

Dimitrios Vlachopoulos, Manual d'exercicis de gramàtica grega antiga, Barcelona, Llibres del índex, 2007, 313 pp. [ISBN: 84-96563-57-5]

Author: Dimitrios Vlachopoulos was born in Athens, Greece. He studied Greek Philology at the University of Patras, focusing on didactics of language and literature. He continued his studies at the National University of Athens earning a Master's Degree in "Southeast European History and Culture" and a DEA (Diploma d'Estudis Avançats) in "Evaluation of Educational Programs" at the University of Barcelona, Spain. His PhD dissertation is focusing on the teaching of the ancient Greek language in Higher Education with the use of Information Technology (IT) and the creation of virtual courses of ancient Greek by using open source software packages (Learning Content Management Systems). Since 2003, Dimitrios Vlachopoulos has been involved in several EU-funded projects (e-Learning action, Minerva, Leonardo, Satellite Communications Programme- VI FP etc.) and since 2006 he has been working as a researcher and instructor at the Department of Didactics and Educational Organization at the University of Barcelona.

MANUAL OF ANCIENT GREEK GRAMMAR EXERCISES

The knowledge of ancient Greek grammar is a necessary precondition for the students of Classics to learn the ancient Greek language and to understand the classical texts they are taught at the University. Unfortunately, the few teaching hours provided by the curricula of the Departments of Classics are not enough for a complete analysis and understanding of all of its contents and structure.

The *Manual of Ancient Greek Grammar Exercises* provides Catalan students with a systematic presentation and analysis of all the basic grammatical phenomena related to the nouns and the verbs. The paradigms presented in this book can be used as models for the declension and the conjunction of other nouns and verbs of the same

category. In addition, these paradigms are words that appear often in the classical texts and their knowledge can be helpful also for reading comprehension and translation.

The *Manual of Ancient Greek Grammar Exercises* is divided into four parts. At the beginning, there is an introductory chapter with the basic rules of accentuation and a series of exercises for applying the presented rules and/or identifying them in some words.

a) The first part refers to the nouns (substantives, adjectives and pronouns) and it is divided in five units. In the first unit the readers find basic theoretical information about the categorization of the substantives and several exercises for a deep practice of how they are declined. The second unit offers the same kind of information about the declension of the adjectives, and the third unit refers to the pronouns, presenting their categories and declension. Since the participles in ancient Greek are declined similarly to the adjectives, a fourth unit is added in order to show this correlation. Finally, the fifth unit contains review exercises about the four previous chapters. The book offers various types of exercises in order to provide an engaging and varied approach to ancient Greek grammar. The readers are challenged to respond to multiple choice questions, to find the missing case and complete the declension paradigm, to fill in the gaps with the suitable word-ending, to change the paradigms from singular to plural and vice versa, to answer right or wrong and to complete matching exercises.

b) The second part refers to the verbs and it is divided into six units. Before these units, the readers find an introductory chapter about the reduplication and the augment, which contains information about their categorization and various exercises. The first unit is dedicated to the verb εἶμι, the second unit to the non contract (regular) verbs, the third unit to the contract verbs, the fourth unit to the verbs that finish with -μι, and the fifth unit to the irregular verbs. The last sixth unit contains review exercises with all the above verbs. In all units, the book provides basic theoretical information and exercises about the verbs' conjunction. The readers are challenged to respond to multiple choice questions, to fill in

the tables with the correct mood or tense, to identify some verbs in texts or phrases and to change their number or voice.

c) The third part of the *Manual of Ancient Greek Grammar Exercises* is a short dictionary with the translation in Catalan of all the words that appear in the first part. The objective of this dictionary is to give to the reader additional information about the declension and the category of the nouns.

d) The fourth and final part of this book contains the keys to all the above exercises.

A schematic representation of the book is shown below:

This publication intends to offer its readers basic theoretical (categorization, rules, dictionary) and practical (exercises and their keys) instruction for studying ancient Greek grammar on their own; it was sponsored by the Agency for Management of University and Research Grants (AGAUR) of the regional government of Catalonia (2007-2008).

The book is available at:

<http://llibresindex.com/llibresindex/node/469>