

Chapter 66

εἰμί

66.1 This chapter will review the whole of the verb system for εἰμί - I am

We met the Present Active Indicative of εἰμί in chapter 5, the Future in Chapter 26, the Imperative Active in chapter 18, and the Present Participle in chapter 38.

66.2 εἰμί has only the Present and Future systems - there is no Aorist and no Perfect. There is no distinction between Active, Middle, and Passive. The stem was originally ἐσ- but contractions have occurred which give us the forms with which we are familiar.

| | Present Indicative | Present Subjunctive | Present Optative | Future Indicative | Future Optative | Imperfect Indicative |
|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Singular | | | | | | |
| 1. I | ἐσ-μι = εἰμί | ᾧ | εἶην | ἔσομαι | ἐσοίμην | ἦ or ἦν |
| 2. you | ἐσ-σι = εἶ | ἦς | εἶης | ἔση | ἔσοισο | ἦσθα |
| 3. he/she/it | ἐσ-τι = ἐστί(ν) | ἦ | εἶη | ἔσται | ἔσοιτο | ἦν |
| Plural | | | | | | |
| 1. we | ἐσ-μεν = ἐσμέν | ᾧμεν | εἶημεν | ἐσόμεθα | ἐσοίμεθα | ἦμεν or ἡμεθα |
| 2. y'all | ἐσ-τε = ἐστέ | ἦτε | εἶητε | ἔσεσθε | ἔσοισθε | ἦτε |
| 3. they | ἐσ-εντι = εἰσί(ν) | ᾧσι(ν) | εἶησαν | ἔσονται | ἔσοιντο | ἦσαν |

The ᾧ of the Present Subjunctive is from ἐσ-ω, giving ἐώ, then ᾧ. Similarly ἐσ-την forms εἶην etc.

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

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| 1. ἔσεσθε οὖν ὑμεῖς τέλειοι ὡς ὁ πατήρ ὑμῶν ὁ οὐράνιος τέλειός ἐστιν. | You shall (must) be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect. (<i>Matt. 5:48</i>) |
| 2. καὶ λέγετε, Εἰ ἦμεθα ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν, οὐκ ἂν ἦμεθα αὐτῶν κοινωνοὶ ἐν τῷ αἵματι τῶν προφητῶν. | You say, "If we were (had lived) in the days of our fathers, we would not have been their partners in the blood (deaths) of the prophets." (<i>Matt. 23:30</i>) |
| 3. καὶ ἐποίησεν δώδεκα . . . ἵνα ᾧσιν μετ' αὐτοῦ. | And he (appointed) made twelve . . . that they might be with him. (<i>Mark 3:14</i>) |
| 4. Καὶ σὺ μετὰ τοῦ Ναζαρηνοῦ ἦσθα τοῦ Ἰησοῦ. | "You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus." (<i>Mark 14:67</i>) |
| 5. ἰδοὺ ἔση σιωπῶν καὶ μὴ δυνάμενος λαλῆσαι. | Behold, you shall be silent, and not able to talk. (<i>Luke 1:20</i>) |
| 6. ἡ δὲ (Μαρία) ἐπὶ τῷ λόγῳ διεταράχθη καὶ διελογίζετο ποταπὸς εἶη ὁ ἀσπασμὸς οὗτος. | Mary was deeply disturbed at the saying and was wondering what sort of greeting this might be. (<i>see Luke 1:29</i>) |
| 7. ἀκούσας δὲ ὄχλου διαπορευομένου ἐπυνθάνετο τί εἶη τοῦτο. | Having heard the crowd going by he enquired what it might be. (<i>Luke 18:36</i>) |
| 8. πάλιν ἔρχομαι καὶ παραλήμψομαι ὑμᾶς πρὸς ἐμαυτόν, ἵνα ὅπου εἰμι ἐγὼ καὶ ὑμεῖς ἦτε. | I (will) come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am you may be also. (<i>John 14:3</i>) |
| 9. ὅταν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ ᾧ, φῶς εἰμι τοῦ κόσμου. | As long as (whenever) I am in the world, I am the light of the world. (<i>John 9:5</i>) |
| 10. ἦμεν δὲ ἐν ταύτῃ τῇ πόλει διατρίβοντες ἡμέρας τινάς. | We stayed several days (we were staying) in this city. (<i>Acts 16:12</i>) |
- (διατρίβω = I spend time, stay, rub away, wear through)

66.3 Imperatives of εἰμί

The Imperatives of εἰμί are given here for reference, but you will not find many examples in the GNT. Greek usually uses Imperatives from γίνομαι - (become) instead of Imperatives of εἰμί.

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| You (singular) be! | ἴσθι | (note the iota) |
| You (plural) be! | ἔσθε | |
| Let him/her/it be! | ἔστω | |
| Let him/her/it be! | ἔστωσαν | |

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. ἔστω δὲ πᾶς ἄνθρωπος ταχὺς εἰς τὸ ἀκοῦσαι, βραδὺς εἰς τὸ λαλῆσαι, βραδὺς εἰς ὀργήν.
Let every man be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger. (James 1:19)
2. ὁ δὲ (Ἰησοῦς) εἶπεν αὐτῇ, Θυγάτηρ, . . . ἴσθι ὑγιῆς ἀπὸ τῆς μάστιγός σου.
Jesus said to her, "Daughter, be healed of your disease." (Mark 5:34)
3. γνωστὸν ἔστω πᾶσιν ὑμῖν . . . ὅτι ἐν τῷ ὀνόματι Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ . . . οὗτος παρέστηκεν ἐνώπιον ὑμῶν ὑγιῆς.
(παρέστηκεν = Perfect of παρίστημι - I stand, stand by - see Chapter 69) (Acts 4:10)
Be it known to you all that in the name of Jesus Christ this (man) stands before you, healed.
4. ταῦτα μελέτα, ἐν τούτοις ἴσθι, ἵνα σου ἡ προκοπή φανερά ᾖ πᾶσιν.
(μελέτα = Imperative of μελετάω - I take care of, resolve, think about ἡ προκοπή - progress, advance, profit)
Take care of these things, be (continue) in them, so that your progress may be evident to all. (1 Tim. 4:15)
5. ἔστω δὲ ὁ λόγος ὑμῶν ναὶ ναί, οὐ οὐ.
Let your word be yes - Yes, no - No. (Matt. 5:37)
6. διάκονοι ἔστωσαν πιστοί.
Let the deacons be faithful.
7. ὁ ἄγγελος λέγει τῷ Ἰωσήφ, Φεῦγε εἰς Αἴγυπτον καὶ ἴσθι ἐκεῖ.
The angel said (says) to Joseph, "Flee (in)to Egypt and be (stay) there." (see Matt. 2:13)
8. ὕπαγε εἰς εἰρήνην, καὶ ἴσθι ὑγιῆς.
Go in peace, and be healed. (see Mark 5:34)
9. Εὖγε, ἀγαθὲ δοῦλε, ὅτι ἐν ἐλαχίστῳ πιστὸς ἐγένου, ἴσθι ἐξουσίαν ἔχων ἐπάνω δέκα πόλεων.
Well done, good servant, because you were faithful in the least (thing), have (be having) authority over ten cities. (Luke 19:17)
10. γνωστὸν οὖν ἔστω ὑμῖν, ἄνδρες ἀδελφοί, ὅτι διὰ τούτου ὑμῖν ἄφεσις ἀμαρτιῶν καταγγέλλεται.
Be it known to you, guys, brothers, that through this one the remission of sins is announced to you. (Acts 13:38)

66.4 Infinitives of εἰμί

The **Present Infinitive** is εἶναι The **Future Infinitive** is ἔσεσθαι
There is no Aorist Infinitive (the state of "being" extends over a period of time)
See Chapters 19 and 48 for constructions which use the Infinitive.

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. Τίνα λέγουσιν οἱ ἄνθρωποι εἶναι τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ;
Whom do men say the Son of Man to be? (Whom do men say that the Son of Man is ?) (Matt. 16:13)
2. καλὸν ἐστὶν ἡμᾶς ὧδε εἶναι.
It is good for us to be here. (Matt. 17:4)
3. ἐγένετο δὲ ἐν τῷ εἶναι αὐτοῦς ἐκεῖ ἐπλήσθησαν αἱ ἡμέραι τοῦ τεκεῖν αὐτήν.
(It happened that) while they were there the days were fulfilled for her to give birth. (Luke 2:6)

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| 4. Ἐκ Ναζαρετ δύναται τι ἀγαθὸν εἶναι ; | Can there be anything good from Nazareth ? (John 1:46) |
| 5. ἀνὴρ δέ τις ὀνόματι Σίμων . . . λέγων εἶναι τινα ἑαυτὸν μέγαν. | There was a (certain) man by name Simon . . . claiming to be someone great himself. (Acts 8:9) |
| 6. ἀναστὰς δὲ εἷς ἐξ αὐτῶν ὀνόματι Ἄγαβος ἐσήμανεν διὰ τοῦ πνεύματος λιμὸν μεγάλην μέλλειν ἔσεσθαι. | One of them, named Agabus, having stood up. signaled by the Spirit (that) there was about to be a great famine. (Acts 11:28) |
| 7. ἔφη αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς, Εἰ θέλεις τέλειος εἶναι, ὕπαγε πώλησόν σου τὰ ὑπάρχοντα καὶ . . . δεῦρο ἀκολουθεῖ μοι. | Jesus said to him, "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and . . . come follow me. (Matt. 19:21) |
| 8. λατρεύω τῷ πατρῷ θεῷ . . . ἐλπίδα ἔχων εἰς τὸν θεόν, ἀνάστασιν μέλλειν ἔσεσθαι δικαίων τε καὶ ἀδίκων. (πατρῷος - of our fathers, paternal) | I worship the God of our fathers . . . having a hope in God, (that) there is to be a coming resurrection of the righteous and the unrighteous. (Acts 24:14-15) |
| 9. καὶ ὃς ἂν θέλῃ ἐν ὑμῖν εἶναι πρῶτος ἔσται ὑμῶν δοῦλος. | And whoever among you wishes to be first will be your servant. (Matt. 20:27) |
| 10. Ἄνδρες, θεωρῶ ὅτι μετὰ ὕβρεως καὶ πολλῆς ζημίας οὐ μόνον τοῦ φορτίου καὶ τοῦ πλοίου ἀλλὰ καὶ τῶν ψυχῶν ἡμῶν μέλλειν ἔσεσθαι τὸν πλοῦν. (ἡ ζημία - violent damage τὸ φορτίον - load, burden, ship's cargo) | Guys, I see that the voyage is about to be with injury and great loss, not only of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives. (Acts 27:10) |

66.5 Participles of εἶμι

The **Present Participle** is ὢν οὔσα ὄν - see Chapter 38

The **Future Participle** is ἐσόμενος ἐσομένη ἐσόμενον

There is no Aorist Participle (the state of "being" extends over a period of time).

Remember - the Present Participle can often be translated as "While (someone) was . . . "

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

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|---|---|
| 1. λέγει οὖν αὐτῷ ἡ γυνὴ ἡ Σαμαρίτις, Πῶς σὺ Ἰουδαῖος ὢν παρ' ἐμοῦ πεῖν αἰτεῖς γυναικὸς Σαμαρίτιδος οὔσης ; | Then the Samaritan woman said (says) to him, "How (is it that) you, being a Jew, ask for a drink from me, (being) a Samaritan woman? (John 4:9) |
| 2. πῶς δύνασθε ἀγαθὰ λαλεῖν πονηροὶ ὄντες ; | How can you speak good (things) while you are evil ? (Matt. 12:34) |
| 3. ἰδόντες δὲ οἱ περὶ αὐτὸν τὸ ἐσόμενον εἶπαν, Κύριε, εἰ πατάξομεν ἐν μαχαίρῃ ; (ἰδόντες = Aorist Participle of ὀράω) | The ones around him, having seen what was (about) to be (happen), said, "Lord, shall we strike with a sword ?" ὄψομαι εἶδον - I see) (Luke 22:49) |
| 4. καὶ ὄντας ἡμᾶς νεκροὺς τοῖς παραπτώμασιν συνεζωοποίησεν τῷ Χριστῷ. (συνεζωοποιέω - I make alive with [someone]) | And us, being dead to transgressions he will make alive in Christ. (Eph. 2:5) |
| 5. Καθάπερ γὰρ τὸ σῶμα ἓν ἐστίν καὶ μέλη πολλὰ ἔχει, πάντα δὲ τὰ μέλη τοῦ σώματος πολλὰ ὄντα ἓν ἐστίν σῶμα, οὕτως καὶ ὁ Χριστός. | For just as the body is one and has many members, all the parts of the body being many (but) the body is one, so also (is) Christ. (1 Cor. 12:12) |
| 6. εἰ οὖν ὑμεῖς πονηροὶ ὄντες οἴδατε δόματα ἀγαθὰ διδόναι τοῖς τέκνοις ὑμῶν . . . (τὸ δόμα = gift) | So if you, being evil, know to give good gifts to your children . . . (Matt. 7:11) |

7. ακούσας δὲ Ἰακώβ ὄντα σιτία . . . Jacob, having heard (that) there was grain . . .
(Acts 7:12)
8. Ὁ θεὸς τῆς δόξης ὤφθη τῷ πατρὶ ἡμῶν
Ἀβραάμ ὄντι ἐν τῇ Μεσοποταμίᾳ
(ὤφθη = Aorist Passive of ὁράω - I see) (Acts 7:2)
9. Οὕσης οὖν ὀψίας τῆ ἡμέρα ἐκείνη . . . It being late in that day . . . (John 20:19)
10. ὑμεῖς γὰρ μιμηταὶ ἐγενήθητε, ἀδελφοί,
τῶν ἐκκλησιῶν τοῦ θεοῦ τῶν οὐσῶν
ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ.
(ὁ μιμητής - imitator, follower) (1 Thess. 2:14)

66.6 Sentences for reading and translation

1. ξένος ἦμην καὶ συνηγάγετέ με, γυμνὸς καὶ περιεβάλετέ με, ἠσθένησα καὶ ἐπεσκέψασθέ με, ἐν φυλακῇ ἦμην καὶ ἤλθατε πρὸς με. (Matt. 25:35-36)
2. Ὁ δὲ Πέτρος ἐκάθητο ἔξω ἐν τῇ αὐλῇ, καὶ προσῆλθεν αὐτῷ μία παιδίσκη λέγουσα, Καὶ σὺ ἦσθα μετὰ Ἰησοῦ τοῦ Γαλιλαίου. (Matt. 26:69)
3. Καὶ ἐξῆλθεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς . . . καὶ . . . ἐπηρώτα τοὺς μαθητὰς αὐτοῦ λέγων αὐτοῖς, Τίνα με λέγουσιν οἱ ἄνθρωποι εἶναι ; (Mark 8:27)
4. εἶπεν οὖν ἡ Μάρθα πρὸς τὸν Ἰησοῦν, Κύριε, εἰ ἦς ὧδε οὐκ ἂν ἀπέθανεν ὁ ἀδελφός μου. (John 11:21)
5. εἰ ἐκ τοῦ κόσμου ἦτε, ὁ κόσμος ἂν τὸ ἴδιον ἐφίλει. (John 15:19)
6. Παῦλος ἀπόστολος Χριστοῦ Ἰησοῦ . . . τῇ ἐκκλησίᾳ τοῦ θεοῦ τῆ οὔσης ἐν Κορίνθῳ, σὺν τοῖς ἁγίοις πᾶσιν τοῖς οὔσιν ἐν ὅλῃ τῇ Ἀχαΐᾳ. (2 Cor. 1:1)
7. ἐλπίζω γενέσθαι πρὸς ὑμᾶς καὶ στόμα πρὸς στόμα λαλῆσαι, ἵνα ἡ χαρὰ ἡμῶν πεπληρωμένη ᾖ. (2 John v.12)
8. εἰσῆλθεν δὲ διαλογισμὸς ἐν αὐτοῖς, τὸ τίς ἂν εἶη μείζων αὐτῶν. (Luke 9:46)
9. ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ ὁ Πέτρος εἶπεν τῷ Ἰησοῦ, Κύριε, καλὸν ἐστὶν ἡμᾶς ὧδε εἶναι. (Matt. 17:4)
10. ὅτε ἦμην νήπιος, ἐλάλουν ὡς νήπιος, ἐφρόνουν ὡς νήπιος, ἐλογιζόμην ὡς νήπιος. (1 Cor. 13:11)

66.7 Writing Practice : Write the Greek text while saying aloud : Philippians 4:8

Τὸ λοιπόν, ἀδελφοί, ὅσα ἐστὶν ἀληθῆ, Finally, brothers, whatever (things) are true,

66.8 There is no passage for reading and translation.

66.9 Vocabulary to learn

ὁ ἀσπασμός greeting
ὁ κοινωνός partner, sharer (from κοινός - common)