

2nd Aorist Verbs

Chapter 12

Introduction

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν
ὁ λόγος

Past tense in English

With **regular verbs** we add “**ed**” or “**d**.”

live	→	lived
jump	→	jumped
stall	→	stalled

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Past tense in English

Irregular verbs, however, are formed differently.

eat	→	ate	→	spoke
fall	→	fell	→	had
go	→	went	→	hid

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Aorist tense in Greek

English regular verbs are like the 1st aorist forms
and English irregular verbs are like 2nd aorist forms.

ἀμαρτάνω	→	ἤμαρτον
λαμβάνω	→	ἔλαβον
έρχομαι	→	ἦλθον

Morphology

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν
ὁ λόγος

2nd Aorist forms

Spelling change + imperfect ending = 2nd Aorist

Lexical Form		Imperfect		2 nd Aorist
λαμβάνω	→	ἐλάμβανον	→	ἔλαβον
πίνω	→	ἔπινον	→	ἔπιον
πίπτω	→	ἔπιπτον	→	ἔπεσον

Pay attention: 40% of all aorist verbs are 2nd aorist!

2nd Aorist Active Indicative (λαμβάνω)

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Singular Plural

	Singular	Plural
1 st Person	ἔλαβον	ἔλαβομεν
2 nd Person	ἔλαβες	ἔλαβετε
3 rd Person	ἔλαβεν	ἔλαβον

The augment indicates that the verb's time of action occurs in the past.

2 nd Aorist Active Indicative (γινώσκω)		
	Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος	
	Singular	Plural
1 st Person	ἔγνων	ἔγνωμεν
2 nd Person	ἔγnows	ἔγνωτε
3 rd Person	ἔγνω	ἔγνωσαν
Because the aorist stem of γινώσκω is γνω-, the stem vowel (ω) combines with the connecting vowel, causing the connecting vowel to drop.		

2 nd Aorist Middle Indicative (γίνομαι)		
	Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος	
	Singular	Plural
1 st Person	ἐγενόμην	ἐγενόμεθα
2 nd Person	ἐγένου	ἐγένεσθε
3 rd Person	ἐγένετο	ἐγένοντο
Notice: there has been a spelling change of the stem.		

2 nd Aorist Verbs		
	Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος	
	Present	2 nd Aorist Active
	βλέπω	→ εἶδον
	ἔρχομαι	→ ἦλθον
	ἐσθίω	→ ἔφαγον
	λέγω	→ εἶπον
	φέρω	→ ἤνεγκον

2 nd Aorist Verbs		
	Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος	
	Present	2 nd Aorist Passive
	βάλλω	→ ἐβλήθην
	εὐρίσκω	→ εὐρέθην
	λέγω	→ ἐρρέθην
	συνάγω	→ συνήχθην
	φέρω	→ ἤνέχθην

Alternate Spelling

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At times, some verbs assimilate to 1st aorist spelling.

ἦλθον

ἦλθαν

ἔβαλον

ἔβαλαν

εἶδομεν

εἶδαμεν

εἶπον

εἶπαν

Vocabulary	
	ἄιρω, I take up/away
	ἀπαγγέλλω, I announce, report (angel)
	ἀποκτείνω, I kill, put to death
	ἀποστέλλω, I send out (apostle)
	σπείρω, I sow, plant (sperm, spore)

Vocabulary

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν
ὁ λόγος

γλῶσσα, ἡ, language, tongue (glossolalia)
γραφή, ἡ, writing, Scripture (graphics)
λίθος, ὁ, stone (lithograph)
ναός, ὁ, temple, sanctuary
παραβολή, ἡ, parable (parable)

Vocabulary

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν
ὁ λόγος

σοφία, ἡ, wisdom (sophistry, sophomore)
σωτηρία, ἡ, salvation, deliverance
χρόνος, ὁ, time (chronology)
διό, therefore, for this reason
εὐθύς, immediately, straightaway