

Greek nouns have *gender*, *number*, and *case*.

1. Gender—masculine (ὁ), feminine (ἡ), neuter (τό).
2. Number—singular and plural.
3. Case shows grammatical function of a noun in a sentence
 - ✓ nominative: subject of the sentence, predicate noun
 - ✓ genitive: possession or motion away=> of, out of, away from
 - ✓ dative: to/for (indirect object), by/by means of/with, (motion) in/at
 - ✓ accusative: direct object, or motion toward=> to/into

Three more cases are found in the original Indo-European cases: Ablative, Instrumental, Locative.

- ◆ Changing the ending of a word to convey different information is called *inflection*. The noun inflection is called *declension*, and the verb inflection is called *conjugation*.

First Declension Nouns (Nominative in -η or -α [$\bar{\alpha}$ or short α])

	Pure -η		Pure -α		Mixed	
	Sing.	Pl.	Sing.	Pl.	Sing.	Pl.
Nominative	-η	-αι	-α	-αι	-α	-αι
Genitive	-ης	-ῶν	-ας	-ῶν	-ης	-ῶν
Dative	-ῃ	-αῖς	-ᾷ	-αῖς	-ῃ	-αῖς
Accusative	-ῆν	-ας	-ᾶν	-ας	-ᾶν	-ας
Vocative	-η	-αι	-α	-αι	-α	-αι

1. Pure-α type refers to the group of feminine nouns where the letter preceding the final alpha is ε, ι or ρ. Otherwise, the noun declines according to the mixed type.
2. Plural endings take the same pattern regardless of pure-η, pure-α, mixed types. The vocative case takes the same form with the nominative case.
3. Nouns receive a persistent accent. However, feminine genitive plural always take circumflex accent on the ultima.
4. When the ultima of a first declension noun is accented, it takes a circumflex accent in the genitive and dative of both singular and plural.
5. The diphthong -αι, -οι counts as a short vowel for purposes of accentuation.
6. The accusative plural ending, $\bar{\alpha}\varsigma$ is always long. (When the genitive singular has $\bar{\alpha}\varsigma$, the final α is *generally* long—Smith, *Greek Grammar*, § 217d.)
7. If the nominative singular ends in a short alpha, the alpha is also short in the accusative singular. (If long? answer: long)

Examples

singular	Pure -η		Pure -α		Mixed	
			long -ᾱ	short -α		
Nom.	νίκη	φωνή	ῥα	ἀλήθεια	δόξα	θάλασσα
Gen.	νίκης	φωνῆς	ῥας	ἀληθείας	δόξης	θαλάσσης
Dat.	νίκη	φωνῇ	ῥα	ἀληθείᾳ	δόξῃ	θαλάσσει
Acc.	νίκην	φωνήν	ῥαν	ἀλήθειαν	δόξα	θάλασσαν
plural						
Nom.	νῆκαι	φωναί	ῥαι	ἀλήθειαι	δόξαι	θάλασσαι
Gen.	νικῶν	φωνῶν	ῥῶν	ἀληθειῶν	δοξῶν	θαλασσῶν
Dat.	νίκαις	φωναῖς	ῥαῖς	ἀληθείαις	δόξαις	θαλάσσαις
Acc. pl.	νικάς	φωναῖς	ῥᾱς	ἀληθείᾱς	δόξᾱς	θαλάσσᾱς