

LESSON 6: More work with the Noun plus a number of connective things.1. Some further noun notes:

--Some nouns may have a "feminine form" but be masculine in character. The best known examples are:

μαθητής -disciple ε
 προφήτης -prophet ο

The article that accompanies both of these is . Thus in their declensions the nouns have the feminine endings but the article with them will be masculine. There are a few others like this and they are best learned by observation.

--If you return to the chart on article declension (p. 39) or if you know it well enough by heart...then you know that this form of identification is not perfect on the gender side since in some case usage the article is the same (the genitive plural, for example). You will also see that in the NEUTER case the nominative forms are the same as the accusative forms in both singular and plural. Consequently you will usually need the number of the verb employed to tell you which is intended for the Neuter in these cases. (The Neuter vocative is the same as the nominative and accusative as well.)

--The vocative nouns are often the same in form as the nominative. (Not always, but most often) You will need to learn different forms by observation. Vocatives are often indicated by terms such as "ο:...."

--You will observe that in the lexicon nouns are always given with the proper article for their governance. This will tell you the gender of the noun and no further indication is needed.

2. Wider Understanding of case Usage

As with the verb tenses, there are a number of case usages for every case. Some of them are a bit arbitrary, others are very clear. We cannot go into great detail in this course but the following are generalizations that may prove helpful.

THE NOMINATIVE CASE: As the "naming" case it will often be used for:

the subject nominative .."the man lives"

a predicate nominative.."he who is king"

THE GENITIVE CASE: Perhaps the most diverse in all of the cases so far as usage is concerned. Basically it defines relationships and in this way qualifies a noun to show how it relates to other words in a passage. Among these relationships are those of: