Gk 101 – Introduction to Greek and Hebrew

Greek Sentence Structure and Substantives

September 25, 2014

SENTENCE STRUCTURE (NORMAL – NON EXCEPTIONAL)

Sentence Structure

Subject | Verb | Direct Object \ Indirect Object

- Subject:
  - can be unexpressed
    ie, the verb can supply it

Sentence Structure

Subject | Verb | Direct Object \ Indirect Object

- Verb
  - Can be implied

Sentence Structure

Subject | Verb | Direct Object \ Indirect Object

- Direct Object:
  - complementary infinitive (You need to pray)
  - double accusative (I teach all the subjects in the school)
  - predicate nominative (for many of us, the fans were embarrassing)
  - Precluded with intransitive verbs (I sneezed)

Sentence Structure - Floats

Subject | Verb | Direct Object \ Indirect Object

1) ἀγαπῶ ὁ θεός τὸν κόσμον

loves the god the world

2) ἀγαπῶ τὸν κόσμον ὁ θεός

3) τὸν κόσμον ὁ θεός ἀγαπῶ

4) ὁ θεός ἀγαπο τὸν κόσμον

1 = 2 = 3 = 4

Sentence Structure (clauses)

- Independent clauses
  - With coordinating conjunctions
  - With punctuation

Sentence Structure *(clauses)*

- Dependent clauses
  - ὅς (adverbial – dative) substantive
  - ὅτι That (noun clause)
    "because" (adverbial)
  - ἵνα verb in subjunctive

Sentence Structure

- Simple
  - Has a simple independent clause

John ran home.

Sentence Structure *(Continued)*

- Compound
  - Has two or more independent clauses
    - Using conjunctions (and, but, or, nor …)
    - Using a semi colon
    - Possibly using a semi colon

John ran home but Jane went to school.

Sentence Structure *(Continued)*

- Complex
  - Contains one independent clause and at least one dependent clause
    - Subordinate conjunction
    - "That" (noun clause)
      "because" (adverbial)
    - Adjectival (attributive) or Substantival

John left ***when his sister arrived***

Sentence Structure *(Continued)*

- Compound-Complex
  - Contains two or more independent clauses and at least one dependent clause

Chris cried and John left *when his sister arrived*

Substantives

Nouns

- The basic form of a noun is called the stem. For example, the stem of the Greek word for "God" is θεο.
- A case ending is placed on the stem to allow the marking of a noun (or other substantives) to indicate that a noun is either a nominative, an accusative, a dative, or a genitive.

Nouns (continued)

- Gender – Nouns are either masculine, feminine, or neuter and it never varies. Most Greek nouns do not follow natural gender. Ie.
  - ἁμαρτια is a feminine noun (sin)
  - ἁμαρτωλος is a masculine noun (sinner)
  - πνεῦμα is a neuter noun (sin)

Nouns (continued)

- Number – Greek uses different case endings to indicate singular and plural endings. Ie:
  - ἀπόστολος -> apostle
  - ἀπόστολοι -> apostles

Nouns (continued)

- Our goal is to rely on our tools (reverse interliner or Software) to provide the needed parsing information for us.

Note: parsing codings and order will often vary by tool.

Nominative

- The normal case to designate the subject of a verb.

Romans 10:9 (SBLGNT)

9 ὁ θεὸς αὐτὸν ἤγειρεν ἐκ νεκρῶν,
God him raised from dead
God raised him from the dead.

God is the subject. Who raised him? God raised him!

Accusative

A word is put into the accusative to indicate the direct object.

John 3:16 (SBLGNT)

¹⁶ἠγάπησεν	ὁ θεὸς	τὸν κόσμον
loved	God	the world

God loved the world

World is the Direct Object. What did God love, He loved the world.

Dative

- **The dative case is used to indicate the indirect object**

Matthew 2:13 (SBLGNT)

13 ἄγγελος κυρίου φαίνεται κατ’ ὄναρ τῷ Ἰωσὴφ

angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph

An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream.

Joseph is indirectly connected with the action of the verb “appeared”

Genitive

- The Greek genitive case functions much like the English word "of" and the possessive case.
- The head noun is the word that the word in the genitive is modifying. In the phrase "love of God" Love is the head noun.

Genitive (continued)

- Most common usage is in the modifying of the head noun where it is translated with an "of"

Romans 13:12 (SBLGNT)

12 ἐνδυσώμεθα δὲ τὰ ὅπλα τοῦ φωτός.

Let us put on the armor of light

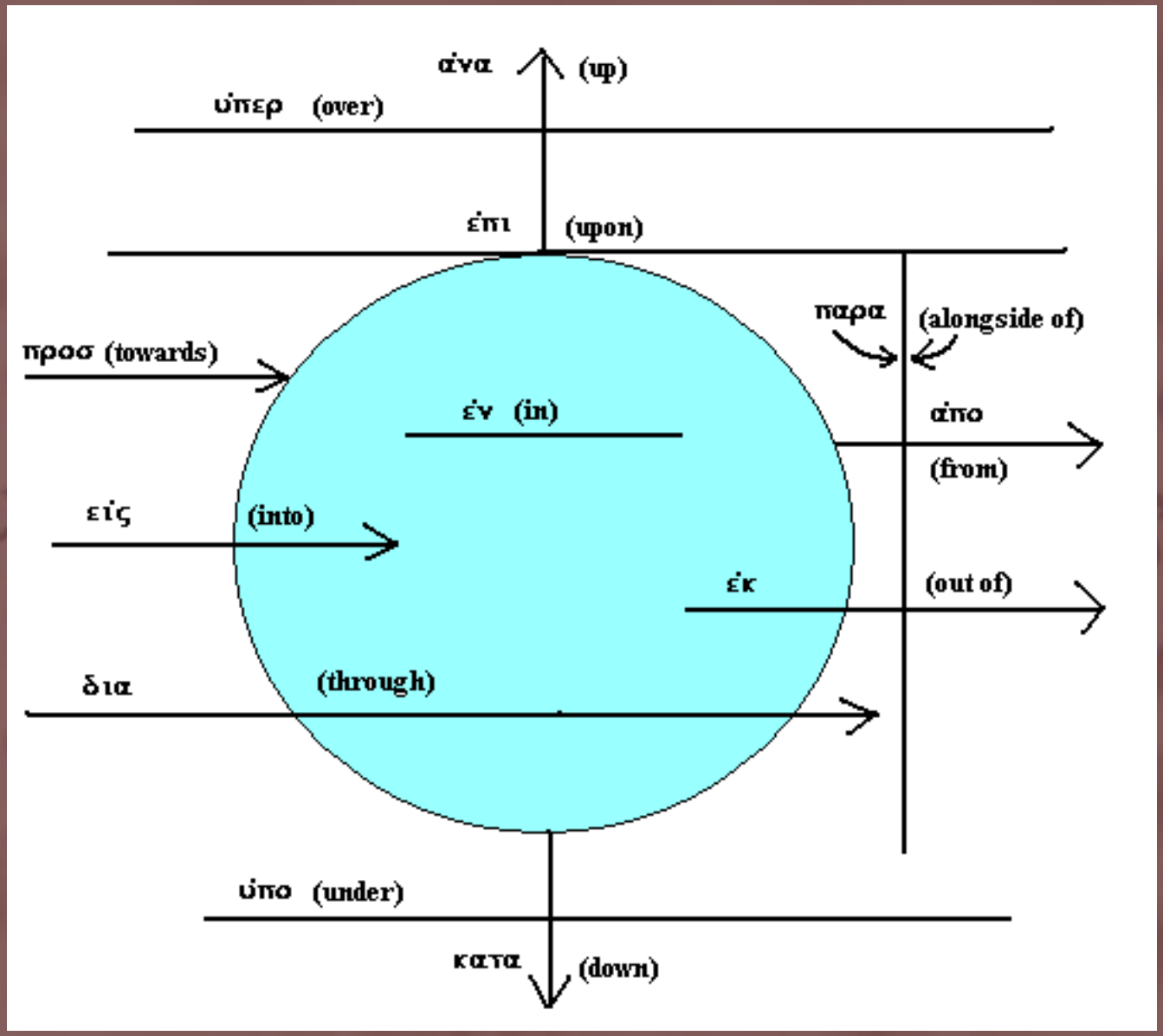
Let us put on the armor of light

ὅπλα is the head noun,
Light is describing the head noun.

Prepositions

Prepositions indicate the relationship between two things.

Greek prepositions can have a wide range of meanings.



Prepositions (continued)

- A preposition governs the case of its object.
- Some prepositions take their objects in a specific case:
  - εἰς takes its object in the accusative
  - ἐν takes its objects in the dative
  - ἀπό takes its arguments in the genitive