

# The Optative Mood

It's Unreal!

A lesson for the *Paideia* web-app  
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# My Slide Heading

- The Optative Mood is the last of the true verbal moods
  - Indicative (real action)
  - Imperative (commanded action)
  - Subjunctive (possible action)
  - Optative (unreal action)
- The subjunctive is the mood of a wish
  - One step further removed from reality than the subjunctive



Image by [Jared Smith](#)



# Parts of a Present Active Optative Verb

Augment	Stem	Tense marker	Conn. vowel	Mood marker	Personal Ending	Complete form
-	λυ	-	ο	ι	μι	λυοιμι



# Optative Active Endings (Secondary)

	Singular	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	-μι	-μεν
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	-ς	-τε
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	-	-ν



# Present Optative Active Examples

	Singular	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	λυο <u>ιμι</u>	λυοιμεν
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	λυοις	λυοιτε
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	λυοι	λυοι <u>εν</u>



# Parts of a 1<sup>st</sup> Aorist Active Optative Verb

- Again, a verb's aorist active pattern doesn't dictate its aorist passive pattern

Augment	Stem	Tense marker	Conn. vowel	Mood marker	Personal Ending	Complete form
-	λυ	σ	α	ι	μι	λυσαμι



# 1<sup>st</sup> Aorist Optative Active Examples

	Singular	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	λυ <u>σαι</u> <u>μι</u>	λυ <u>σαι</u> μεν
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	λυ <u>σαι</u> ς	λυ <u>σαι</u> τε
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	λυ <u>σαι</u>	λυ <u>σαι</u> <u>εν</u>



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Aorist Optative Active Examples

	Singular	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	βαλο <u>ι</u> <u>μι</u>	βαλο <u>ι</u> μεν
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	βαλο <u>ι</u> ς	βαλο <u>ι</u> τε
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	βαλο <u>ι</u>	βαλο <u>ι</u> <u>εν</u>





# Optative (Secondary) Mid./Pass. Endings

	Singular	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	-μην	-μεθα
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	-ο	-σθε
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	-το	-ντο



# Present Optative Mid./Pass. Examples

	Singular	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	λυοιμην	λυοιμεθα
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	λυοιο	λυοισθε
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	λυοιτο	λυοιντο



# 1<sup>st</sup> Aorist Optative Middle Examples

	Singular	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	λυσαιμην	λυσαιμεθα
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	λυσαιο	λυσαισθε
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	λυσαιτο	λυσαιντο



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Aorist Optative Middle Examples

	Singular	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	βαλο <sup>ι</sup> μην	βαλο <sup>ι</sup> μεθα
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	βαλο <sup>ι</sup> ο	βαλο <sup>ι</sup> σθε
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	βαλο <sup>ι</sup> το	βαλο <sup>ι</sup> ντο



# Aorist Passive Endings

	Singular	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	-ην	-ημεν
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	-ης	-ητε
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	-η	-ησαν



# 1<sup>st</sup> Aorist Passive Optative Examples

	Singular	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	λυθ <sup>red</sup> ει <sup>blue</sup> ην	λυθ <sup>red</sup> ει <sup>blue</sup> ημεν
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	λυθ <sup>red</sup> ει <sup>blue</sup> ης	λυθ <sup>red</sup> ει <sup>blue</sup> ητε
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	λυθ <sup>red</sup> ει <sup>blue</sup> η	λυθ <sup>red</sup> ει <sup>blue</sup> ησαν



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Aorist Passive Optative Examples

	Singular	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	γραφειην	γραφειημεν
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	γραφειης	γραφειητε
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	γραφειη	γραφειησαν



# Present Optative of Εἶμι

	Singular	Plural
1 <sup>st</sup> person	εἶην	εἶημεν
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	εἶης	εἶητε
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	εἶη	εἶησαν





# Using the Optative Mood

- Voluntative optative
  - Expressing a wish that something would (or would not) happen
- Translate with "may"
  - Μη γενοιτο! "May it never be!"
  - Δώ ἔλεος ὁ κύριος. "May the Lord give mercy."



# Keep Learning

- You can learn more about the optative mood here:
  - Mounce, *Basics of Biblical Greek* (3<sup>rd</sup> edition)
    - Optative mood, 35.10 (pp. 330-331)
  - Wallace, *Basics of New Testament Syntax* (1<sup>st</sup> edition)
    - "Moods," optative, pp. 209-210

