

Dr. Shirley's Greek Courses

Grammar

The Perfect and Pluperfect

The **Perfect Tense** is used when describing an action which took place in the past, but whose results are still effective at the time of writing/speaking.

The **Pluperfect** is used when describing an action which took place in the past, and whose results were still effective at some time in the past.

The **Perfect Active Indicative** is formed with the augment (for past tense) preceded by the first consonant of the verb stem. The personal endings are similar to the First Aorist, but with a **κ** in place of a **σ**

There are also a few verbs which miss out the **κ**, - they still have the same endings and the reduplication; they are called Second Perfects.

The **Perfect Passive/Middle Indicative** (Passive and Middle have the same form) has endings similar to the Present Middle/Passive.

The **Pluperfect** may, or may not, have a second augment in front of the reduplicated letter,

| Perfect Active | 2 nd Perfect Active | Perfect Passive/Middle | Pluperfect Active | Pluperfect Passive/Middle |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| λελυκα | γεγραφα | λελυμαι | λελυκειν | λελυμην |
| λελυκας | γεγραφας | λελυσαι | λελυκεις | λελυσο |
| λελυκεν | γεγραφεν | λελυται | λελυκει | λελυτο |
| λελυκαμεν | γεγραφαμεν | λελυμεθα | λελυκειμεν | λελυμεθα |
| λελυκατε | γεγραφατε | λελυσθε | λελυκειτε | λελυσθε |
| λελυकाσιν (λελυκαν) | γεγραφασιν | λελυνται | λελυκεισιν | λελυντο |

Perfect Active Infinitive : λελυκεναι

Perfect Passive/Middle Infinitive : λελυσθαι

| | Perfect Active Participle | | | Perfect Passive/Middle Participle | | |
|---|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|
| | M | F | N | M | F | N |
| N | λελυκος | λελυηυια | λελυκος | λελυμενος | λελυμενη | λελυμενον |
| A | λελυκοτα | λελυκυιαν | λελυκος | λελυμενον | λελυμενην | λελυμενον |
| G | λελυκοτος | λελυκυιας | λελυκοτος | λελυμενου | λελυμενης | λελυμενου |
| D | λελυκοτι | λελυκοτα | λελυκοτι | λελυμενω | λελυμενη | λελυμενω |
| N | λελυκοτες | λελυκυιαι | λελυκοτα | λελυμενοι | λελυμεναι | λελυμενα |
| A | λελυκοτας | λελυκυιας | λελυκοτα | λελυμενους | λελυμενας | λελυμενα |
| G | λελυκοτων | λελυκυιων | λελυκοτων | λελυμενων | λελυμενων | λελυμενων |
| D | λελυκοσιν | λελυκυιας | λελυκοσιν | λελυμενοις | λελυμεναις | λελυμενοις |

If the verb stem begins with a vowel, the vowel is simply broadened by contraction with the augment,

If the verb stem begins with 2 consonants, only the augment may be used, but not the reduplication

σ, ζ, ξ often do not reduplicate - only the augment is used. Reduplication of **φ, θ, χ** gives **π, τ, κ**

If the verb stem ends in a vowel, the vowel is usually lengthened before the **κ**

If the verb stem ends with **τ, δ, θ** they usually drop out before the **κ**

For examples of the Pluperfect : Mark 16:9, Acts 14:23