

## Chapter 5: The definite article: “the”

### Lesson 1: The definite article: the

- Greek words are either masculine, feminine, or neuter.
- As you learn new words you will also learn what gender they are.
- English only has one definite article: the
- But Greek has three different definite articles depending on whether the noun is masculine, feminine, or neuter:
  - ὁ This is the masculine definite article and will be in front of masculine nouns.
    - This has a rough breathing mark, which looks like a single quotation mark at the beginning of a quote. That means it begins with an “h” sound
    - It is pronounced like “hot” but without the “t.”
  - ἡ This is the feminine definite article and will be in front of feminine nouns.
    - It also has a rough breathing mark. That means it begins with an h sound also.
    - It is pronounced like “hey.”
  - τό This is the neuter definite article and will be in front of neuter nouns.
    - This does not have a breathing mark but has an accent mark instead
    - It is pronounced like “top” but without the “t.”

### Lesson 2: The letter kappa

- It is a consonant.
- It is pronounced like “k.”

Greek	kappa
κ	small
Κ	capital

### Lesson 3: New word: a

- This will be the easiest lesson you ever have. Greek does not have a letter or word for “a”.
- When you see a noun and it does not have the definite article, then you usually add “a” to the beginning of a word.
- Examples:
  - ἰχθύς is “a fish”
  - ὁ ἰχθύς is “the fish”

### Lesson 4: New word: not

- οὐ

- This has two special cases:
  - In front of words that start with a vowel:
    - When it is before a word with smooth breathing mark, it is οὐκ
    - When it is before a word with a rough breathing mark, it is οὐχ
  - In front of words that start with a consonant: οὐ
  - Examples:
    - οὐκ ἰχθύς is “not a fish”
    - οὐ σωτήρ is “not a savior”

### Lesson 5: The letter beta

- It is a consonant
- It is pronounced like “b.”

Greek	beta
β	small
Β	capital

- Note: the “tail” at the bottom of the small letter goes a little below the line.

### Lesson 6: The letter gamma

- It is a consonant
- It is pronounced like “g.”

Greek	gamma
γ	small
Γ	capital

- Note: like the letter “g”, the small gamma goes below the line.

## What you have learned so far

### 1. Alphabet

Greek small	Greek capital		English
α	Α	alpha	short a
β	Β	beta	b

γ	Γ	gamma	g
ε	Ε	epsilon	short e
η	Η	eta	ay
θ	Θ	theta	th
ι	Ι	iota	i/ee
κ	Κ	kappa	k
ο	Ο	omicron	o
ρ	Ρ	rho	r
σ ς	Σ	sigma	s
τ	Τ	tau	t
υ	Υ	upsilon	u
χ	Χ	chi	ch
ω	Ω	omega	long o

2. Breathing marks and “h” sound: week 2

3. Accents: week 2

4. Diphthongs from letters we have covered so far: week 2

- ΟΙ ΟΥ ΟΙ

- You can memorize them if you want. Or you can wait and I will tell you if each new word has a diphthong or not.

5. Definite article

- ὁ This is the masculine definite article and will be in front of masculine nouns.

- ἡ This is the feminine definite article and will be in front of feminine nouns.

- τό This is the neuter definite article and will be in front of neuter nouns.

6. “A”

- Greek does not have a word for “a”

**Vocabulary** (this will always be in alphabetical order)

All the words you have learned so far are masculine

ἡ or

θεός, ὁ God

Ἰησοῦς Jesus

ἰχθύς, ὁ fish

οὐ, οὐκ, οὐχ not before a consonant, before smooth breathing, before rough breathing

σωτήρ savior

υἱός, ὁ son

Χριστός, ὁ Christ