

## Topic 15. *Examine action word formation.*

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### *Examine inflection.*

The *morphology* of a word is the internal arrangement of its characters. *Inflection* determines grammatical category through morphology. A *category* is a grammatical subdivision. Categories have predetermined functions of meaning.

There are categories and sub-categories of inflection. Action inflection is more complex than any other part of speech. However, it is a regular system. This complexity suggests that action words are central to meaning and sentence formation.<sup>1</sup> Although complex, the reward of understanding inflection is increased clarity of meaning.

The interpreter can still glean much from considering the grammatical features. Interpretation is external to the text, not part of the text.<sup>2</sup>

### *Distinguish between inflection, form, and function.*

There is a system for action word formation. People may use this system unconsciously. However, they still use it.

Inflection objectively determines grammatical form. An *inflection* is a change in the spelling of a word to indicate grammatical information.

Thes inflectional *form* of an word is its set of grammatical categories. The grammatical categories for any action word must include personhood, tense, and agency. It may also include mood, person, number, grammatical role, or gender.

Inflection always represents a particular form. For example, an action inflected in the present tense cannot actually be a future tense. It is impossible to inflect a non-personal action with a personal grammatical inflection.

Form sets boundaries for function. Form does not fix action function. The function of the action is determined by many factors, only including form.

*Function* is the behavior of a word in relationship to the surrounding words in a sentence. Inflection does *not* identify the function of a word—only context does. For example, the possibility mood inflects in only one form, but may ex-

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1. There are different ways to classify inflections. Not all debates are discussed here, with apologies.

2. That is, unless the subject is an ancient work on grammar or interpretation!

press the function of clarification, a question, emphasis, a command, a prohibition, a condition, purpose, or a result.

### Examine action inflection.

The inflection of an action word has many moving parts, including a stem, stem inflection, theme vowels, a final ending, and possibly augment, reduplication, and direction prefixes. The inflection sequence of action word is first the stem with any stem inflections, then theme vowels, and lastly a final ending. An action word joins an **inflected stem**, **theme vowel**, and **final ending**. In this order, these parts inflect distinct words for each form of the action. The inflections determine every action category. Each category determines the possible functions.

For example, examine inflection of the stem -λειπ-. -λειπ- can experience stem-modification to -λοιπ-. It can affix reduplication -λε·λοιπ-, augment ἐ·λε·λοιπ-, and suffix a theme vowel ἐ·λε·λοιπ·ε-. Finally, it can add the final ending ἐ·λε·λοιπ·ε·τε. This uniquely inflects the personal personhood, pluperfect tense, active agency, statement mood, second person, plural number, ἐλελοίπετε ‘you all had been leaving’.

### Examine the stem.

A **stem** is the central core of a word. It forms the foundation for inflections of the word. A stem is not a word itself, but only part of the word. Action words inflect on a default stem.

The **default** stem is most often the stem of the present tense. For example, the stem of the present active action λείπω ‘I am leaving’ is -λείπ-.

Some actions take their default stem from another tense. For example, the stem of the present γινώσκω ‘I know’ is not -γινωσκ-, but -γνω- from the aorist ἔ·γνων ‘I knew’.

Some actions have a **synthetic** stem that never appears in any inflection. For example, the stem of the present βαπτίζω ‘I dip’ is -βαπτιδ-.

### Examine stem classes.

A stem **class** uses a similar set of stem endings. There are three distinct stem classes, that is, omega-class, contract-class, and athematic.

**Omega** class actions use -ω in the first person singular.

**Contract** class actions use -ω in the first person singular, preceded by another vowel. That vowel is an alpha for **alpha** contract actions, that is -αω, for example, ἀγαπάω ‘I love’. **Epsilon** contract actions use -εω, λαλέω ‘I speak’. **Omi-**

### *Examine action word formation.*

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*cron* contract actions use -οω, πληρόω ‘I fill’. Contract class actions inflect just like omega class actions, except that the extra vowel may combine with another vowel, change the accent, or produce an additional syllable.

*Athematic* class actions use -μι in the first person singular, δίδω·μι ‘I give’, τίθη·μι ‘I set’. Athematic actions do not implement theme vowels, unlike omega class actions.

The stem classes differ only in inflection. The difference has no grammatical significance.

### *Examine stem inflection.*

Stem inflection can change the characters of the stem, attach *affixes* to the beginning of the stem, or apply *suffixes* to the end of the stem. These inflections collectively specify grammatical characteristics of the action, including personhood, tense, agency, and mood.

Stem *modification* changes the morphology of the base stem, for example, stem *shortening*, λείπω ‘I leave’, become ἐ·λίπ·ον ‘I left’.

*Augment* affixes an ἐ- to the stem, λύ·ω ‘I release’, but ἐ·λύ·ον ‘I was releasing’, or lengthens an initial vowel, ἀκού·ω ‘I listen’, becomes ἤκού·ον ‘I was listening’.

*Reduplication* repeats an initial stem consonant, λύ·ω ‘I release’, but λε·λύ·κα ‘I have released’, or lengthens an initial vowel, ἐλπίζω ‘I hope’, but ῥ·λπί·κα ‘I have hoped’.

A *final* consonant suffixes a consonant to the end of a stem, so λύ·ω ‘I release’, with final-σ, λύ·σ·ω ‘I will release’, or with final-κ, λε·λυ·κ·α ‘I have released’.

### *Examine theme vowels.*

*Theme* vowels inflect between the stem and final ending. They join the final ending to the inflected stem, for example, λύ·ο·μεν ‘we release’, or λείπ·ε·ται ‘he is left’. Theme vowels vary between personhood, tense, agency, mood, person, and number.

The theme vowel varies between ·ο·, ·ε·, and ·α· in the statement mood. The theme vowel combines with ·ι· in the optative mood. The theme vowel lengthens to ·ω· and ·η· in the subjunctive mood.

The presence of theme vowels and their patterns vary from the default. The rules are not absolutes, but only strong tendencies. However, the presence and identity of theme vowels are key to identifying action inflection.

*Examine the final ending.*

The *final ending* is a short sequence of vowels, consonants, and null characters. The final ending terminates the word. There are sets of endings that indicate grammatical categories. The final ending is a personal ending because it determines person and number.

*Examine the grammatical categories.*

Inflection objectively determines grammatical *categories*. Action categories may include grammatical tense, agency, personhood, mood, person, number, gender, or role.

The *conjugation* of a given action word lists its set of grammatical forms.

For example, the conjugation of ἐπληρωθείην ‘I may be left’ is aorist tense, passive agency, personal personhood, wish mood, first person, singular number.

*Examine function.*

The *function* of a class describes how the grammatical category applies in the sentence. Function is *not* determined by inflection. The function is distinct from both inflection and grammatical class. Each grammatical category may have multiple functions.

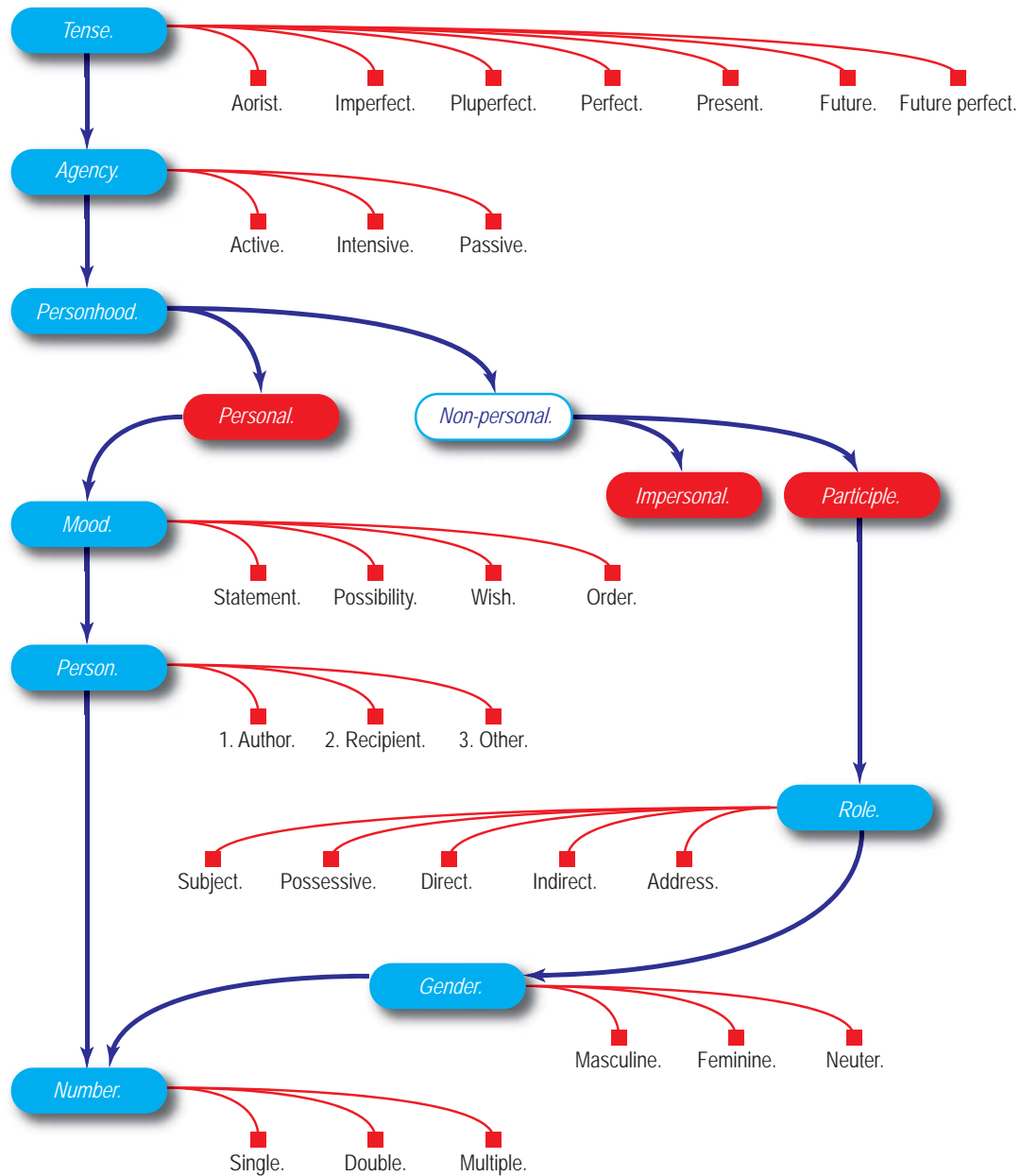
The determination of function is a subjective art. It is determined by many contextual factors. For example, an action in the order mood may function as a command, prohibition, request, permission, condition, pronouncement, or a stereotyped greeting.<sup>3</sup>

Who decides which function applies to a particular word in context? You decide. I might decide. They may decide. We would decide. He could decide. You all must decide.

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3. Inflection is the main subject of this analysis. A full discussion of grammatical function is the subject of analysis elsewhere.

Figure 29. Action conjugation.



### Examine tense.

*Tense* relates the action to some implied moment in time. Tense has six forms, either present, imperfect, future, aorist, perfect, or pluperfect. A seventh form, future perfect, has virtually disappeared by the Christian period.<sup>4</sup>

A *primary* tense inflects without augment, that is, present, future, and perfect. These tenses relate to a current or future moment. The *present* tense describes an action simultaneous to a current moment, λείπω ‘I **am** releasing’. The *future* tense describes an action as not having yet happened relative to a current moment, λείψομεν ‘I **will** release’.

The *perfect* tense describes a already completed action relative to a current moment, λέλοιπα ‘I **have** released’. A *secondary* tense inflects with augment, that is, imperfect, aorist, and pluperfect. These tenses relate to the past. The *imperfect* tense describes an ongoing prior action, ἐλείπον ‘I **was** releasing’. The *aorist* tense describes a momentary prior action, ἐλίπον ‘I **did** release’. The *pluperfect* tense describes an already completed action relative to some prior moment, ἐλελοιπα ‘I **had been** releasing’.

### Examine agency.

*Agency*, also called *voice*, expresses the relationship between the action and its subject. Agency has three forms, either active, passive, or intensive.

The subject is the actor in the *active* agency, ἐποίησα ‘I **am** making’.

The subject has direct participation or benefit in the *intensive* agency, also called *middle* agency, ἐποιήσάμην ‘I **myself** considered’.<sup>5</sup>

The action acts on the subject in *passive* agency, ἐποιήθην ‘I **was** created’.

### Examine personhood.

*Personhood* indicates whether an action identifies the subject. Personhood has two forms, either personal or non-personal.

A *personal*, or *finite*, action does identify the person of the subject, along with tense, agency, mood, and number, for example, λύσω ‘I **will** release’. Typically, a personal action functions as the root of an independent clause. That independent clause can stand alone as a complete sentence.

There are two *non-personal*, or *non-finite*, forms. The non-personals do *not* specify the person of the subject. A non-personal action has exactly two, and only two, forms: an impersonal or a participle.

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4. The function of these tenses have been the subject of much debate. This is discussed elsewhere. It is beyond the scope of this discussion.

5. *Deponent* actions are not an effective explanation of the intensive agency.

### *Examine action word formation.*

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An *impersonal*, or *infinitive*, action only specifies tense and agency, λύσαι ‘**release**’. An impersonal does not specify mood, person, or number. The impersonal has many different applications. It can function like a thing-word, the root of a dependent clause, or as the root of an independent clause.

Like a personal action, a *participle* specifies grammatical tense, agency, and role. Unlike a personal action, a participle specifies gender and number, but not mood or person. In this way, a participle functions like a thing, λύσας ‘**releasing**’. A participle may also stand as the nucleus of either a dependent or independent clause.

### *Examine mood.*

The *mood* of an action expresses the attitude of the narrator toward the action. Mood has four forms, either statement, possibility, wish, or order.

The *statement*, also called *indicative*, mood makes declarations or factual descriptions, λείπω ‘I **am** releasing’.

The *possibility*, also called *subjunctive*, mood expresses imaginary events, likely events, opinions, or polite requests, λείπῃς ‘you **might** release’.

The *wish*, also called *optative*, mood expresses hopes, wishes, or commands, λείποιμι ‘I **may** release’. The wish mood is declining in usage by the first century AD.

The *order*, also called *imperative*, mood expresses direct commands, prohibitions, or requests, λείπε ‘you **must** release’.

### *Examine person.*

The *person* indicates the relationship between the narrator and the subject of the action. Person has three forms, either first, second, or third person.

The subject of the *first* person includes the narrator, λείπομεν ‘**we** leave’.

The subject of the *second* person are the recipients, λείπετε ‘**you all** leave’.

The subject of the *third* person are those people other than the speaker or recipients, λείπουσι ‘**they** leave’.

The personal ending specifies the grammatical person and number, ἐλύ·ο·ν, ‘I was releasing’, but ἐλύ·ο·μεν ‘**we** were releasing’, or, λείφθήσ·ο·μαι ‘I will be left’, but λείφθήσ·ο·νται ‘**they** will be left’.

### *Examine number.*

The *number* indicates the member count of the subject. An action may conform to one of three numbers, either singular, plural, or dual.

The *single*, also called *singular*, designates that the subject has just one member, λείπει *‘he releases’*.

The *multiple*, also called *plural*, identifies that the subject has multiple members, λείπουσι *‘they release’*.

The *dual* designates that the subject has exactly two members, λείπετον *‘both release’*. By the first century AD, the dual occurs somewhat rarely.

### Examine principal group characteristics.

An action stem is a default form—the stem of other personhoods, tenses, agencies, and moods diverge from it.

Certain action words might not inflect in every principal group. For example, θ·έ·ω *‘I am running’* appears only in the present and imperfect, ἔ·θ·ει *‘he was running’*, and the future intensive, θεύ·σ·ομαι *‘I will run’*. Other stems, τρέχ·ω and δρέμ·ω, supply all other tenses and agencies for θέω.

### Examine the principal group stems.

Action words can inflect grammatical personhood, tense, agency, mood, person, role, number, or gender with systematic patterns. There exist inflectional patterns forming six different *principal groups*. These principal groups associate six inflection systems with different sets of tense and agency. The inflectional systems vary in personal endings, stem modification, augment, reduplication, final consonant, and theme vowel.

Table 5. Examine the principal groups.

	Active agency.	Intensive agency.	Passive agency.	
Present tense.	First principal group.			
Imperfect tense.				
Future tense.	Second principal group.		Sixth principal group.	
Aorist tense.				
Perfect tense.	Fourth principal group.	Fifth principal group.		
Pluperfect tense.				

The *first principal group* builds on the default stem of the present and imperfect tenses in all agencies. The present tense uses this stem without augment and without final-σ, λύ·ω *‘I am releasing’*, λείπ·ω *‘I am leaving’*. The imperfect tense uses the default stem with augment but without final-σ, ἔ·λύ·ον *‘I was releasing’*, ἔ·λειπ·ω *‘I was leaving’*.

The *second principal group* applies to the future tense, but only in the active and intensive agency. It uses the base stem without augment but with final-σ, λύ·σ·ω ‘I will release’, λεί·ψ·ω ‘I will leave’.

The *third principal group* applies to the aorist tense, but only in the active and intensive agencies. The first aorist tense uses the base stem with augment and final-σ, ἐ·λύ·σ·α ‘I released’. The second aorist tense uses stem-modification with augment but without final-σ, ἐ·λίπ·ον ‘I left’.

The *fourth principal group* applies to the perfect and pluperfect tenses, but only in the active agency. The first perfect tense uses the default stem with reduplication and final-κ, λε·λύ·κ·α ‘I have loosed’. The second perfect tense uses an altered stem with reduplication but without final-κ, λέ·λοιπ·α ‘I have left’. The first pluperfect tense uses the default stem with augment, reduplication, and final-κ, λε·λύ·κ·ειν ‘I had been loosing’. The second pluperfect tense uses stem-modification with augment and reduplication but without final-κ, ἐ·λε·λοιπ·ειν ‘I had been leaving’. The augment of an action in pluperfect tense is sometimes absent.

The *fifth principal group* applies to the perfect and pluperfect tenses, but only in the intensive and passive agencies. The fifth principal group does not append a final consonant. The first perfect tense uses reduplication with the default stem, λε·λύ·μαι ‘I have been loosed’. The second perfect tense uses stem-modification with reduplication, λέ·λεμ·μαι ‘I have been left’. The first pluperfect tense uses the default stem with augment and reduplication, ἐ·λε·λύ·μην ‘I had been loosed’. The second pluperfect tense uses stem-modification with augment and reduplication, ἐ·λε·λοιπ·η ‘I had been left’. The augment in pluperfect tense is sometimes absent.

The *sixth principal group* applies to the future and aorist tenses, but only in the passive agency. Only the future and aorist tenses have distinct forms between the intensive and passive agencies. The sixth principal group employs a final-θ. The future tense has an additional suffix, -θ·ησ-, with the final-θ. The future tense uses the default stem but without augment, λυ·θ·ήσ·ομαι ‘I will be loosed’, or stem-modification and no augment, λείφ·θ·ήσ·ομαι ‘I will be left’. The first aorist uses the standard stem with augment, ἐ·λύ·θ·ην ‘I had been loosed’. The second aorist uses stem-modification with augment, ἐ·λείφ·θ·ην ‘I had been left’.

Table 6. Examine stem models.

Group.	Tense.	Agency.	Class.	Stem form.	Augment.	Redupli- cation.	Final consonant.	Stem- modification.
1	Present.	Active.	λύω Omega.	λύ-ω	No.	No.	No.	No.
	Imperfect.	Intensive/passive.		λύ-ο-μαι <u>ἐ</u> -λύ-ο-ν	Yes.			
1	Present.	Active.	λείπω Omega.	λείπ-ω	No.	No.	No.	No.
	Imperfect.	Intensive/passive.		λείπ-ο-μαι <u>ἐ</u> -λείπ-ο-ν	Yes.			
1	Present.	Active.	ἀγαπάω α-contract.	ἀγαπ-ῶ	No.	No.	No.	No.
	Imperfect.	Intensive/passive.		ἀγαπ-ῶ-μαι <u>ῆ</u> -γάπ-ω-ν	Yes.			
1	Present.	Active.	λαλέω ε-contract.	λαλ-ῶ	No.	No.	No.	No.
	Imperfect.	Intensive/passive.		λαλ-οῦ-μαι <u>ἐ</u> -λάλ-ου-ν	Yes.			
1	Present.	Active.	πληρόω ο-contract.	πληρ-ῶ	No.	No.	No.	No.
	Imperfect.	Intensive/passive.		πληρ-οῦ-μαι <u>ἐ</u> -πλήρ-ου-ν	Yes.			
1	Present.	Active.	δίδωμι Athematic.	δίδ-ω-μι	No.	No.	No.	Yes.
	Imperfect.	Intensive/passive.		δίδ-ω-μαι <u>ἐ</u> -δίδ-ου-ν	Yes.			
1	Present.	Active.	εἰμί Athematic.	εἰ-μι	No.	No.	No.	Yes.
	Imperfect.	Active.		<u>ῆ</u>	Yes.			
2	Future.	Active.	λύω Omega.	λύ-σ-ω	No.	No.	Yes.	No.
2	Future.	Intensive.	λείπω Omega.	λεί-ψ-ω	No.	No.	Yes.	No.
2	Future.	Active.	ἀγαπάω α-contract.	ἀγαπ-ή-σ-ω	No.	No.	Yes.	No.
2	Future.	Intensive.	λαλέω ε-contract.	λαλ-ή-σ-ω	No.	No.	Yes.	No.
2	Future.	Active.	πληρόω ο-contract.	πληρ-ώ-σ-ω	No.	No.	Yes.	No.
2	Future.	Intensive.	δίδωμι Athematic.	δίδ-ω-σ-ω	No.	No.	Yes.	No.

Table 6. Examine stem models.

Group.	Tense.	Agency.	Class.	Stem form.	Augment.	Redupli- cation.	Final consonant.	Stem- modification.
2	Future.	Intensive.	εἰμί Athematic.	ἐ-σ-ο-μαι	No.	No.	Yes.	No.
3	1 Aorist.	Active. Intensive.	λύω Omega.	ἐ-λύ-σ-α ἐ-λυ-σ-ά-μην	Yes.	No.	Yes.	No.
3	2 Aorist.	Active. Intensive.	λείπω Omega.	ἐ-λίπ-ο-ν ἐ-λιπ-ό-μην	Yes.	No.	No.	Yes.
3	1 Aorist.	Active. Intensive.	ἀγαπάω α-contract.	ἤ-γάπ-η-σ-α ἤ-γαπ-η-σ-ά-μην	Yes.	No.	Yes.	No.
3	1 Aorist.	Active. Intensive.	λαλέω ε-contract.	ἐ-λάλ-η-σ-α ἐ-λαλ-η-σ-ά-μην	Yes.	No.	Yes.	No.
3	1 Aorist.	Active. Intensive.	πληρόω ο-contract.	ἐ-πλήρ-ω-σ-α ἐ-πληρ-ω-σ-ά-μην	Yes.	No.	Yes.	No.
3	1 Aorist. 1 Aorist.	Active. Intensive.	δίδωμι Athematic.	ἐ-δω-κ-α ἐ-δω-κ-ά-μην	Yes.	No.	Yes. No.	No.
4	1 Perfect. 1 Pluperfect.	Active.	λύω Omega.	λε-λύ-κ-α ἐ-λε-λύ-κ-ει-ν	No. Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	No.
4	2 Perfect. 2 Pluperfect.	Active.	λείπω Omega.	λέ-λοιπ-α ἐ-λε-λοίπ-ει-ν	No. Yes.	Yes.	No.	Yes.
4	1 Perfect. 1 Pluperfect.	Active.	ἀγαπάω α-contract.	ἤ-γάπ-η-κ-α ἤ-γαπ-η-κ-ει-ν	No. Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	No.
4	1 Perfect. 1 Pluperfect.	Active.	λαλέω ε-contract.	λε-λάλ-η-κ-α ἐ-λε-λαλ-η-κ-ει-ν	No. Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	No.
4	1 Perfect. 1 Pluperfect.	Active.	πληρόω ο-contract.	πε-πλήρ-ω-κ-α ἐ-πε-πλήρ-ω-κ-ει-ν	No. Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	No.
4	1 Perfect. 1 Pluperfect.	Active.	δίδωμι Athematic.	δε-δω-κ-α ἐ-δε-δω-κ-ει-ν	No. Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	No.
5	1 Perfect. 1 Pluperfect.	Intensive/passive.	λύω Omega.	λε-λύ-μαι ἐ-λε-λύ-μην	No. Yes.	Yes.	No.	No.
5	2 Perfect. 2 Pluperfect.	Intensive/passive.	λείπω Omega.	λέ-λειμ-μαι ἐ-λε-λείμ-μην	No. Yes.	Yes.	No.	Yes.
5	1 Perfect. 1 Pluperfect.	Intensive/passive.	ἀγαπάω α-contract.	ἤ-γάπ-η-μαι ἤ-γαπ-η-μην	No. Yes.	Yes.	No.	No.
5	1 Perfect. 1 Pluperfect.	Intensive/passive.	λαλέω ε-contract.	λε-λάλ-η-μαι ἐ-λε-λαλ-η-μην	No. Yes.	Yes.	No.	No.
5	1 Perfect. 1 Pluperfect.	Intensive/passive.	πληρόω ο-contract.	πε-πλήρ-ω-μαι ἐ-πε-πληρ-ώ-μην	No. Yes.	Yes.	No.	No.
5	1 Perfect. 1 Pluperfect.	Intensive/passive.	δίδωμι Athematic.	δέ-δο-μαι ἐ-δε-δό-μην	No. Yes.	Yes.	No.	No.

Table 6. Examine stem models.

Group.	Tense.	Agency.	Class.	Stem form.	Augment.	Redupli- cation.	Final consonant.	Stem- modification.
6	1 Future.	Passive.	λύω Omega.	λυ·θ·ή·σ·ο·μαι	No.	No.	Yes.	No.
	1 Aorist.			ἐ·λυ·θ·η·ν	Yes.			
6	2 Future.	Passive.	λείπω Omega.	λειφ·θ·ή·σ·ο·μαι	No.	No.	Yes.	Yes.
	2 Aorist.			ἐ·λειφ·θ·η·ν	Yes.			
6	1 Future.	Passive.	ἀγαπάω α-contract.	ἀγαπ·η·θ·ή·σ·ο·μαι	No.	No.	Yes.	No.
	1 Aorist.			ἡ·γαπ·η·θ·η·ν	Yes.			
6	1 Future.	Passive.	λαλέω ε-contract.	λαλ·η·θ·ή·σ·ο·μαι	No.	No.	Yes.	No.
	1 Aorist.			ἐ·λαλ·η·θ·η·ν	Yes.			
6	1 Future.	Passive.	πληρόω ο-contract.	πληρ·ω·θ·ή·σ·ο·μαι	No.	No.	Yes.	No.
	1 Aorist.			ἐ·πληρ·ώ·θ·η·ν	Yes.			
6	1 Future.	Passive.	δίδωμι Athematic.	δο·θ·ή·σ·ο·μαι	No.	No.	Yes.	No.
	1 Aorist.			ἐ·δό·θ·η·ν	Yes.			

Past tenses (aorist, imperfect, and pluperfect) use augment—non-past tenses do not. Perfect tenses (perfect and pluperfect) use reduplication—non-perfect tenses do not.

The other personhood inflections build on these stems. Each inflection has its own set of suffixes to indicate grammatical personhood, mood, person, number, gender, or role. There are exceptions, special cases, ambiguities, and defective examples. However, stem inflection identifies tense.

Actions possess characteristics unrelated to inflection. Inspection, context, style, or other means identify these characteristics. For example, actions that take a subject but no object are *intransitive*, πολλοὶ πλάνοι ἐξῆλθον ‘many deceivers depart’ 2 John 1:7. Actions that require an object are *transitive*, καὶ τὸν πατέρα καὶ τὸν υἱὸν ἔχει ‘he has both the father and the son’ 2 John 1:9. Many action words may be either transitive, ἐντολὴν καινὴν γράφω ‘I write a new command’ 2 John 1:5, or intransitive γράφω ὑμῖν ‘I write to you’ 1 John 2:13, depending on the context. Some actions are neither transitive nor intransitive, but are *linking* actions between a predicate and a subject, for example, οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ πλάνος καὶ ὁ ἀντίχριστος ‘he is a deceptive opponent of the messiah’ 2 John 1:7. However, transitivity is a function of context, not inflection. There are other action characteristics separate from inflection.

### *Some forms are inflectionally ambiguous.*

In certain cases, action inflection is ambiguous. However, action inflection is distinct more often than not.

The inflected form of present active second person plural is ambiguous between the statement and order mood, for example, λείπετε ‘you are leaving’ or ‘you must leave’, and λύετε ‘you all loose’ or ‘you all must loose’.

The statement and possibility moods are identical in the first person singular present active, for example, λύω ‘I loose’ or ‘I might loose’, and also in the second person intensive and passive, λύῃ ‘I am loosed’ or ‘I might be loosed’.

Contract actions inflect identically in the present active statement and possibility moods in every person and number, for example, ἀγαπᾷς ‘you love’ or ‘you might love’.

The present active second person plural is often indistinguishable in the statement and imperative moods, λύετε ‘you all are loosing’ or ‘you all must loose’.

Imperfect active statements inflect identically in the first person singular and third person plural, for example, ἔλυον ‘I was loosing’ or ‘they were loosing’.

The future intensive statement second person singular, aorist active possibility third person singular, and aorist intensive possibility second person singular are identical, λύσῃ ‘you will loose’, ‘you might have loosed’, or ‘they might loose’.

The present active statement third person plural and present active participle masculine indirect object plural are ambiguous, λύουσι(ν) ‘they are loosing’ or ‘loosing’.