4 **ἐθέλει:** (*verb*) wishes or wants to (+ *infinitive*)
λέγει: (*verb*) says
ὅτι: (*conj.*) that, because

- ἀγαθο-ποιός, -ός, -όν:** (*adj.*) making good (**ἀγαθός**), bringing good; hence beneficial
- 5 **ὁ δωρητικός, -οῦ:** bestower (of + *gen.*)
 ***πιπράσκει:** (*verb*) is furnishing, furnishes, sells. Note, the lack of a noun or pron. to act as the subject of a verb often means that it has the same subject as the most recent previous verb with the same ending.
 ***δ':** (*postpositive conj.*) but, and (see H&Q pp. 54–55), usually signals a change of subject or a new topic.
- 6 **τις:** (*indef. pron.*) *m. nom. sg.*; one (of + *gen.*), a, a certain one
πρός: (*prep. + acc.*) to
τί: (*interrog. conj.*) why?
- 7 **εἰ:** (*conj.*) if
πωλεῖς: (*verb*) 2nd *sg.*; you are selling
 ***ἄμεινον:** *n. nom. sg.*; better, a better thing (you will need to understand a verb here like “it is”)
 ***γε:** (*adv./focus ptcl.*) emphasizes the immediately preceding word to develop or focus an idea that was previously presented, by specifying how that idea should be further developed and attaching itself to the word representing that new focus; actually, indeed, in fact, etc.
- 8 **τὸ κέρδος, -ους:** gain, profit, benefit
παρά: (*prep. + gen.*) from
ἀπο-λαύειν: (*verb*) *infin.*; to enjoy (+ *gen.*). What in this sentence sounds like it would be followed by an *infin.*?
 ***ὁ δ':** when a verb is missing, as here, it should be obvious from the context what verb you will need to supply. What verb seems to be missing here?
- 9 **διότι:** (*conj.*) for, since, because
ἐγώ: (*pron.*) 1st *nom. sg.*, I
ταχινός, -ή, -όν: (*adj.*) quick, fast
δέομαι: (*verb*) 1st *sg.*; I need (+ *gen.*)
- 10 **βραδέως:** (*adv.*) slowly
ἡ ὠφελία, -ας: profit, advantage, benefit, gain

THE ANT AND THE SCARAB BEETLE

ἐν τῇ θερινῇ ὥρᾳ *μύρμηξ διαβαίνει κατὰ τὴν ἄρουραν
 καὶ καρπὸν συλλέγει, καὶ ἀποθησαυρίζει *ἐαυτῷ
 τροφήν *εἰς τὸν χειμῶνα. κάνθαρος δ' *αὐτὸν
 γιγνώσκει καὶ *θαυμάζει, ὅτι *ἐπιπονώτατος, ἐπεὶ παρὰ
 5 τὸν καιρὸν μόχθους ἔχει, καὶ τὰ ἄλλα ζῶα τῶν πόνων
 *ῥαστώνην ἄγει. ὁ δὲ μύρμηξ τότε μὲν *ἡσυχίαν
 ἔχει. ὕστερον δ', ὅτε ὁ χειμῶν ἤκει, καὶ τὸν κόπρον
 ὁ ὄμβρος ἐκλύει, ὁ κάνθαρος ἤκει πρὸς αὐτόν, ὅτι
 λιμῶνται, καὶ τῆς τροφῆς *μεταλαμβάνειν αἰτεῖ. ὁ δὲ
 10 μύρμηξ λέγει πρὸς αὐτόν, “ὦ κάνθαρε, εἰ τότε
 ἔκαστος πονεῖ, ὅτε ὁ μύρμηξ πονεῖ, καὶ οὐκ ὄνειδίζει,
 οὐ νῦν τροφῆς δεῖται.”

οὕτως εἰ ἄνθρωπος ἐν τῇ εὐθηνία τοῦ λοιποῦ οὐ
 προνοεῖ, ἐν τῇ τῶν καιρῶν μεταβολῇ τὰ μέγιστα
 15 δυστυχεῖ.

VOCABULARY AND READING AIDS:

- 1 **θερινός, -ή, -όν:** (*adj.*) summer
ἡ ὥρα, -ας: season, right time
***μύρμηξ:** *m. nom. sg.*; ant
δια-βαίνει: (*verb*) goes through
κατά: (*prep. + acc.*) down, through(out)
ἡ ἄρουρα, -ας: field (*i.e., of a farm*)
- 2 **ὁ καρπός, -οῦ:** fruit, crop; benefit
συλ-λέγει: (*verb*) is gathering, collecting, gathers, collects
ἀπο-θησαυρίζει: (*verb*) puts up, stores
***ἐαυτῷ:** (*reflex. pron.*) 3rd person *sg.*; himself, herself, etc.
- 3 **ἡ τροφή, -ῆς:** food, sustenance
***ὁ χειμῶν:** winter; **εἰς τὸν χειμῶνα:** for the winter

- ὁ κάんθαρος, -ου:** scarab, dung beetle
***αὐτὸν:** (pron.) 3rd m. acc. sg.; he, him, his; (see §96, p. 317)
- 4 **γινώσκει:** (verb) recognizes, knows
***θαυμάζει ὅτι:** (verb) is surprised, wonders (that); here aloud
***ἐπι-πονώτατος, -η, -ον:** (adj.) most troubled by labor or toil; you will need to understand the verb “is” here.
παρά: (prep. + acc.) at, up to; contrary to
- 5 **ὁ καιρός, -οῦ:** the right time, season
ὁ μόχθος, -ου: toil, hardship
ἔχει: (verb) has, holds, gets
ἄλλος, -η, -ον: (adj.) other; other than (+ gen.)
τὸ ζῶον, -ου: a living thing, beast (as opposed to human or god)
ὁ πόνος, -ου: work, labor
- 6 ***ῥαστώνην ἄγει:** (verb) are at leisure, are at rest; the subject is τὰ ζῶα
τότε: (adv.) then, at that time
- 6-7 ***ἡσυχίαν ἔχει:** (verb) keeps quiet, keeps his peace, etc.
- 7 **ὕστερον:** (adv.) later, after that
ὅτε: (conj.) when (cf. τότε above)
ὁ κόπρος, -ου: dung (i.e., the beetle’s food)
- 8 **ὁ ὄμβρος, -ου:** rain, rainstorm
ἐκ-λύει: (verb) dissolves, removes
- 9 **λιμώττει:** (verb) is hungry/starving
***μετα-λαμβάνειν αἰτεῖ:** asks to get a share (of + gen.)
- 11 **ἕκαστος, -η, -ον:** (pron.) each, every
πονεῖ: (verb) works, is toiling
ὄνειδίζει: (verb) mock, scold, insult, reproach
- 12 **δεῖται:** (verb) needs, lacks, wants (+ gen.), see Appendix p. 654
- 13 **οὕτως:** (adv.) so, thus, in this way
ἡ εὐθηνία, -ας: abundance, fullness, (being) well off or thriving
τὸ λοιπόν, -οῦ: the rest, what’s left; hence the future
- 14 **προ-νοεῖ:** (verb) thinks ahead, anticipates
ἡ μεταβολή, -ῆς: change
τὰ μέγιστα: (adv.) most of all
- 15 **δυσ-τυχεῖ:** (verb) suffers, fares badly, does poorly

BASIC USES OF THE GENITIVE CASE

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. | Attribute | Homer's books are old. |
| 2. | Separation
lack/need | We ran out of the house .
But I need the benefits quickly. |
| 3. | Circumstance
+ prep.
cause | We left during the night .
We stood around the fire .
He died from loneliness . |
| 4. | Command, beginning | Kyros led the Persians . |

BASIC USES OF THE DATIVE CASE

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|----|---|--|
| 1. | Beneficiary/Recipient/Observer
indirect object | I got you a dog.
I seem sick to the doctor . |
| 2. | Means
instrument
manner | I was hit by a baseball .
We served justly . |
| 3. | Place
location
time
respect | I slept in my tent .
I left Wednesday .
I am ugly in spirit . |