

Verbs

English Verbs

Verb: describes action or state of being. It must agree with its subject in person and number. Verbs do not have case or gender.

Person: tells who performs the action (1st/2nd/3rd person): I/you/he.

Number: tells how many perform the action (sg/pl): he/they. (Note, in KJV *thou* is singular but *ye* is plural.)

The ending of the verb indicates its person and number (e.g., *They run*. Not—*They runs*.)

Time: past/present/future.

Tense:

In English (tense = time), it refers to the time when the action of the verb takes place.

In Greek (tense = time + aspect). **Aspect** refers to type of action: *ambiguous, continuous, punctiliar, perfect*.

Voice:

Active—subject performs the action of the verb (e.g., Bill hit the ball.)

Passive—subject receives the action of the verb (e.g., Bill was hit by the ball.)

Middle—Greek has an additional voice with different nuances but will be treated as active for the beginner.

Conjugation of Present Active Indicative

Person	Singular		Plural	
	1	λύω	I loose	λύομεν	We loose
2	λύεις	You loose	λύετε	You loose
3	λύει	He looses	λύουσι (ν)	They loose

Verb Endings¹

ω	.....	I
εις	.....	You
ει	.....	He
ομεν	.....	We
ετε	.....	You (pl)
ουσι (ν)	.....	They ²

Parsing

- Tense: present, future, perfect, imperfect, first aorist, second aorist³
 - time: past, present, future (**indicative mood only**)⁴
 - kind: punctiliar or linear (• or →)
- Voice: active, middle, passive
- Mood: indicative, subjunctive, imperative, optative (actual, potential)
- Person: 1st, 2nd, 3rd
- Number: singular, plural

¹ The thematic vowel for the present active indicative is **ο** before **μ** or **ν**, and **ε** before other personal endings. The resulting endings are the resultant form of the thematic vowel and personal endings.

² The moveable **ν** is added at the end of **ουσι** if it precedes a word beginning with a vowel.

³ The primary tenses are the present, the future, and the perfect; the others are secondary tenses.

⁴ Time is only shown absolutely in the indicative mood and even here it is secondary to the kind of action.