

Contract Verbs

Verbs that Shake Hands with their Endings

A lesson for the *Paideia* web-app

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Contract Verbs

- A verb whose stem ends in a short vowel

ε

πωλεω

ο

δουλω

α

οραω

Contract Verbs

- A verb whose stem ends in a short vowel
- The stem vowel "contracts" with the connecting vowel of the personal ending



Two Short Vowels Combine

	α	ε	ο
α	α	α	ω
ε	η	εΙ	ου
ο	ω	ου	ου

Two Short Vowels Combine

δουλο + ετε



δουλουτε

	α	ε	ο
α	α	α	ω
ε	η	ει	ου
ο	ω	ου	ου

Two Short Vowels Combine

δουλοο + ομεν



δουλουμεν

	α	ε	ο
α	α	α	ω
ε	η	ει	ου
ο	ω	ου	ου

Two Short Vowels Combine

ὁρ α + \omicron μεν



ὁρ ω μεν

	α	ϵ	\omicron
α	α	α	ω
ϵ	η	$\epsilon\iota$	$\omicron\upsilon$
\omicron	ω	$\omicron\upsilon$	$\omicron\upsilon$

Two Short Vowels Combine

πωλε + ετε



πωλειτε

	α	ε	ο
α	α	α	ω
ε	η	ει	ου
ο	ω	ου	ου

Two Short Vowels Combine

ὀρ α + ϵ τε



ὀρ α τε

	α	ϵ	\omicron
α	α	α	ω
ϵ	η	$\epsilon\iota$	$\omicron\upsilon$
\omicron	ω	$\omicron\upsilon$	$\omicron\upsilon$

Meeting Long Vowels and Diphthongs

	ω	ου	εΙ
α	ω	ω	α̣
ε	ω	ου	εΙ
ο	ω	ου	οΙ

Long Vowels Absorb Short Ones

- Omega swallows up anything!

	ω	ου	εΙ
α	ω	ω	α̣
ε	ω	ου	εΙ
ο	ω	ου	οΙ

Long Vowels Absorb Short Ones

ὀρ α + ω



ὀρ ω

	ω	ou	$\epsilon\iota$
α	ω	ω	α
ϵ	ω	ou	$\epsilon\iota$
o	ω	ou	$o\iota$

Long Vowels Absorb Short Ones

$\pi\omega\lambda\varepsilon + \omega$



$\pi\omega\lambda\omega$

	ω	$\omicron\upsilon$	$\varepsilon\iota$
α	ω	ω	α
ε	ω	$\omicron\upsilon$	$\varepsilon\iota$
\omicron	ω	$\omicron\upsilon$	$\omicron\iota$

Long Vowels Absorb Short Ones

δουλο + ω



δουλω

	ω	ου	εΙ
α	ω	ω	α̣
ε	ω	ου	εΙ
ο	ω	ου	οΙ

When Short Vowel Meets Diphthong...

- Like vowels collapse together

πωλε + εΙ



πωλεΙ

	ω	ου	εΙ
α	ω	ω	α̣
ε	ω	ου	εΙ
ο	ω	ου	οΙ

When Short Vowel Meets Diphthong...

- Like vowels collapse together

δουλ α + $\alpha\upsilon$ σι



δουλ $\alpha\upsilon$ σι

	ω	$\alpha\upsilon$	$\epsilon\iota$
α	ω	ω	α
ϵ	ω	$\alpha\upsilon$	$\epsilon\iota$
α	ω	$\alpha\upsilon$	$\alpha\iota$

When Short Vowel Meets Diphthong...

- Like vowels collapse together
- Unlike vowels contract
 - Long vowels can't stand side-by-side

πωλε + ουσι



πωλουσι

	ω	ου	εΙ
α	ω	ω	αῖ
ε	ω	ου	εΙ
ο	ω	ου	οΙ

When Short Vowel Meets Diphthong...

- Like vowels collapse together
- Unlike vowels contract
 - Long vowels can't stand side-by-side

ὀρ α + ουσι
↓
ὀρ ω σι

	ω	ου	ει
α	ω	ω	αῖ
ε	ω	ου	ει
ο	ω	ου	οι

When Short Vowel Meets Diphthong...

- Like vowels collapse together
- Unlike vowels contract
 - Long vowels can't stand side-by-side

όρ α + $\epsilon\iota$



όρ α

	ω	$ου$	$\epsilon\iota$
α	ω	ω	α
ϵ	ω	$ου$	$\epsilon\iota$
$ο$	ω	$ου$	$ο\iota$

When Short Vowel Meets Diphthong...

- Like vowels collapse together
- Unlike vowels contract
 - Long vowels can't stand side-by-side
- With one exception!

δουλ α + $\epsilon\iota$

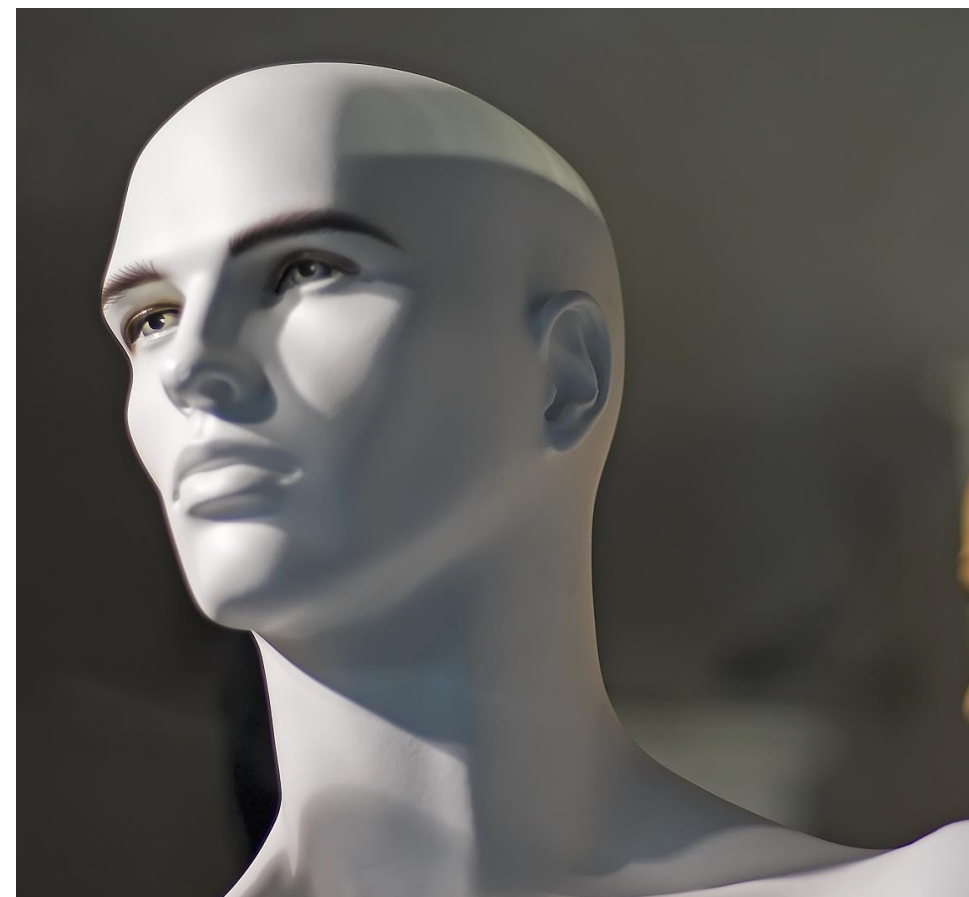


δουλ $\alpha\iota$

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

One Trick with Contract Verbs

- Their dictionary form is artificial
 - δουλω vs. δουλω (actual 1p sing.)
 - 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* (4th edition)
 - "Contract Verbs," 17.1–17.13