

Contract Verbs

Verbs that Shake Hands with their Endings

A lesson for the *Paideia* web-app
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Contract Verbs

- Not a verb that signs a legal agreement!
- A verb whose ending 'contracts' (gets shorter)
 - Stem ends in a short vowel (α, ε, or ο)
 - δουλοω (stem is δουλο-)
 - πωλεω (stem is πωλε-)
 - ὀραω (stem is ὀρα-)
- When you add an ending, a short vowel meets another vowel or diphthong
 - δουλο + ετε (ο meets ε)
 - πωλε + εις (ε meets ει)
 - ὀρα + ω (α meets ω)



When Two Vowels Meet

- Long vowels usually swallow up short ones
 - $\acute{\omicron}\rho\alpha + \omega = \acute{\omicron}\rho\omega$
 - $\pi\omega\lambda\epsilon + \omicron\upsilon\sigma\iota = \pi\omega\lambda\omicron\upsilon\sigma\iota$
 - $\delta\omicron\upsilon\lambda\omicron + \omicron\upsilon\sigma\iota = \delta\omicron\upsilon\lambda\omicron\upsilon\sigma\iota$
- In one combination $\omicron\upsilon$ changes
 - $\acute{\omicron}\rho\alpha + \omicron\upsilon\sigma\iota = \acute{\omicron}\rho\omega\sigma\iota$
- In two combinations $\epsilon\iota$ changes
 - $\acute{\omicron}\rho\alpha + \epsilon\iota = \acute{\omicron}\rho\alpha\grave{\iota}$
 - $\delta\omicron\upsilon\lambda\omicron + \epsilon\iota\varsigma = \delta\omicron\upsilon\lambda\omicron\iota\varsigma$



	ω	$\omicron\upsilon$	$\epsilon\iota$
\omicron	ω	$\omicron\upsilon$	$\omicron\iota$
α	ω	ω	$\alpha\grave{\iota}$
ϵ	ω	$\omicron\upsilon$	$\epsilon\iota$



When Two Vowels Meet

- Two short vowels combine to form one long vowel or diphthong (ω, η, ου)
 - δουλο + ετε -> δουλουτε
 - δουλο + ομεν -> δουλωμεν
 - πωλε + ετε -> πωλειτε
 - πωλε + ομεν -> πωλουμεν
 - ορα + ομεν -> ορωμεν
- Except α overpowers ε
 - ορα + ετε -> ορατε



	α	ε	ο
α	-	α	ω
ε	η	ει	ου
ο	-	ου	ω



When Two Vowels Meet

- Dictionary form is artificial
 - πωλεω vs. πωλω (actual 1p sing.)
 - ὀραω vs. ὀρω (actual 1p sing.)



Keep Learning

- You can learn more about Greek contract verbs here:
 - Mounce, *Basics of Biblical Greek* (3rd edition)
 - contract verbs, 17.1-17.19 (pp. 140-144), 17.10-17.12 (146-147)

