TO ATTIKON: Assignment for Monday, Week 8

1. Learn Vocabulary p. 164.

2. Start Greek Reading 10(α) on pp. 156-157; translate orally the first two paragraphs.

3. Write (to hand in) your English translation of the third and fourth paragraphs of the Greek reading 10(α) on p. 157.

4. Grammar #1-4 on pp. 158-160: memorize the future active and middle of ΛΥΩ or, which amounts to the same thing, review the present forms, acquire a handful of spare sigmas (there must be plenty in whatever place intervocalic sigmas go to when they “fall out”!), and note that there is no future imperative. (If you think about it, it’s a strange concept anyway, the future imperative, but Latin has it…) Tomorrow, Tuesday, there will be a MINI-QUIZ on these forms.

5. Write (to hand in) Exercise 10γ on p. 161.

TO ATTIKON: Assignment for Tuesday, Week 8

1. Learn vocabulary p. 175, left column.

2. Review/complete Greek Reading 10(β) on pp. 165-166.

3. Grammar #5 on pp. 166-167: read carefully. Rejoice in the fact that you can now deduce & use all 10 forms of the future from the 2PP!

   #6 on pp. 168-169: review the forms of ΕΙΜΙ (“I am); then memorize the forms of ΕΙΜΙ “I will go”

   Note that the tenses you find marked above the table on p. 169 refer to the English rendering of the forms. Thus you should always translate the imperatives with a present form (“go!”, “you’ll go!”). In the case of the infinitive and the participles, you will usually translate with a present form (“to go” and “going”, “one who goes” respectively), and sometimes with a future form (“to be about to go” and “about-to-be-going”, “one who will go” respectively).


5. Exercise 10e on p. 161: write (to hand in).
TO ATTIKON: Assignment for Wednesday, Week 8

AT LAST THE PAST...

1. Learn vocabulary p. 174-175, right column.

2. Grammar #1 on p. 176: read this description calmly. (The use of "tense" here is an inaccuracy that has become a tradition in grammars. By calling the aorist an “aspect,” we may aim for somewhat greater accuracy. The difference between the two aspects of the past tense, the aorist and the imperfect, is like that between a snap-shot and a movie: the former focuses on a single action, the latter on a development. Incidentally, the aorist is much more common in Greek than the imperfect.)

   #2 on p. 177: Memorize the forms of the 2nd or “strong” aorist. MINI-QUIZ on this, by popular demand.

3. Write (to hand in) Exercise 11ε on p. 182.
TO ATTIKON: Thursday, Week 8

1. Of the vocabulary on p. 186 (right column).

2. Review/complete Reading 11(α) on pp. 175-176.

3. Grammar: Read #3 on pp. 178-179, where you find the examples that illustrate the two different aspects. NOTE (since the book does not say it) that in the indicative the progressive, i.e. the movie aspect, manifests itself in the imperfect (which you have not learned yet), while in the imperative, infinitive, and participle it manifests itself in the present tense. The simple action, i.e. the snap-shot aspect, always manifests itself in the aorist. Don’t worry, if these distinctions don’t make much sense to you yet. I quite happily translated Greek for several years before I ever came across this. Of course, now that I have come across it, I find it fabulous and would not possibly have you live without it.

#4 on p 180: Practice the forms of ΛΙΠΩΝ; you will find that, in order to remember the right endings, you are also reviewing ΩΝ, ΟΥΣΑ, ΟΝ;

4. Read through the forms given on p. 181 and try to absorb as many as possible. (Flashcards are great absorption agents…) Delight in having found a pattern rather than in grumbling about the fact that the book introduces these forms on the sly. (I will not ask for them on quizzes, as I am wont to do for the ones on the red sheet.)

5. Exercises 11ε on p. 182: write (to hand in) the odd-numbered entries (1, 3, 5, etc.)
TO ATTIKON: Friday, Week 8

Prepare for Monday's QUIZ:

1. Review our mottoes and the first 10 verses of the *Odyssey*.

2. Study the future and the aorist, making use of Exercises 11ζ and η for which you have an answer sheet.

3. Tune your translation skills by making a conscious effort to proceed slowly. Pause frequently to analyze forms. Practice leaps of faith.

*For world is crazy and more of it than you think
incorrigibly plural
I peel and portion a tangerine
and spit the pips and feel the drunkenness
of things being various.*

(Louis MacNeice, great Irish poet, drunk, and, of course, Classicist)

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It is my cherished hope that each Greekling in each future generation of Kenyon Greeklings will leave me at least one thought, quote, poem, or picture of inspiration to put on the list of assignments. PLEASE contribute to this unique anthology (=flower-gathering).