Lesson 13

Demonstratives

τόδ’ ἐκεῖνο (This is what I said before)
—the nurse in Euripides’ Medea 98 recalls her earlier words

83. Demonstratives are words that point out or call attention to particular persons or things. A demonstrative is by nature an adjective, but it becomes a pronoun (i.e., a substitute for a noun) when used substantively. In the sentence “I like that book,” for example, that is a demonstrative adjective modifying the noun book; if book is omitted from the sentence, that becomes a demonstrative pronoun (“I like that”), and the book is identified not as a book, but only as a thing that the speaker singles out for attention. The term “demonstratives” is convenient because it includes both demonstrative adjectives and demonstrative pronouns.

84. As you learn the demonstrative adjectives, you will also be learning the demonstrative pronouns since they are identical in form.

1. ὅδε, ἥδε, τόδε (“this,” “these”)
   Points out someone or something very close to the speaker or points to what will follow in the next sentence.

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<td>Nominative</td>
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<td>Genitive</td>
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<td>Dative</td>
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<td>Accusative</td>
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   This odd adjective is a combination of the definite article (which was originally a demonstrative itself) and the suffix -δε, indicating closeness (“this right here”). Each form is accented as if it were two separate words, an article (with its normal accent) and an enclitic (-δε). Thus, in ὅδε, ἥδε, οἵδε, the proclitics ὁ, ἡ, οἱ, and αἱ receive acute accents from -δε. Since -δε acts like an enclitic, not like a typical ultima, the rule that a naturally long penult followed by a short ultima has a circumflex does not apply: ἥδε, οἵδε, τόδε, τῶδε, τῶδε, τάδε, and τᾶδε all have acutes, not circumflexes. There is no vocative. The final ε of each form is elided before a word beginning with a vowel.

2. οὗτος, αὕτη, τοῦτο (“this,” “these”—but sometimes a better translation in English will be “that,” “those”)
   Points out someone or something close to the speaker or points to what
was said in the preceding sentence or labels someone or something as well-known or means “the latter.”

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<td>Genitive</td>
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<td>Accusative</td>
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<td>ταύτην</td>
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<td>τούτους</td>
<td>ταύτας</td>
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Like the definite article, οὗτος, αὕτη, τοῦτο has rough breathing in the nominative masculine and feminine singular and plural, elsewhere an initial τ. The stem has -ου- except when the ending contains an η or an α; then the stem has -αυ-. The accent is persistent. There is no vocative, but the nominative οὗτος may be used as a form of address equivalent to “you there”: e.g., οὗτος, σπεῦδε (“you there, hurry!”).

tοῦτο and ταῦτα are usually elided and written as τοῦτ’ and ταῦτ’ before an initial vowel with smooth breathing, as τοῦθ’ and ταῦθ’ before an initial vowel with rough breathing. After τοῦτ’, ἐστί is accented on the penult (ἔστι), just as it is after οὐκ, μή, καί, and ἀλλ’. After τοῦτ’ and all the other demonstrative pronouns, however, ἐστί behaves like a normal enclitic.

3. ἐκεῖνος, ἐκείνη, ἐκεῖνο ("that," “those")

Points out someone or something far away from the speaker or labels someone or something as well-known or means “the former” (as opposed to “the latter”).

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<td>Genitive</td>
<td>ἐκεῖνου</td>
<td>ἐκείνης</td>
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<td>Dative</td>
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<td>ἐκεῖνῳ</td>
<td>ἐκεῖνοίς</td>
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<td>Accusative</td>
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ἐκεῖνος, ἐκείνη, ἐκεῖνο has normal endings except in the neuter nominative and accusative singular (-ο, not -ον). The accent is persistent. There is no vocative.

Position of Demonstratives. In Greek a demonstrative adjective may come either before or after the noun with which it agrees, but since it does not show a trait or characteristic—it simply calls attention to the person or thing—it is never used in the attributive position. In other words, Greek does not say “the this person” or “the things the those,” placing the demonstrative adjective immediately after one of the noun’s definite articles; instead it gives the adjective predicate position: “this the person” or “the things those.” The noun modified by the demonstrative adjective normally has a definite article with it, since omitting the word “the”—the regular practice in English—would make the person or thing seem indefinite in Greek. When you translate, you should omit the definite article: e.g., οὗτος ὁ μαθητής = “that student”; ἡ κόρη ἥδε = “this maiden.”

The genitive of possession (cf. §62 of Lesson 9) often relies on a demonstrative phrase (= a demonstrative adjective + its noun) or a demonstrative pronoun. In Greek this construction requires not only that the demonstrative phrase or word be in the genitive case, but also that it
be in the attributive position. Because this arrangement of words sounds bizarre if translated literally into English, it is best not to translate the genitive with “of” but to substitute a possessive form. Examples:

τὸν τούτου τοῦ νεᾱνίου ἵππον κλέπτουσιν.
“They steal this young man’s horse.”
Literal version: “They steal the of this the young man horse.”

τὸν τούτου ἵππον κλέπτουσιν.
“They steal this person’s horse.”
or
“They steal his horse.”
Literal version: “They steal the of this (person) horse.”

Notice that in the first example the demonstrative adjective τούτου still has predicate position in respect to the noun with which it agrees (νεᾱνίου) even though the whole genitive phrase has attributive position in respect to the noun ἵππον (i.e., the phrase comes immediately after the noun’s definite article τόν).

85. Vocabulary

βλέπω, βλέψοµαι see, behold; (with εἰς + acc.) look (at)
If it means “see” or “behold,” βλέπω may take a direct object (e.g., βλέπω τὴν οἰκίαν, “I see the house”). If it means “look (at),” it will be combined with a prepositional phrase such as εἰς + accusative (e.g., βλέπω εἰς τὴν οἰκίαν, “I look at the house”). The future form βλέψοµαι, like ἀκούσοµαι, ἔσοµαι, and φεύξοµαι, is deponent; see §79 of Lesson 12.

σοφία, -ᾱς, ἡ wisdom

φιλοσοφία, -ᾱς, ἡ philosophy

ἐκεῖνος, -η, -ο (dem. adj./pron.) that, those, the well-known, the former (as opposed to “the latter”)

ὁδε, ἥδε, τόδε (dem. adj./pron.) this, these, the following

οὗτος, αὐτή, τοῦτο (dem. adj./pron.) this, these, that, those, the aforesaid, the well-known, the latter; οὗτος! = you there!

σοφός, -ή, -όν wise [cf. sophist, sophomore]

φιλόσοφος, -ον philosophical; (as a substantive) philosopher

νῦν (adv.) now, at this time

τότε (τότ’, τόθ’) (adv.) then, at that time (τότ’ before smooth breathing, τόθ’ before rough breathing)

γάρ (postpositive conjunction introducing an explanation) for, for indeed
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86. Exercises

Greek-to-English Sentences

1. ἐσπεύδομεν φεύγειν, τότε γὰρ ἐν τούτῳ τῷ τόπῳ κίνδυνοι ἦσαν.

2. οὗτος, τρέπου εἰς τὴν ἐκείνης οἰκίαν καὶ βλέπε εἰς ταύτας τὰς καλὰς κλίνας.

3. μέλλοντι φεύξεσθαι τὸν φιλόσοφον, τοὺς γὰρ νεώνιας ἐκεῖνος βλάπτει.

4. οὗ πόρρω τούδε τοῦ ποταμοῦ εὑρήσετε ταῦτα τὰ μικρὰ φυτά.

5. τοῖς λίθοις τούτοις τάσδε τὰς κόρας ἐγράψετε τὸ κακὸν τέκνον;

6. ἐπεὶ τοὺς πολεμίους βλεψόμεθα, φεύξομεθα εἰς τήνδε τὴν λίμνην.

7. τότ’ ἐκείνῳ τῷ δεσπότῃ αὕτη ἐδούλευεν, ἀλλὰ νῦν ἐλευθέρα ἐστίν.

8. καὶ αἱ κόραι καὶ οἱ νεῶνια ἄγαθοί εἰσιν, ἐκεῖνοι δὲ τὴν ἀγοράν φυλάττουσιν.

9. η δέσποινα λέγει τάδ’, ὁ οἰκέτης τὴν σοφίαν ἔχει, ὁ δ’ οὐ.

10. χαῖρε τοῖς δώροις, ὦ φιλόσοφε, τούτων γὰρ ἀξίου εἶ τῇ ἀληθείᾳ.

English-to-Greek Sentences

1. I shall say to the servant the following (things): “You there, send this letter to the well-known despot!”

2. Philosophy is dear to these students, for they are now being taught by a noble philosopher.

3. Some were wise, others were not. The latter used to harm beautiful horses; the former did not.

4. After we shall look at the wagons of this enemy [use a plural noun], we shall destroy those (wagons).

5. At that time at least, the aforementioned youth was striving to be good, for he was doing brave deeds.
Reading

Sticking Together
(Aesop’s Fable 53)

Γεωργοῦ τὰ τέκνα ἐστασίαζεν. ὁ δὲ πατήρ οὐκ εἶχε λόγους πείθειν ἐκείνους τοὺς νεᾱνίας πάλιν τρέπεσθαι εἰς φίλους. ράβδους οὖν εὑρίσκει καὶ ἐκ τούτων δέσµην ποιεῖ. τοῖς δὲ τέκνοις κελεύει τήνδε τὴν δέσµην θλᾶν. ἐπεὶ οὐτοὶ οὐκ ἔχουσιν ἐκεῖνο πράττειν, ὁ πατήρ τὴν δέσµην λύει καὶ τοῖς νεᾱνίας κελεύει κατὰ µίαν τὰς ράβδους θλᾶν. τοῦτο νῦν ράδιως πράττουσιν. ὁ δὲ φιλόσοφος πατήρ τότε λέγει τάδ’. Οὐκ ἔστι τοὺς φίλους ύπο τῶν ἔχθρων βλάπτεσθαι, ἢ γὰρ ὁµόνοια φυλάττει τούτους. ἔστε οὖν σοφοὶ, ὦ τέκνα, καὶ µηκέτι στασιάζετε.

Vocabulary Help for the Reading

γεωργοῦ (line 1)  from γεωργός, -οῦ, ὁ: farmer
ἐστασίαζεν (line 1)  from στασιάζω, στασιάσω: quarrel
πατήρ (line 1)  father (nom. sg. of the irreg. third-decl. masc. noun πατήρ, πατρός)
ράβδους (line 2)  from ράβδος, -ου, ἡ: stick
δέσµην (line 3)  from δέσµη, -ης, ἡ: bundle
ποιεῖ (line 3)  third-pers. sg. pres. act. indic. of the contract verb ποιέω, ποιήσω: make
θλᾶν (line 4)  pres. act. infin. of the contract verb θλάω, θλάσω: crush
κατὰ µίαν (line 6)  one by one (κατὰ “by” is a preposition; µίαν “one” is a fem. acc. sg. adj. agreeing with an implied ράβδον)
ράδιως (line 6)  easily (adv.)
ὁµόνοια (line 8)  from ὁµόνοια, -αῖς, ἡ: concord