

Chapter 25

δύναμαι - I am able, κείμαι - I recline, κάθηναι - I am seated

25.1 In chapter 22 we learned the endings for the Present Middle and Passive. Those endings derive from an older form, which survived in a handful of verbs, of which **δύναμαι (I am able)** is the most frequently used.

25.2 The Present Indicative of δύναμαι : I am able, I can

I am able	δύναμαι	δυνάμεθα	we are able
you (singular) are able	δύνασαι	δύνασθε	y'all are able
he/she/it is able	δύναται	δύνανται	they are able

Chant the endings **-μαι -σαι -ται -άμεθα -ασθε -ανται** until you know them by heart.

The personal endings **-μαι** and **-σαι** are related to the personal pronouns **με** and **σε**.

An early form of Greek used verb forms such as "able - me", "able - you", but only a few verbs retained these forms by the time of Classical and Hellenistic Greek.

δύναμαι can also be translated as "I can", but thinking of it as "I am able" sets us up to look for an Infinitive "I am able to do something", which is how it is normally used in a Greek sentence.

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. δυνάμεθα τὸ ἔργον τοῦτον ποιεῖν. We are able to do this deed.
2. πῶς δύναται Σατανᾶς Σατανᾶν ἐκβάλλειν ; How can Satan cast out Satan? (*Mark 3:23*)
3. δύνασθε πιεῖν τὸ ποτήριον Are you able to drink the cup
ὃ ἐγὼ μέλλω πίνειν ; which I am about to drink? (*Matt. 20:22*)
(*πιεῖν is the Aorist Infinitive of πίνω - it means to drink once*)
4. πῶς δύνασθε ἀγαθὰ λαλεῖν How is it possible for you to speak
πονηροῖ ὄντες ; good things being evil? (*Matt. 12:34*)
(*How can you, who are evil, speak good things?*)
5. ὁ τυφλὸς οὐ δύναται βλέπειν τοὺς ἀγρούς. The blind man is not able to see the fields.
6. δύνανται οἱ μαθηταὶ ἐκβάλλειν τὸ δαιμόνιον ; Are the disciples able to cast the demon out?
7. πῶς δύναται ὁ μαθητῆς How can the disciple
ἐκβάλλειν τὰ δαιμόνια ; cast the demons out?
8. πιστεύετε ὅτι δύναμαι ταῦτα ποιεῖν ; Do you believe that I am able
to do these things? (*see Matt. 9:28*)
9. λεπρὸς προσκυνεῖ αὐτῷ λέγων, A leper bows down to him, saying, "Lord, if
Κύριε, ἐὰν θέλῃς δύνασαι με καθαρίζειν. you wish, you are able to cleanse me."
(*see Matt. 8:2*)
10. οὐ δύναται δένδρον ἀγαθὸν A good tree cannot
καρποῦς πονηροῦς ποιεῖν. produce bad fruit. (*Matt. 7:18*)

25.3 The Present Participle of δύναμαι : δυνάμενος -η -ον - "being able"

δυνάμενος, -η, -ον acts exactly like an adjective of the ἀγαθός, -η, -ον family.

ὁ δυνάμενος = "the one who is able", "he who can"

Examples of these in the New Testament occur in

Matt. 10:28, Romans 16:25, Ephesians 3:20, James 4:12, Jude v.24

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. τῷ δὲ δυναμένῳ τηρεῖν ὑμᾶς . . . To the one able to keep you (be)
ἢ δόξα . . κράτος καὶ ἐξουσία. glory, strength and authority. (*see Jude v.24-25*)
2. φοβεῖσθε τὸν δυνάμενον Fear the one who is able
τὴν ψυχὴν ἀποκτείνειν. to kill the soul! (*see Matt. 10:28*)

25.4 The Present Indicative of κείμαι : I recline

I recline	κείμαι	κείμεθα	we recline
you (singular) recline	κείσθαι	κείσθε	y'all recline
he/she/it reclines	κείται	κείνται	they recline

κείμαι and its compounds ἀνακείμαι, κατάκειμαι, and συνανάκειμαι are often translated as "I sit (at table)" because that is the position used for dining today. However, at the time of the New Testament the diners usually did not sit in chairs, but reclined on couches; ἀνακείμαι has the sense of propping oneself **up** on an elbow, whereas κατάκειμαι implies lying **down** on the couch. Sometimes the best English translation will be "dine".

The Present Participles have the form κείμενος, -η, -ον

For sitting (as in a chair, on a rock, etc.) Greek uses κάθημαι, see Section 25.5

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

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| 1. οἱ Φαρισαῖοι βλέπουσιν τὸν Ἰησοῦν ἀνακείμενον ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ. | The Pharisees see Jesus reclining (at table, dining) in the house. |
| 2. καὶ τελῶναι καὶ ἁμαρτωλοὶ συνανάκεινται τῷ Ἰησοῦ. | (And) tax-collectors and sinners are reclining (dining) with Jesus. |
| 3. οἱ Φαρισαῖοι βλέπουσιν τοὺς ἀνακειμένους. | The Pharisees see the diners (dinner-guests). |
| 4. ὁ Ἰησοῦς κατάκειται ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ τοῦ Φαρισαίου. | Jesus dines in the house of the Pharisee. |
| 5. βλέπω τὸ βιβλίον κείμενον ἀλλ' οὐκ ἀναγινώσκω αὐτό. | I see the book lying (there) but I don't read it. |
| 6. ὁ Ἰησοῦς βλέπει τὸν παραλυτικὸν κατακείμενον παρὰ τὴν θάλασσαν. | Jesus sees the paralytic lying (down) beside the sea. |
| 7. ὁ κόσμος ὅλος ἐν τῷ πονηρῷ κεῖται. | The whole world lies in evil. (<i>1 John 5:19</i>) |
| 8. καὶ εὐρίσκουσιν τὸ βρέφος κείμενον ἐν τῇ φάτνῃ. | And they find the child lying in the crib. (<i>see Luke 2:16</i>) |
| 9. ἤδη δὲ ἡ ἀξίνη πρὸς τὸν ρίζαν τῶν δένδρων κεῖται. | The axe is already laid at the root of the trees. (<i>Matt. 3:10</i>) |
| 10. καὶ λέγω τῇ ψυχῇ μου, Ψυχή, ἔχεις ἀγαθὰ κείμενα . . . | And I say to my soul (self), "Soul (self), you have good things lying (around) . . ." (<i>see Luke 12:19</i>) |

25.5 The Present Indicative and the Present Participle of κάθημαι : I am seated, I sit

Because of the nature of the writings in the New Testament, κάθημαι is most often used either in a past tense, or as a participle - it is seldom the main verb in a sentence in the Present tense.

The Present Indicative

I am seated	κάθημαι	καθήμεθα	we are seated
you (singular) are seated	κάθησαι	κάθησθε	y'all are seated
he/she/it is seated	κάθηται	κάθηνται	they are seated

The Present Participle : καθήμενος, -η, -ον

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

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| 1. αἱ ἑπτὰ κεφαλαὶ ἑπτὰ ὄρη εἰσὶν, ὅπου ἡ γυνὴ κάθηται ἐπ' αὐτῶν. | The seven heads are seven hills, where the woman is seated (on them). (<i>Rev. 17:9</i>) |
| 2. ἐν τῇ καρδίᾳ αὐτῆς λέγει ὅτι, Κάθημαι βασίλισσα, καὶ χήρα οὐκ εἰμί. | In her heart she says, "I sit a queen, and I am not a widow. (<i>Rev. 18:7</i>) |
| 3. ἡ γενεὰ αὕτη ὁμοία ἐστὶν παιδίοις καθήμενοις ἐν ταῖς ἀγοραῖς . . . | This generation is like children sitting in the market-places . . . (<i>see Matt. 11:16</i>) |

4. καὶ ὁ Ἰησοῦς βλέπει ἄνθρωπον καθήμενον, . . . And Jesus sees a man sitting . . . (*see Matt. 9:9*)
 5. καὶ καθήμενοι ἐτήρουν αὐτόν. And sitting down, they were watching/guarding him.
 (*And they sat down and watched him.*) (*Matt. 27:36*)
 6. ἦν δὲ ἐκεῖ Μαρία ἡ Μαγδαληνὴ And Mary Magdalene
 καὶ ἡ ἄλλη Μαρία καθήμεναι and the other Mary were there, sitting
 ἀπέναντι τοῦ τάφου. opposite the tomb. (*Matt. 27:61*)
 7. καὶ ἰδοὺ δύο τυφλοὶ καθήμενοι And behold, two blind men sitting
 παρὰ τὴν ὁδόν, . . . beside the road . . . (*Matt. 20:30*)
 8. καὶ βλέπω ἐπὶ τὴν δεξιὰν τοῦ καθήμενου And I see, in the right (hand) of the one seated
 ἐπὶ τοῦ θρόνου βιβλίον . . . on the throne, a book . . . (*see Rev. 5:1*)
 9. Τῷ καθήμενῳ ἐπὶ τοῦ θρόνου To the one seated on the throne,
 καὶ τῷ ἀρνίῳ ἡ εὐλογία καὶ ἡ τιμὴ and to the Lamb (be) blessing and honor
 καὶ ἡ δόξα καὶ τὸ κράτος and glory and power
 εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων. to the ages of ages. (*Rev. 5:13*)
 10. καὶ βλέπω ἐπὶ τοὺς θρόνους . . . And I see elders sitting on the thrones.
 πρεσβυτέρους καθήμενους. (*see Rev. 4:4*)

25.6 Sentences for reading and translation

1. κατακείμεθα ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ τοῦ Πέτρου.
2. συνανάκεισθε τῷ Ἰησοῦ ;
3. οἱ πτωχοὶ ἀνάκεινται ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ τοῦ Ἰωάννου.
4. ὁ παραλυτικὸς κεῖται παρὰ τὴν ὁδόν.
5. οἱ μαθηταὶ κάθηνται ἐπὶ ταῖς πέτραις.
6. ὁ κύριος κάθηται ἐπὶ τῷ θρόνῳ.
7. ὁ Λάζαρος συνανάκειται τῷ Ἰησοῦ.
8. ἀνάκεισαι σὺν τοῖς ἁμαρτωλοῖς.
9. βλέπει ὁ Ἰησοῦς τὸν Ναθαναὴλ καθήμενον ὑπὸ τὸ δένδρον.
10. τὸν Ἰησοῦν γινώσκω καὶ τὸν Παῦλον ἐπίσταμαι. (*Acts 19:15*)

25.7 Writing Practice : Write the Greek text, while saying aloud (John 1:1-5)

- Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος, In (the) beginning was the Word
 καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν, and the Word was with God
 καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος. and the Word was God.
 οὗτος ἦν ἐν ἀρχῇ πρὸς τὸν θεόν. He (this one) was in the beginning with God
 πάντα δι' αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο, all things came into being through him,
 καὶ χωρὶς αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο οὐδὲ ἓν. not one thing (that happened) happened without him.
 (ὃ γέγονεν) ἐν αὐτῷ ζωὴ ἦν, (The thing that happened) In him was life,
 καὶ ἡ ζωὴ ἦν τὸ φῶς τῶν ἀνθρώπων · and the life was the light of men;
 καὶ τὸ φῶς ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ φαίνει, and the light shines in the darkness,

25.8 New Testament Passage for reading and translation : John 20:1-10

In your Greek New Testament, read the passage aloud several times until you can read it without long pauses or stumbling. Then use the helps to translate it.

τῇ μιᾷ τῶν σαββάτων	on the first day of the week
πρωὶ	in the early morning
σκοτίας ἔτι οὔσης	it being still dark
ἡρμένον	having been taken = taken away (a participle of αἶρω - I pick up, take)
τρέχει	(she) runs (from τρέχω - I run)
ἐφίλει	(he) loved (a past tense of φιλέω - I love)

ἤραν	(they) took	(simple past of αἶρω - I pick up, take)
οἶδαμεν	we know	(from οἶδα - I know, I have learned)
ἔθηκαν	they put	(simple past of τίθημι - I put, place)
ἤρχοντο	they were coming/going	(a past tense of ἔρχομαι)
ἔτρεχον	they were running	(a past tense of τρέχω - I run)
οἱ δύο ὁμοῦ	the two together (both together)	
προέδραμεν	(he) ran ahead	
τάχιον	faster, more quickly	(takes Genitive)
παρακύψας	having bent down	(a participle of παρακύπτω - I stoop, look into)
τὰ ὀθόνια	linen cloths, wrappings	
μέντοι	but, however, never-the-less	
τὸ σουδάριον	handkerchief, face-cloth	(used to cover the face of the dead)
ἐντετυλιγμένον	having been rolled up = rolled up	(a participle of ἐντυλίσσω - I roll up)
εἰς ἓνα τόπον	in one place	
ὁ ἐλθὼν	the one having run = the one who ran	
εἶδεν	he saw	
ἐπίστευσεν	he believed	(a past tense of πιστεύω - I believe)
ἤδεισαν	they knew	(a past tense of οἶδα - I know, I have learned)
ἀναστῆναι	to rise	(an Infinitive of ἀνίστημι - I rise)
ἀπῆλθον	they went (away)	

25.9 Vocabulary to learn

ἀφίσταμαι	I leave, desert	
δύναμαι	I am able, I can	(followed by an Infinitive)
ἐπίσταμαι	I understand, know	(hence "epistemology")
κάθημαι	I sit, sit down	
κειῖμαι	I lie	(in the sense of "lie down", not "tell lies")
ἀνάκειμαι	I recline at table, am a guest	
ἐπίκειμαι	I lie on, press, am urgent	
κατάκειμαι	I lie down, recline (at table)	
συνανάκειμαι	I recline at table with, am a guest	
ἡ ἀγορά	town square, market place	(from ἀγοράζω - I buy)
ἡ ἀξίνη	axe	
ἡ βασίλισσα	queen (ἡ βασιλεία - kingdom, ὁ βασιλεύς - king, βασιλεύω - I rule)	
τὸ βρέφος	infant, child	(Do not attempt to use other cases yet)
ἡ γυνή	woman, lady	(Do not attempt to use other cases yet)
ἡ εὐλογία	blessing, praise	(from εὖ - well + τὰ λόγια - messages)
τὸ κράτος	might, strength, power	(Do not attempt to use other cases yet)
ἡ ὄρος	mountain, hill	(Do not attempt to use other cases yet)
ἡ ῥίζα	root	(hence rhizome)
ὁ τάφος	tomb, sepulchre	
ἡ φάτνη	feeding-trough, crib, manger	
ἀδύνατος, -ος, -οῦ	impossible, unable	
δυνατός, -η, -οῦ	possible, powerful, able	(hence "dynamo")
ἑπτὰ	seven	(Indeclinable) (hence the prefix hept- in chemistry and maths)
ἀπέναντι	opposite	(takes Genitive)
οὐδέπω	not yet	
πῶς ;	how? how can it be?, in what way?	
χωρίς	apart, separately, by itself	(used as an Adverb or as a Preposition)