

Layman Greek II, Class 3

Our progress so far: we are able to identify the trees and the flowers (kinds of verbs and tenses—for the uninitiated) and are working on learning to identify the bushes (noun constructions). We can, of course, distinguish them readily from the trees. But to learn each one by itself is a small job. Therefore, our observations have been that we may identify the bushes by:

the article

comparative endings with the article

or the prepositions used to form the constructions.

To this latter we now turn our attention.

A preposition is a word used to introduce another part of syntax. In Greek prepositions are used with certain cases and have special meanings with the varying cases. When these are translated into English, many of them may not be fully translated and the Greek meaning is often lost in the shuffle. So the Greek reader, even though his knowledge may be slight, is really in an excellent position to gain fuller understanding of the text.

The following chart lists the Greek prepositions in the column at the left. The second column identifies the case. The third gives the translation in accord with the use which is stated in the fourth column. At the right pertinent definitions are sketched as well as possible.

Prep.	Case	Translation	Use	Definitions
ἀνά				Used only in combination with verbs indicating "up".
ἀντί	Gen.	"instead of" "because of"	<u>Relation</u>	<u>RELATION</u> describes how two or more items are seen together. It tells whether one replaces the other, stands with the other, etc. It occurs widely with many prepositions.
ἀπό	Gen.	"for"	<u>Relation</u>	It tells whether one replaces the other, stands with the other, etc. It occurs widely with many prepositions.
		"by"	<u>Agency</u>	
		"from"	<u>Source</u>	
διό	Gen.	"on account of"	<u>Cause</u>	<u>AGENCY</u> tells by whom a matter is done or by whose activity a work is accomplished.
		"for"	<u>Relation</u>	
		"by"	<u>Agency</u>	
		"through"	<u>Means</u>	
	Acc.	"because of"	<u>Cause</u>	<u>SOURCE</u> tells the place (or person) where something originates as far as the author's current point is concerned.
	"for the sake of"	<u>Purpose</u>		
ἐκ	Gen.	"from"	<u>Source</u>	<u>CAUSE</u> offers the reason behind a particular action.
		"because of"	<u>Cause</u>	<u>MEANS</u> identifies the objects used to achieve an end. It is rather the impersonal opposite of Agency.