

GREEK PROSE COMPOSITION

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Greek Prose Composition by Henry Carr Pearson

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HENRY CARR PEARSON

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BY

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PREFACE

THE aim of this book is (1) to combine a thorough and systematic study of the essentials of Greek syntax with abundant practice in translating connected English into Attic Greek; and (2) to afford constant practice in writing Greek at sight.

Part I contains, in graded lessons, the principal points of Greek syntax, the unusual and non-essential being purposely omitted. These lessons are designed for use at the beginning of the second year's study of Greek, thereby serving as a partial review of the first year's work and as an introduction to the composition work in connection with the reading of Xenophon's *Anabasis*.

Part II contains short, simple English sentences, based on Books I-IV of the *Anabasis*. These should be used daily in connection with the reading of the text.

Part III contains connected English prose, based on Books I-IV of the *Anabasis*. This is carefully graded, so that the student who performs faithfully the work outlined here will be able to pass the entrance examination of any of the American colleges.

The method of writing Greek at sight used in this book needs a word of explanation. It is the outgrowth of the author's personal experience in the classroom, and his belief that the best results can be obtained only by systematic practice in connection with the regular work.

At intervals, review lessons are introduced, containing a list of the important words and an enumeration of the principal con-

structions used in the preceding sentences. The instructor should form original work for his class to translate at sight, based on these words and constructions. While, strictly speaking, this is not sight work, it enables the student to make definite preparation for this kind of work, and gives him valuable practice in the offhand use of words and principles of grammar. Furthermore, it enables the teacher to vary the difficulty of the work to suit the ability of his class.

The connected prose at the beginning of Part III has been made very simple, so that Part II may be omitted by those instructors who do not find time to do composition work along with the first reading of Xenophon. The best results, however, will be obtained from a completion of all the work here given.

The author is in full sympathy with the tendency to read other prose works than Xenophon's *Anabasis* in college preparatory work, and would have been glad to incorporate in this book exercises based on other prose authors than Xenophon. The wide diversity of opinion, however, as to just what authors should be read, and the fact that Xenophon's *Anabasis* is made the basis of the composition requirement by nearly all the colleges, has made it practically impossible to prepare such exercises at present.

The author acknowledges his indebtedness to many of the textbooks in Greek Composition.

Mr. C. J. Geer, of the English department of this academy, has given valuable assistance in the preparation of the English work of Parts II and III.

The author desires especially to thank William R. Crabbe, Ph.D., the principal of this academy, for his assistance and kind encouragement. As a successful Greek instructor of long experience, his advice in the formation of this book and his criticism in the correction of the manuscript have been invaluable.

HENRY CARR PEARSON.

ALLEGHENY, PA.

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The grammatical references are to the Greek Grammars in most common use; references to Hadley-Allen being in full-face type (**300**), those to Goodwin in plain type (300).

GREEK PROSE COMPOSITION

LESSON I

THE ARTICLE—THE NOMINATIVE, VOCATIVE, AND ACCUSATIVE CASES

1. The definite article, δ , η , $\tau\acute{o}$, generally corresponds to our article *the*.

2. An adjective or other word qualifying a noun is said to be in the Attributive position when it follows the article directly. It is in the Predicate position when it does not directly follow its article.

ATTRIBUTIVE POSITION

δ ἀγαθὸς ἀνὴρ	} <i>The brave man.</i>
δ ἀνὴρ ὁ ἀγαθός	
ἀνὴρ ὁ ἀγαθός	

PREDICATE POSITION

δ ἀνὴρ ἀγαθός	} <i>The man is brave.</i>
ἀγαθὸς ὁ ἀνὴρ	

[668-670: 959-963, 971-973.]

3. The following are some important facts to remember about the use of the article:

1. The article is often used as a possessive pronoun when such a meaning is obvious: η δὲ μήτηρ ἀποπέμπει ἐπὶ τὴν ἀρχήν, *his mother sends him back to his province*. [658: 949.]

2. Names of persons usually omit the article. Yet they often take it, to mark them as before mentioned or well known: ὁ Κῦρος, *Cyrus*. [663: 943.]

3. Abstract nouns often take the article: ἡ ἀρετή, *virtue*; ἡ δικαιοσύνη, *justice*. [659: 944.]

4. The article is generally omitted with βασιλεύς when referring to the king of Persia. [660, c: 957.]

5. The demonstrative pronouns οὗτος, ὅδε, and ἐκεῖνος usually have the predicate position: οὗτος ὁ στρατιώτης, *this soldier*. [673: 974.]

6. πᾶς, ἅπας, σύμπας, and ὅλος generally have the predicate position. So with μέσος, meaning *the middle of*: μέση ἡ χώρα, *the middle of the country* (while ἡ μέση χώρα would mean *the middle country*). [673: 979.]

7. The article sometimes has a demonstrative force. Thus, before μέν and δέ, in expressing contrast: ὁ μέν . . . ὁ δέ, *this man . . . that man, the one . . . the other*. [664: 981.]

8. Adverbs and limiting phrases, such as prepositions and their cases, may be used with the article and noun. The noun may be understood and is, therefore, frequently omitted: Μένων καὶ οἱ σὺν αὐτῷ, *Menon and those with him* (his men); οἱ ὀπισθεν, *those in the rear*; οἱ ἄνω στρατιῶται, *the soldiers who are above*; οἱ νῦν, *the men of the present generation*.

4. There is no indefinite article in Greek. The English *a* or *an* must therefore usually be omitted in translation: πόλις, *a city*. When the writer has in mind some particular person or thing, but does not name it, the indefinite pronoun τις is used: ἀνὴρ τις ταῦτα ἐποίησε, *a (certain) man did this*.

τις is enclitic, and generally follows its noun.