

Second Declension Nouns

Chapter 3

Number

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ
λόγος

Noun declensions in English

(1) Add as “s” or “es”

“boy” → “boys”
“box” → “boxes”

(2) Change stem vowel(s)

man → men
foot → feet
mouse → mice

Gender

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ
λόγος

Noun declensions in Greek

First Declension Nouns: **Feminine**

φωνή καρδιά

Second Declension Nouns: **Masculine & Neuter**

λόγος τέκνον

Case

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ
λόγος

The cases of the second declension function
identically with nouns in the first declension.

Nominative	Subject
Genitive	Possession
Dative	Indirect Object
Accusative	Direct Object

Second Declension Masculine

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ
λόγος

Case	Art.	Singular	Art.	Plural
N.	ὁ	λόγος	οἱ	λόγοι
G.	τοῦ	λόγου	τῶν	λόγων
D.	τῷ	λόγῳ	τοῖς	λόγοις
A.	τὸν	λόγον	τούς	λόγους

The masc (& neut) **gen pl** have the same ending as the **fem** gen pl (-ων).
You must know the lexical form (and the article) to determine gender.

Second Declension Neuter

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ
λόγος

Case	Art.	Singular	Art.	Plural
N.	τὸ	τέκνον	τὰ	τέκνα
G.	τοῦ	τέκνου	τῶν	τέκνων
D.	τῷ	τέκνῳ	τοῖς	τέκνοις
A.	τὸ	τέκνον	τὰ	τέκνα

Notice: the neuter **nom.** and **acc.** forms have the same endings.
Also, be sure to distinguish καρδιά from τέκνα.

Vocative Case

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος

The vocative case is used for **direct address**.

“**Lord**, have mercy on me”

The only vocative ending worth noting is the second declension masculine singular.

κύριε → “Lord”
υἱέ → “son”
ὦ ἄνθρωπε → “O man!”

Proper Nouns

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος

Proper nouns are nouns that identify a person, place, or thing and are capitalized in Greek.

Some proper nouns are declinable but many, especially foreign names, are not.

When a noun does not decline, the article will communicate its function in the sentence.

τῷ Ἰσραήλ = “to Israel”

Proper Nouns

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος

Proper nouns are nouns that identify a person, place, or thing and are capitalized in Greek.

When the article is not provided, then the context determines the meaning.

Ἐλέησόν με, κύριε υἱὸς Δαυὶδ =
“Have mercy on me, Lord, son of David”

Although the article is sometimes used with proper names, you don't need to translate it: ὁ Ἰωσήφ = “Joseph” (not “the Joseph”).

Parsing Practice

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος

Lexical Form	Gender	Case	Number	Translation
λόγος	M	N	Pl	words
				λόγοι

Lexical Form	Gender	Case	Number	Translation
τέκνον	N	N/A	Sg	child
				τέκνον

Parsing Practice

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος

Lexical Form	Gender	Case	Number	Translation
δοῦλος	M	D	Sg	to/for a slave
				δούλω

Lexical Form	Gender	Case	Number	Translation
υἱός	M	G	Sg	of a son
				υἱοῦ

Vocabulary

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος

εἰμί, I am, exist
ἀκούω, I hear, listen to, obey (acoustics)
γινώσκω, I know, understand, acknowledge (knowledge, Gnostic)
γράφω, I write (graphics)
ἔχω, I have, hold

Vocabulary

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ
λόγος

λέγω, I say, speak (legend)

λαμβάνω, I take, receive

λύω, I loose, destroy

πιστεύω, I believe, have faith/trust in

ἀποκρίνομαι, I answer, reply

Vocabulary

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ
λόγος

γίνομαι, I become, come, exist, am born

ἔρχομαι, I come, go

πορεύομαι, I go, travel

ἀλλά, but, yet, nevertheless

ὅτι, that, because