



GREEK NEW TESTAMENT PARSING REFERENCE GUIDE

Understanding morphological codes through English illustration

BASE SENTENCE: "I THROW THE BALL TO JOHN"

POS Part of Speech **T** Verb Tense **V** Voice **M** Mood **P** Person **C** Case **#** Number **G** Gender

POS PART OF SPEECH — WHAT KIND OF WORD IS IT?

CODE	NAME	EXAMPLE SENTENCE	NOTE
N	Noun	I throw the <u>ball</u> to John	<i>the object — a person, place, or thing</i>
V	Verb	I <u>throw</u> the ball to John	<i>the action or state</i>
A	Adjective	I throw the <u>red</u> ball to John	<i>describes the noun</i>
P	Preposition	I throw the ball <u>to</u> John	<i>shows relationship between words</i>
RA	Definite Article	I throw <u>the</u> ball to John	<i>identifies a specific, known thing</i>
RP	Personal Pronoun	<u>I</u> throw the ball to John	<i>stands in place of a named person</i>
RR	Relative Pronoun	I throw the ball to John, <u>who</u> catches it	<i>connects a clause back to a noun</i>
RD	Demonstrative Pronoun	I throw <u>this</u> ball to John	<i>points to a specific one</i>
RI	Interrogative Pronoun	<u>Who</u> throws the ball to John?	<i>asks a question about identity</i>
CC	Coordinating Conjunction	I throw the ball <u>and</u> catch it	<i>joins equal, independent ideas</i>
CS	Subordinating Conjunction	I throw the ball <u>so that</u> John catches it	<i>creates a dependent relationship</i>
AB	Adverb	I throw the ball <u>quickly</u> to John	<i>modifies the verb or adjective</i>
X	Particle	I throw the ball to John, <u>indeed</u>	<i>adds nuance — often untranslatable directly</i>

T VERB TENSE — WHEN DOES THE ACTION HAPPEN?

CODE	TENSE	EXAMPLE SENTENCE	NOTE
P	Present	I <u>throw</u> the ball to John	<i>ongoing or repeated action, right now</i>
I	Imperfect	I <u>was throwing</u> the ball to John	<i>ongoing or repeated action in the past</i>
F	Future	I <u>will throw</u> the ball to John	<i>action that has not yet happened</i>
A	Aorist	I <u>threw</u> the ball to John	<i>simple, completed action — the most common past tense in Greek</i>
X	Perfect	I <u>have thrown</u> the ball to John	<i>completed action with a present, ongoing result</i>
Y	Pluperfect	I <u>had thrown</u> the ball to John	<i>action completed before another past event</i>

V VOICE — WHO PERFORMS THE ACTION?

CODE	VOICE	EXAMPLE SENTENCE	NOTE
A	Active	<u>I</u> throw the ball to John	<i>the subject performs the action</i>
M	Middle	I throw the ball to John <u>for my own benefit</u>	<i>subject acts with personal interest in the result — a distinctly Greek concept</i>
P	Passive	The ball <u>is thrown</u> to John (by me)	<i>the subject receives the action</i>
E	Middle/Passive	The ball <u>is being thrown</u> / I throw it for myself	<i>same form — context determines which meaning</i>

M MOOD — HOW REAL OR CERTAIN IS THE ACTION?

CODE	MOOD	EXAMPLE SENTENCE	NOTE
I	Indicative	I <u>throw</u> the ball to John	<i>states a fact — the most common mood</i>
S	Subjunctive	I throw the ball <u>so that</u> John <u>may catch</u> it	<i>purpose, possibility, or condition</i>
O	Optative	I <u>might throw</u> the ball to John	<i>a wish or remote possibility — rare in NT</i>
D	Imperative	<u>Throw</u> the ball to John!	<i>a command or strong request</i>
N	Infinitive	I want <u>to throw</u> the ball to John	<i>verbal noun — the action as a concept, no personal subject</i>
P	Participle	<u>Throwing</u> the ball to John, I smiled	<i>verbal adjective — combines action and description simultaneously</i>

P PERSON — WHO IS DOING IT?

CODE	PERSON	EXAMPLE
1	1st Person	<u>I</u> throw / <u>We</u> throw
2	2nd Person	<u>You</u> throw
3	3rd Person	<u>He</u> / <u>She</u> / <u>It</u> throws / <u>They</u> throw

NUMBER — ONE OR MANY?

CODE	NUMBER	EXAMPLE
S	Singular	<u>I</u> throw the ball to John
P	Plural	<u>We</u> throw the ball to John

C CASE — WHAT ROLE DOES THE NOUN PLAY IN THE SENTENCE?

CODE	CASE	EXAMPLE SENTENCE	ROLE
N	Nominative	<u>I</u> throw the ball to John	<i>the subject — who performs the action</i>
G	Genitive	I throw <u>John's</u> ball	<i>possession or relationship — “of John”</i>
D	Dative	I throw the ball <u>to John</u>	<i>indirect object — the recipient of the action</i>
A	Accusative	I throw <u>the ball</u> to John	<i>direct object — what is directly acted upon</i>
V	Vocative	<u>John!</u> I throw the ball to you	<i>direct address — speaking directly to someone</i>

G GENDER — GRAMMATICAL, NOT NECESSARILY BIOLOGICAL

In Greek, every noun carries a grammatical gender regardless of its actual meaning. This affects which article and adjective forms are used alongside it.

CODE	GENDER	GREEK NT EXAMPLE	ENGLISH
M	Masculine	ὁ λόγος	the Word — <i>logos</i> is grammatically masculine
F	Feminine	ἡ ἀγάπη	love — <i>agapē</i> is grammatically feminine
N	Neuter	τὸ πνεῦμα	the Spirit — <i>pneuma</i> is grammatically neuter

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER — READING A FULL VERB PARSE

ἔβαλεν

ebalen — “he threw” (from βάλλω, to throw)

V A A I 3 S

V Verb A Aorist — single completed action A Active — he did the throwing I Indicative — stated as fact 3 3rd Person — he/she/it

S Singular — one person

Full reading: “He threw” the ball to John — a single completed action in the past, performed by a third person, stated as fact.

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER — READING A FULL NOUN PARSE

λόγον

logon — “word” in accusative (direct object form)

N A S M

N Noun A Accusative — direct object, the thing thrown S Singular — one word M Masculine — grammatical gender of λόγος

In a sentence: I threw “the word” — λόγον is the direct object, a single masculine noun, accusative case. Compare with λόγος (N-NSM) which would be the subject doing the throwing.

QUICK REFERENCE — ALL CODES AT A GLANCE

VERB TENSE		
CODE	NAME	ENGLISH CLUE
P	Present	I throw
I	Imperfect	I was throwing
F	Future	I will throw
A	Aorist	I threw
X	Perfect	I have thrown
Y	Pluperfect	I had thrown

CASE		
CODE	NAME	ROLE
N	Nominative	Subject
G	Genitive	Possession / of
D	Dative	Indirect object / to
A	Accusative	Direct object
V	Vocative	Direct address

VOICE		
CODE	NAME	ENGLISH CLUE
A	Active	I throw
M	Middle	I throw (for myself)
P	Passive	It is thrown
E	Mid/Pass	Context decides

MOOD		
CODE	NAME	ENGLISH CLUE
I	Indicative	I throw (fact)
S	Subjunctive	I may throw
O	Optative	I might throw
D	Imperative	Throw!
N	Infinitive	to throw
P	Participle	throwing

