

# Working and Building

Expanding Your Greek Vocabulary

A lesson for the *Paideia* web-app  
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# General Words for Action and Ability

- πράσσω, "I do, practice"
  - 1st aorist: ἐπραξα (σσ + σ tense marker = ξ)
  - future: πραξω
- ἡ πράξις, "act, deed, activity; way of acting"
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> declension, gen. της πραξεως (πολις-type)
- δύναμαι, "I can, I am able; I am strong"
  - Irregular 2<sup>nd</sup> person singular: δυνασαι
  - Unusual α connecting vowel: δυναμεθα, δυνασθε, δυνανται
  - In aorist the α lengthens to η before the σ tense marker: ἐδυνησαμην



# Working

- ἐργάζομαι, "I work, labour; I make, do, perform (a task)"
  - 1<sup>st</sup> aorist: ἔργασαμην (ζ absorbed by σ, initial ε lengthened by augment)
- τὸ ἔργον, "work, labour, deed"
  - English "ergonomic" (rules for good action)
- ὁ ἐργάτης, "worker, labourer"
  - Familiar -ης ending for person practising an occupation or activity
  - Masculine 1<sup>st</sup> declension
  - Notice! no σ in the middle
- τὸ ἐργαστήριον, "workshop, workplace"
  - Familiar -τήριον ending for places where an activity is carried out



# Completion

- τὸ τέλος, "end, finish, goal, completion"
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> declension, gen. τελους (γενος-type)
- τελέω, "I finish, fulfil, accomplish, carry out"
  - Unusual in that the ε does not lengthen before the σ tense indicator
  - 1<sup>st</sup> aorist: ἔτελεσα; future: τελεσω
- τέλειος, -η, -ον, "complete, perfect"
  - Notice the ι added to the stem
- τελειόω, "I complete, accomplish; I mature; I make perfect"
  - The ο lengthens in front of the σ tense marker
  - 1<sup>st</sup> aorist: ἔτελειωσα; future: τελειωσω



# Building

- ὁ οἰκόδομος, "builder, architect"
  - Notice οἶκος at the start of this word
- οἰκοδομέω, "I build"
- ὁ λίθος, "stone, rock"
  - English "monolith" or "Paleolithic"
  - Most walls cut stone, brick or stone-faced concrete.
- τὸ τεῖχος, "wall"
  - γένος-type 3<sup>rd</sup> declension
  - Genitive γένους (real stem γενε-)
- τὸ θεμέλιον, "foundation"



# Aorist Forms of Οἰκοδομέω

- οἰκοδομέω, "I build"
  - $\acute{\epsilon} + οἰ = \acute{\omega}$
  - ὤκοδόμησα (1<sup>st</sup> aor.)
  - but οἰκοδομήσας (1<sup>st</sup> aor. participle)
- Typing tip: ὦ
  - AltGr (right Alt) + dead key ( ' ), then v key

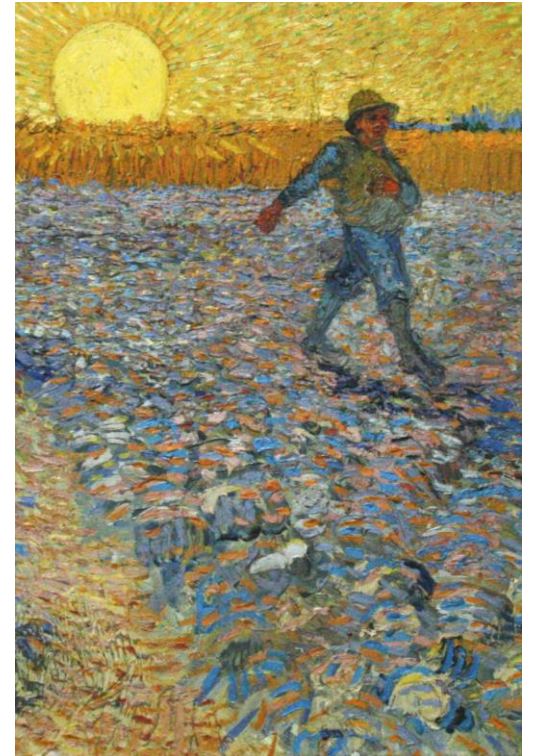
right **Alt** + **'** , **V** = ὦ  
OR  
**AltGr** + **'** , **V** = ὦ





# Agriculture

- σπείρω, "sow, scatter seed"
  - 1<sup>st</sup> aorist: ἐσπείρα (σ tense marker absorbed by ρ)
  - Future: σπερω (stem changes from σπειρ to σπερ)
- τὸ σπέρμα, "seed"
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> decl., gen. σπερματος (πνευματος-type)
- τὸ ξύλον, "wood, tree"
  - Same word used for the object and the derived material (cf. ἔλαια, "olive tree" or "olive fruit")



# Metalsmithing

- ὁ χαλκός, "copper coin, money; copper, brass, bronze"
- χαλκοῦς, χαλκῆ, χαλκοῦν (adj.), "made of copper, bronze"
  - Irregular nominative singulars contracted from χαλκεος (m.) and χαλκεον (n.)
  - Other endings regular: gen. χαλκου, χαλκης, χαλκου, etc.
- τὸ χαλκίον, "copper object, copper vessel, kettle"
- χαλκεύω, "I forge; I work metal"
- ὁ χαλκεύς, "blacksmith, bronze smith, metal worker"
  - Gen. sing. χαλκεως (ἱερευς-type)





# Debt and Payments

- ὀφείλω, "I owe; I am obligated, I ought"
  - Initial ὀ lengthened by augment in the aorist: ὤφειλῃσα
  - Addition of ῃ in front of the σ tense marker, as if contract verb ὀφείλεω.
- μισθόω, "I hire"
  - The ο of this contract verb lengthens to ω in the aorist: ἐμισθωσα
- ὁ μίσθιος, "worker, wage labourer"
  - several of Jesus' parables feature this figure
- ὁ μίσθος, "wage, payment, reward"
- ἰκανός, -ή, -όν (adj.), "sufficient, appropriate; considerable, many"



# Other Related Words

- ἡ χρεία, "need, necessity"
- χράομαι, "I use, make use of"
  - The α of this contract verb lengthens to η in the 1<sup>st</sup> aorist: ἐχρησαμην
- ἡ ὑπομονή, "patience, endurance"
- τὸ σάββατον, "7<sup>th</sup> day of the week, sabbath; period of 7 days"
  - Sometimes plural τα σαββατα used for a single sabbath day
- σκανδαλίζω, "I make stumble, I trip"
  - 1<sup>st</sup> aorist: ἐσκανδαλισα (ζ at end of stem absorbed by σ tense marker)
  - English "scandalize"

