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Twenty Greek Stories

Designed to Accompany

Hansen and Quinn's Greek: An Intensive Course

By

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Twenty Greek Stories

H. Paul Brown

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The Race

τὰ γυῖα τῆς χελώνης ἐπισκώπτει ὁ λαγωός. *ἡ δὲ λέγει "ἐγὼ τῇ ταχυδρομίᾳ ὁ ἄριστος." ὁ δέ "λόγῳ μὲν μόνῳ," νομίζει "λέγει ἡ χελώνη, ἔργῳ δ' οὔ," καὶ λέγει "*ἄγε δ', ὦ φίλε, ἔργῳ γνῶθι." *ἡ δ' ἀλώπηξ ἡ δικαιοτάτη καὶ σοφωτάτη κρίνει τὴν νίκην. ἡ μὲν χελώνη οὐ ῥᾳθυμίᾳ ἄρχεται τῆς ὁδοῦ. ὁ δὲ λαγωός, ὅτι λίαν τοῖς γυίοις πιστεύει καὶ τῇ ταχυδρομίᾳ, καθεύδει. μετὰ δὲ χρόνον ὀλίγον ἥκει ἐπὶ τὸ *τέλος, ᾗ εὑρίσκει τὴν χελώνην, ἡ δὲ τῆς νίκης ἔχει τὴν τιμήν.

*ὁ λόγος *οὖν ὅτι *τῇ ῥᾳθυμίᾳ *πολλοὺς ἀνθρώπους *ἡ φύσις καταλύει.

Vocabulary and Reading Aids:

τὸ γυῖον, -ου: limb, leg

ἡ χελώνη, -ης: turtle

ἐπι-σκώπτει: (*verb; like **πέμπει** & **παιδεύει***) mocks, laughs at

ὁ λαγωός, -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**)

ἐγώ: (*pron.*) *1st person nom. sg.;* I (am)

ἡ ταχυ-δρομία, -ας: race-speed, swiftness at running

ἄριστος, -η, -ον: (*adj.*) best, foremost (see § 38, p. 89)

μόνος, -η, -ον: single, solo, alone, one

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᾽ ἀλώπηξ:__ 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 ῥᾳ-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

__ἥκει:__ (*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).*

__ᾗ:__ (*rel. adv.*) where

__εὑρίσκει:__ (*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

*__τῇ:__ *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).*

*__πολλοὺς:__ (*adj.*) *m. acc. pl.;* many

11 *__ἡ φύσις:__ one's inborn nature

__κατα-λύει:__ (*verb*) destroys, undoes

THE STATUE SELLER

ξυλίνους *Ἑρμείας δημιουργὸς κατασκευάζει καὶ προσφέρει εἰς ἀγορὰν καὶ πωλεῖ. ἐπεὶ δ᾽ *οὐδεὶς ὠνητὴς *αὐτὸν παύει, ἐκκαλέσασθαι τοὺς ἀνθρώπους τῆς χώρας ἐθέλει, καὶ λέγει ὅτι ἀγαθοποιὸν θεὸν καὶ τῶν 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 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

ἐπεί: (*conj.*) when, since, because

***οὐδείς:** (*adj.*) *m. nom. sg.;* no, not any, not a

ὁ ὠνητής, -οῦ: buyer, customer, *like* ***Ἑρμείας*** *above (§ 37.2, pp. 88–89)*

3 ***αὐτὸν:** (*pron.*) *3rd m. acc. sg.;* he, him, his; (*see §96, p. 317*)

παύει: (*verb*) stops (someone)

ἐκ-καλέσασθαι: (*verb*) *infin.;* to summon

4 **ἐθέλει:** (*verb*) wishes or wants to (+ *infin.*)

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