

Speech and Thought

Expanding Your Greek Vocabulary

A lesson for the *Paideia* web-app

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Greek Words for Speech

- Greek has several more-or-less synonymous verbs for speech and vocalization
 - φήμι, "I say, speak, talk"
 - Thematic 2nd aorist: ἔφην (ἔφης, ἔφη, ἔφημεν, ἔφητε, ἔφησαν)
 - λέγω, "I say, speak, talk"
 - 2nd aorist: εἶπον (εἶπ-)
 - λαλέω, "I say, speak, talk"



Greek Words for Speech

- Some verbs emphasize the simple act of vocalization rather than words
 - φωνέω, "I call, shout, make a sound"
 - κράζω, "I shout, cry out"
 - 1st aorist: ἐκραξα (ζ + σ = ξ)
 - Future: κραξω



Speech with a Specific Function

- εὐλογέω, "I bless"
- ἀσπάζομαι, "I greet, welcome"
 - 1st aorist middle: ἤσπασαμην ($\zeta + \sigma = \sigma$)
- πείθω, "I persuade, convince"
 - 1st aorist: ἐπεισα ($\theta + \sigma = \sigma$)
 - Future: πεισω
- ἐρωτάω, "I ask, request"
- ἀποκρίνομαι, "I answer, reply"
 - Liquid 1st aorist: ἀπεκριναμην ($\nu + \sigma = \nu$)



Speech with a Specific Function

- κελεύω, "I command, order"
- κηρύσσω, "I proclaim, declare, announce, preach"
 - 1st aorist: ἐκηρυξα (σσ + σ = ξ)
 - Future: κηρυξω



The Ἀγγελλω Word Family

- ἀγγέλλω, "I tell, inform, make known"
 - Irregular 1st aorist: ἡγγειλα (stem ἀγγειλ-, no σ tense marker)
 - Irregular future: ἀγγελω (1p. pl. ἀγγελουμεν)
 - ἄγγελος, "messenger"
- ἐπαγγέλλομαι, "I promise"
 - 1st aorist: ἐπηγγειλαμην
 - ἐπαγγελία, "promise"



The Ἀγγελλω Word Family

- Other ἄγγελλω verbs share the same irregular aorist and future
 - ἀπαγγέλλω, "I tell, announce, proclaim"
 - παραγγέλλω, "I command, order"
 - παραγγελία, "command, order"
- εὐαγγελίζομαι, "I announce a great message, preach good news"
 - 1st aorist: εὐ~~η~~γγελισαμην (ζ + σαμην = σαμην)
 - εὐαγγέλιον, "good news, gospel"



Other General Terms for Speech

- ἡ φωνή, "sound, noise, voice"
- ἡ λέξις, "words, speech, text"
- τὸ ῥῆμα, "speech, utterance"
 - Not words as language, but the spoken sounds



Language for "Sending"

- ἀποστέλλω, "I send"
 - Irregular future and aorist like ἀγγελλω
 - 1st Aorist: ἀπεστειλα (stem ἀποστειλ-)
 - Future: ἀποστελω
 - Used when sending someone on a mission
 - Often for sending a representative
- ἀπόστολος, "representative, ambassador, apostle"
 - The word "apostle" was not unique Christian language
 - Paul and the other "apostles" are being called "ambassadors" of God



Language for “Inviting”

- καλέω, "I call; I summon, invite"
 - Can be used for addressing someone with raised voice or from a distance
 - Also used for summoning someone under authority and for more polite invitations



Language for Thought

- πιστεύω, "I trust, I believe"
- ἡ πίστις, "trust, faith; faithfulness; proof"
 - 3rd declension (πολις-type)
- ἡ συνείδησις, "conscience"
 - 3rd declension (πολις-type)
- θεωρέω, "I look closely at, I examine, I consider"
 - verbs of vision are often used metaphorically for thought, insight
- δοκέω, "I seem, appear; I think; I approve of"



Extra Words To Use in Conversation

- τὸ πλοῖον, "boat, ship"
- ὁ ναύτης, "sailor"
 - Masculine 1st declension nouns
 - Genitive, **του ναυτου**
 - All other case endings are regular 1st decl.

