

First Verbs and Market Talk

Expanding Your Greek Vocabulary

A lesson for the *Paideia* web-app

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Our First Verbs

- σημαίνω, "I mean, signal, indicate"
- ποιέω, "I do, make"
- βαίνω, "I go, move (myself)"
- These allow us to ask new questions
 - Τί σημαίνει; "What does it mean?"
 - Τί ποιει; "What is she doing?" "What does he usually do?"



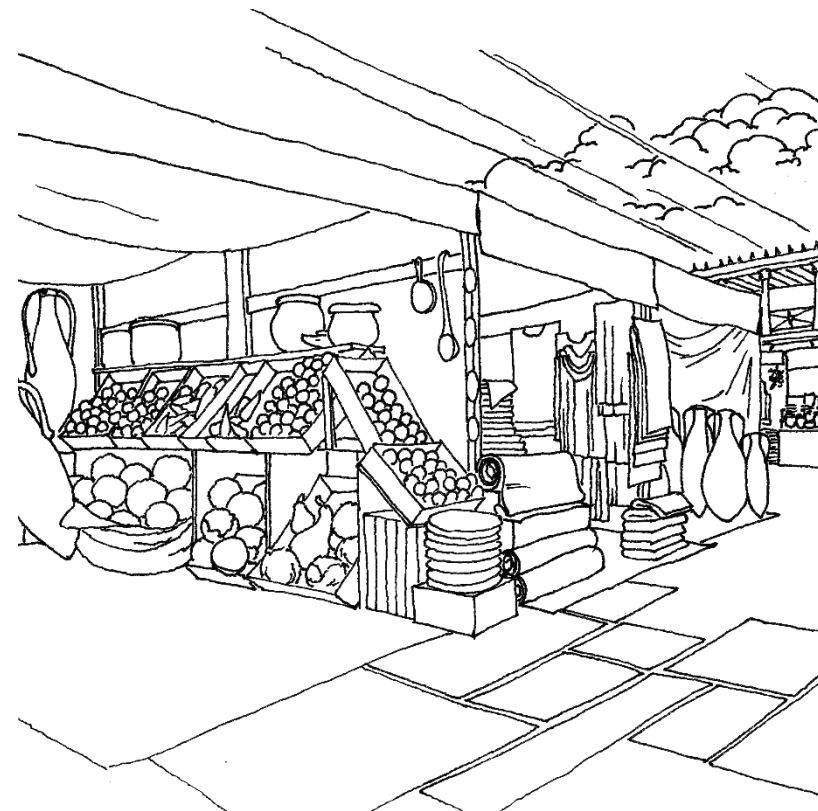
Basic Verbs for Seeing and Hearing

- ὁράω, "I see"
- βλέπω, "I see"
 - No substantial difference between these two
- ἀκούω, "I hear"
 - Often takes a genitive direct object



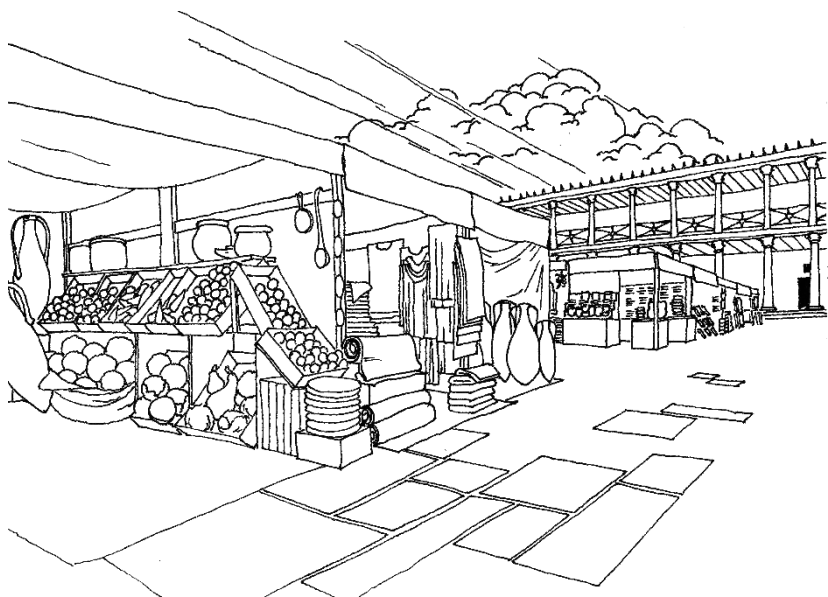
Selling in 'Η 'ΑΓΟΡΑ

- πωλέω, "I sell"
- τὸ πωλητήριον, "shop," "store"
 - -τηριον for place names
- τὸ πώλιον, "shop," "store"
 - Prefixed with a product
 - ἔλαιον -> ἔλαιοπώλιον ("oil shop")
 - ἄρτος -> ἄρτοπώλιον ("bakery")
 - οἶνος -> οἶνοπώλιον ("wine shop")



Selling in 'Η 'ΑΓΟΡΑ

- ὁ πώλ^{ης}, "merchant, shopkeeper"
 - Masculine 1st declension
 - Nom. and gen. singular are irregular



nom.

πωλ^{ης}

gen.

πωλ^{ου}

acc.

πωλ^{ην}

voc.

πωλ^η

singular

nom.

πωλ^{αι}

gen.

πωλ^{ων}

acc.

πωλ^{ας}

voc.

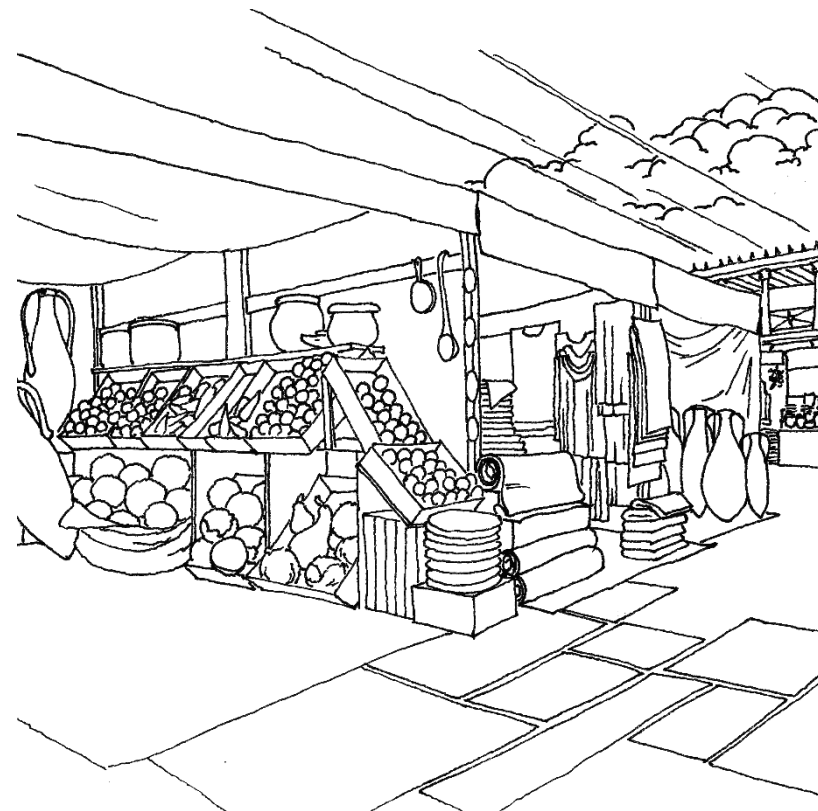
πωλ^{αι}

plural



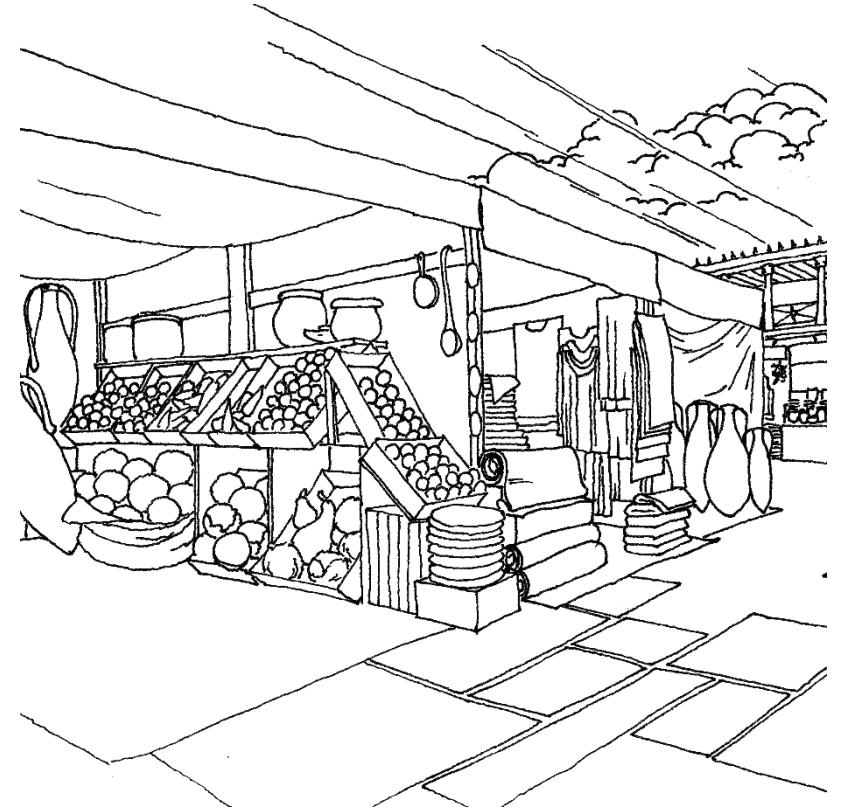
Selling in 'Η 'ΑΓΟΡΑ

- φέρω, "I carry, I lift"
 - Often used in the sense of "being a merchant of" a particular product
 - like English: "That shop carries hardware."
- το φόρος, "shop"
 - Often prefixed by a product
 - έλαιοφόρος = "oil shop"
- έχω, "I have"
 - Often describes a merchant "having" something in stock



Buying in 'Η 'ΑΓΟΡΑ

- αγοράζω, "I buy, I purchase"
 - Derived from the noun ἡ ἀγορά
 - Common pattern for verb formation
 - add -ζω to a noun
 - like -ize in english (theory -> theorize)
- λαμβάνω, "I take, receive"
 - General verb, but often used in shopping context



Prices

- τιμάω, "I honour, I value"
 - An α contract verb
- ἡ τιμή, "price; payment; honour"
 - Relation between "honour" and one's "value"
- τίμιος, -η, -ον (adjective), "expensive, valuable"
- πόσος, -η, -ον, "what quantity? how much? how many?"
 - Good for asking about a merchant's stock
 - Ποσοι καρποι ἔχεις; "How much fruit do you have?"



Other Words For the Marketplace

- εἰ δοκεῖ, idiom meaning "please"
 - From verb δοκεω - "I seem, appear", or "I think, I approve"
 - Literally "if it seems (good to you)"
- θέλω, "I want"
 - Τί θέλεις; "What do you want?"
- εὖγε, "okay, alright"
- ζητέω, "seek, investigate, look for"
 - An ε contract verb



Making Payments

- ὁ μισθός, "wage, payment, reward"
- ἡ χάρις, "gift, grace"
- ἡ δραχμή, "drachma"
 - Greek silver coin worth six "obols"
- το δηνάριον, "denarius"
 - Roman coin roughly equivalent to one
δραχμη
 - One day's wage for a first-century soldier or skilled labourer

