Dr. Shirley's Greek Courses

Grammar

The Imperfect Indicative Active of the Regular Verb
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The Imperfect is used for continuous or repeated action in the past
Eg   "I was going . . "   "I used to go . . ."

1. The Imperfect is formed by adding ἐ— directly in front of the Verb Stem,
    and the various personal endings to the end of the Stem
    The initial ἐ— is called "the Augment".

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	singular		
I	— ον	ἐλεγον	I was saying
you/thou	— ες	ἐλεγες	you were saying
he/she/it	— εν	ἐλεγεν	he was saying
	plural		
we	— ομεν	ἐλεγομεν	we were saying
you	— ετε	ἐλεγετε	you were saying
they	— ον	ἐλεγον	they were saying

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2. **Contract Verbs follow the same rules of contraction as for the Present Tense :**

τιμαω I honor	ποιεω I do, make	φανεροω I show, make manifest
ἐτιμων	ἐποιουν	ἐφανερουν
ἐτιμας	ἐποιεις	ἐφανερους
ἐτιμα	ἐποιει	ἐφανερου
ἐτιμωμεν	ἐποιουμεν	ἐφανερουμεν
ἐτιματε	ἐποιειτε	ἐφανερουτε
ἐτιμων	ἐποιουν	ἐφανερουν

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3. **If the Stem begins with a vowel, the Augment combines with the vowel :**

$$ἐ + α = η \qquad ἐ + αι = ῃ \qquad ἐ + αυ = ηυ$$
$$ἐ + ε = η \qquad ἐ + ει = ῃ \qquad ἐ + ευ = ηυ \text{ or } ευ$$
$$ἐ + ο = ω \qquad ἐ + οι = ῳ \qquad ἐ + ι = ῑ$$

eg. ἠγαπα − he was loving

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4. **Compound Verbs are made by attaching a preposition to the front of the Verb Stem.**
In the case of Compound Verbs, the Augment goes between the preposition and the main stem

eg.   ἐκ + βαλλω gives ἐκβαλλω   Imperfect : ἐξεβαλλον
      out + I throw   I throw out   I was throwing out