



**WESTMINSTER  
SCHOOL**

**The Challenge**  
Specialism Paper

**GREEK**

**Syllabus and Guidance**  
First Examination 2027

## Introduction

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The Greek paper for The Challenge is a single 60-minute specialism paper, marked out of 90 and reported as a percentage. As a specialism paper it is offered to candidates who have chosen to be examined in Greek, and so it assumes a settled foundation in the language rather than catering for the full range of prior experience found in the core papers. It nonetheless rises in difficulty within each section, so that every candidate who has reached the defined standard can make a confident start while the strongest are stretched.

The paper follows the same three-part structure as the Latin paper. There is no choice of level and no optional section: differentiation is achieved by graded difficulty, both between the three sections and within each one.

### Structure

Section	Time	Marks	Skill
A Error correction	10 mins	20	Grammatical judgement
B Comprehension and translation	30 mins	40	Reading
C Translation into Greek	20 mins	30	Grammatical production and extension

### Section A: Error correction (20 marks)

Each item presents a Greek sentence with an English translation beneath it and a stated number of grammatical faults to be identified and corrected. The task assesses grammatical judgement rather than recall: a candidate who has internalised how Greek agreement, case and verbal inflection operate identifies the faults quickly. The opening sentences contain one fault each, in areas mastered early, such as adjective agreement or the case taken by a common preposition; the later sentences contain two errors each and draw on more advanced material.

### Section B: Comprehension and translation (40 marks)

Candidates read a single continuous passage of Greek (approximately 100 words) and answer a sequence of questions that guide them through it. The questions are graded: the earliest ask straightforwardly what happens; later questions require close reference to the Greek and the identification of grammatical forms. A block of marks is assigned to the continuous translation of part of the passage into good English, and two marks to derivation. Vocabulary beyond the defined list is glossed as appropriate.

### Section C: Translation into Greek (30 marks)

This section is the principal means of differentiation. Candidates translate a short series of English sentences into Greek, rising in difficulty from a simple main clause using only core vocabulary and the present, imperfect or aorist, to sentences using the participle or subordinate constructions. The early sentences are within reach of any candidate who has reached the defined standard; the later sentences reward those trained to manipulate the language actively. The final sentences invite ambitious candidates to demonstrate

knowledge beyond the syllabus; all are encouraged to attempt them using the knowledge they have, and candidates cannot reduce their overall mark by trying. As in the Latin paper, candidates may, for extra credit, join the sentences into a single connected Greek narrative, using connectives, subordination and participial phrases to produce fluent continuous prose.

## Syllabus

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The examinable content corresponds to ISEB Common Entrance Classical Greek Level 2, which equates broadly to the material covered up to the start of Chapter 6 of J. Taylor, *Greek to GCSE* (Part 1). Anything outside the defined vocabulary list is glossed where it cannot be expected to be deduced.

### Grammar and syntax

The following is assumed and will not be glossed or supported:

- The Greek alphabet, breathings and accents.
- Verbs: present, future, imperfect and aorist indicative active; the present imperative active; the present infinitive active (including εἶναι); the present participle; irregular forms of these tenses as on the prescribed list.
- Nouns: all common forms of the first, second and third declensions; the dative of possession.
- Pronouns: all common forms, including αὐτός, the personal pronouns, and τις / τι.
- Adjectives: all common forms, including οὐδεις; regular comparison; the genitive of comparison and the use of ἤ.
- Adverbs: expressions of time.
- Syntax: agreement; common use of cases; prepositional phrases; the article; questions; μεν ... δε; subordinating conjunctions (ἐπει, ὅτι); simple participial phrases.

*Other tenses and uses of the participle, the middle and passive voices, and constructions beyond Level 2 may appear in sections B and C as a stretching element, supported by glossing if necessary.*

### Accentuation

In keeping with pedagogical conventions at this level, Greek printed on the paper carries breathings throughout but omits accents, with the exception of the interrogatives τίς / τί, (vs. enclitic τις / τι), ποῦ and πῶς. Candidates are not required to supply accents in their own written Greek, except where an accent distinguishes meaning.

### Defined vocabulary

Vocabulary on the paper will be drawn from the ISEB Classical Greek Level 2 list (below). Verbs are given with their principal parts as prescribed; nouns with their genitive and article; adjectives in full; prepositions with the case they govern. Additional vocabulary will be glossed where appropriate.

## Verbs

ἀγγελλω, ἠγγειλα	I announce, report
ἄγω, ἄξω, ἠγάγον	I lead, bring
ἀκουω, ἠκουσα	I hear, listen to (+ gen.)
ἀποθνησκω, ἀπεθανον	I die, am killed
ἀποκτεινω, ἀπεκτεινα	I kill
βαινω, ἔβην	I go
βαλλω, ἔβαλον	I throw, pelt
βλαπτω, βλαψω, ἐβλαψα	I harm, injure, damage
γραφω, γραψω, ἔγραψα	I write
διωκω, διωξω, ἔδιωξα	I pursue, chase
ἐθελω, ἐθελησω, ἠθελησα	I am willing, wish
εἶμι, ἦν (impf.)	I am
έρχομαι, ἦλθον	I go, come
έχω, έξω, έσχον	I have, hold, keep
εύρισκω, εύρησω, εύρον / ηύρον	I find, find out
θεραπευω, θεραπευσω	I honour, heal, look after
θυω, θυσω	I sacrifice
καθευδω, καθευδησω	I sleep
καθιζω, έκαθισα	I sit
κελευω, κελευσω, έκελευσα	I order
κολαζω, κολασω	I punish
κρυπτω, κρυψω, έκρυψα	I hide
κωλυω, κωλυσω, έκωλυσα	I hinder, prevent
λαμβάνω, έλαβον	I take, capture, catch
λεγω, λεξω, ειπον	I say, speak
λειπω, λειψω, έλιπον	I leave
λυω, λυσω, έλυσα	I loose, set free
μενω, έμεινα	I remain, wait for
οίος τ' εἶμι, οίος τ' ἦν	I am able
παιδευω, παιδευσω	I train, educate
παρασκευαζω, παρασκευασω	I prepare
παρειμι, παρην (impf.)	I am present
παυω, παυσω, έπαυσα	I stop
πειθω, πεισω, έπεισα	I persuade
πεμπω, πεμψω, έπεμψα	I send
πιπτω, έπεσον	I fall
πιστευω, πιστευσω (+ dat.)	I trust, believe
στρατευω, στρατευσω	I march, go on an expedition
σωζω, σωσω, έσωσα	I save

φευγω, έφυγον	I flee
φυλασσω, φυλαξω, έφυλαξα	I guard

### Nouns

Άθηναι, -ων αι	Athens
άγορα, -ας ή	marketplace
άγρος, -ου ό	field, countryside
άδελφος, -ου ό	brother
Άθηναίος, -ου ό	an Athenian
άθλον, -ου τό	prize
άνηρ, άνδρος ό	man, husband
άνθρωπος, -ου ό	man, human being
βαρβαροι, -ων οι	foreigners, barbarians
βασίλευς, -εως ό	king
βιβλος, -ου ή	book
βιος, -ου ό	life
γερων, -οντος ό	old man
γη, γης ή	earth, land
γυνη, -αικος ή	woman, wife
δενδρον, -ου τό	tree
δεσποτης, -ου ό	master
δημος, -ου ό	people
δουλος, -ου ό	slave
δωρον, -ου τό	present, gift
ειρηνη, -ης ή	peace
έπιστολη, -ης ή	letter
έργον, -ου τό	work, deed
ζων, -ου τό	animal
ήγεμων, -μονος ό	guide, leader
ήλιος, -ου ό	sun
ήμερα, -ας ή	day
θαλασσα, -ης ή	sea
θανατος, -ου ό	death
θεα, -ας ή	goddess
θεος, -ου ό	god
θυγατηρ, -τρος ή	daughter
ιατρος, -ου ό	doctor
ιππος, -ου ό	horse
κηρυξ, -υκος ό	herald
κινδυνος, -ου ό	danger
κριτης, -ου ό	judge
λογος, -ου ό	word
μαχη, -ης ή	battle
μητηρ, -τρος ή	mother
ναυς, νεως ή	ship
ναυτης, -ου ό	sailor

νεανιας, -ου ὁ	young man
νησος, -ου ἡ	island
νικη, -ης ἡ	victory
νοσος, -ου ἡ	illness, disease
νυξ, νυκτος ἡ	night
ξενος, -ου ὁ	friend, stranger
ὁδος, -ου ἡ	road, way, journey
οἰκια, -ας ἡ	house
ὄνομα, -ατος τό	name
ὄπλα, -ων τά	weapons
ὄργη, -ης ἡ	anger
παις, παιδος ὁ/ἡ	child, boy, girl
πατηρ, πατρος ὁ	father
πλοιον, -ου τό	boat, ship
ποιητης, -ου ὁ	poet
πολεμιοι, -ων οἱ	enemy
πολεμος, -ου ὁ	war
πολις, -εως ἡ	city
πολιτης, -ου ὁ	citizen
ποταμος, -ου ὁ	river
σοφια, -ας ἡ	wisdom
στρατηγος, -ου ὁ	general
στρατια, -ας ἡ	army
στρατιωτης, -ου ὁ	soldier
στρατοπεδον, -ου τό	camp
συμμαχος, -ου ὁ	ally
σωμα, -ατος τό	body
τεκνον, -ου τό	child
τιμη, -ης ἡ	honour
ὕδωρ, ὕδατος τό	water
υἱος, -ου ὁ	son
ὕπνος, -ου ὁ	sleep
φοβος, -ου ὁ	fear
φυλαξ, -ακος ὁ	guard
φωνη, -ης ἡ	voice
χρηματα, -ων τά	money
χρονος, -ου ὁ	time
χρυσος, -ου ὁ	gold
χωρα, -ας ἡ	country

### Adjectives and numerals

ἀγαθος, -η, -ον	good
αἰσχρος, -α, -ον	shameful, disgraceful
ἄλλος, -η, -ο	other, another
ἀνδρειος, -α, -ον	brave
δεινος, -η, -ον	strange, terrible

δευτερος, -α, -ον	second
δικαιος, -α, -ον	just
δυο	two
είς, μια, έν	one
έλευθερος, -α, -ον	free
έτοιμος, -η, -ον	ready
κακος, -η, -ον	bad, wicked
καλος, -η, -ον	beautiful, fine
μακρος, -α, -ον	long
μεγιστος, -η, -ον	greatest, very great
μικρος, -α, -ον	small
μονος, -η, -ον	alone, only
μωρος, -α, -ον	foolish
όλιγος, -η, -ον	little, small; (pl.) few
ούδεις, ούδεμια, ούδεν	no one, nothing
πλουσιος, -α, -ον	rich
πρωτος, -η, -ον	first
σοφος, -η, -ον	wise
τρεις, τρια	three
φιλιος, -α, -ον	friendly
χαλεπος, -η, -ον	difficult, dangerous
χρησιμος, -η, -ον	useful

### Pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions and adverbs

άλλα	but
άπο (+ gen.)	from
άρα;	(introduces a question)
αύτος, -η, -ο	self; him/her/it; the same
γαρ (2nd word)	for
δε (2nd word)	but, and
δια (+ acc.)	because of
δια (+ gen.)	through
έγω	I
είς (+ acc.)	into, to, against
έκ, έξ (+ gen.)	out of, from
έν (+ dat.)	in, among, at
έπει	when, since
έπι (+ gen.)	on, upon
εύ	well
εύθυς	at once, immediately
ή	than
ήμεις	we
και	and, also, even
κατα (+ acc.)	according to, by way of
μεν ... δε ... (both 2 <sup>nd</sup> word)	on the one hand ... on the other ...
μετα (+ acc.)	after

μετα (+ gen.)	with
μη	not
νυν	now
ὁ, ἡ, το	the
οἱ μὲν ... οἱ δὲ ...	some ... others ...
ὅτι	because; that
οὐ, οὐκ, οὐχ	not
οὐκέτι	no longer
οὖν (2nd word)	therefore
οὔτε ... οὔτε ...	neither ... nor ...
ποῦ;	where
πρὸς (+ acc.)	to, towards, against
πῶς;	how
συ	you (singular)
τίς, τί; (accented)	who? what?
τις, τι (enclitic)	a certain, someone, anyone
ὑμεῖς	you (plural)
ὦ (+ voc.)	O