

Chapter 57

The Pluperfect and the Future Pluperfect

57.1 In Chapter 56 we met the **Perfect** tense, which implies that something happened in the past, with consequences or some effect on conditions at the time of the statement.

Now we come to the **Pluperfect** (I had done something) and the **Future Perfect** (I will have done something).

1. I have finished my homework, so now I am going out to play. (Perfect)
2. I had finished my homework, so then I went out to play. (Pluperfect)
3. I will have finished my homework before the teacher arrives. (Future Perfect)

In both English and Greek, the Pluperfect implies a series of events, with all events moved back in the past, but the Pluperfect happening before the reference point in time. In sentence (2) the sequence is - I finished my homework (in the past), then I went out to play (in the past, but nearer the present than the previous event), (and now I am reporting it - present.)

The Future Perfect implies a similar series of events which are in the future. In sentence (3) the sequence is - I finish my homework (sometime in the future), and then the teacher arrives (later in the future) Future Perfects are rare in Greek, and only periphrastic forms appear in the GNT.

57.2 The Pluperfect Indicative Active is formed by adding an augment to the Perfect Active. However, writers quite often dropped the augment and relied on the personal endings to show the Pluperfect. A few verbs have Secondary forms, e.g. ἔρχομαι (ἐληλύθειν) and γίνομαι (ἐγεγόνειν)

The basic pattern for the Perfect Indicative Active is

I	ἐ- <i>P</i> STEM- κειν	ἐ- <i>P</i> STEM- κειμεν	we
you (singular)	ἐ- <i>P</i> STEM- κεις	ἐ- <i>P</i> STEM- κειτε	y'all
he/she/it	ἐ- <i>P</i> STEM- κει	ἐ- <i>P</i> STEM- κεισαν	they

For λύω, this becomes

I had loosed	ἐλελύκειν	ἐλελύκειμεν	we had loosed
you had loosed	ἐλελύκεις	ἐλελύκειτε	y'all had loosed
he/she/it had loosed	ἐλελύκει	ἐλελύκεισαν	they had loosed

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. εἰ γὰρ ἐξ ἡμῶν ἦσαν, μεμενήκεισαν ἂν μεθ' ἡμῶν. If they were from us, they (would) have remained with us. (*1 John 2:19*)
2. οἱ γὰρ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ ἀπεληλύθεισαν εἰς τὴν πόλιν. His disciples had gone away into the town. (*John 4:8*)
3. καὶ σκοτία ἤδη ἐγεγόνει καὶ οὐπω ἐληλύθει πρὸς αὐτοὺς ὁ Ἰησοῦς. Darkness had already come (happened) and Jesus had not yet come to them (*John 6:17*)
4. ἀναστὰς δὲ . . . (ὁ Ἰησοῦς) ἐφάνη πρῶτον Μαρία τῇ Μαγδαληνῇ, παρ' ἧς ἐκβεβλήκει ἑπτὰ δαιμόνια. Having arisen, . . . Jesus appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. (*Mark 16:9*)
5. καὶ οἱ δώδεκα (ἦσαν) σὺν αὐτῷ καὶ . . . Μαρία . . . ἀφ' ἧς δαιμόνια ἑπτὰ ἐξελήλυθει. And the Twelve were with him, and Mary, from whom seven evil spirits had gone out. (*Luke 8:1-2*)
6. ἀπελθόντες δὲ εὔρον καθὼς εἰρήκει αὐτοῖς. Having gone (there), they found (it) just as he had said to them. (*Luke 22:13*)
7. ἐγίνωσκεν γὰρ ὅτι διὰ φθόνον παραδεδώκεισαν αὐτὸν οἱ ἀρχιερεῖς. For he knew that the chief priests had handed him over out of envy. (*Mark 15:10*)

8. (Παῦλος καὶ Βαρνάβας) παρέθεντο αὐτοὺς τῷ κυρίῳ εἰς ὃν πεπιστεύκεισαν. (Paul and Barnabas) committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed. (*Acts 14:23*)
9. οὐπω δὲ ἐηλύθει ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἰς τὴν κώμην. Jesus had not yet come into the village. (*John 11:30*)
10. εἰ δὲ ἐγνώκειτε τί ἐστίν, Ἔλεος θέλω καὶ οὐ θυσίαν, But if you had known what it is (means), "I want mercy, and not sacrifice" οὐκ ἂν καταδικάσατε you would not have condemned τοὺς ἀναίτιους. the innocent. (*Matt. 12:7*)
(ἡ θυσία = sacrifice)

57.3 The Pluperfect Indicative Middle and Passive is built upon the Pluperfect Stem (usually the same as the Perfect Active stem with an augment added). Similarly to the Perfect Middle/Passive, a thematic vowel (-ο- or -ε-) may go between the Stem and the endings, Similarly to the Perfect Middle/Passive, the Third Person Plural uses a periphrastic form - the Perfect Participle with ἦσαν. The Participle must agree (in gender) with the gender of the subject.

The basic pattern for the Pluperfect Indicative Middle and Passive is

I	ἐ- <i>PSTEM-μην</i>	ἐ- <i>PSTEM-μεθα</i>	we
you (singular)	ἐ- <i>PSTEM-σο</i>	ἐ- <i>PSTEM-σθε</i>	y'all
he/she/it	ἐ- <i>PSTEM-το</i>	Perfect Participle ἦσαν	they

For λύω, this becomes

I had been loosed	ἐλελύμην	ἐλελύμεθα	we had been loosed
you had been loosed	ἐλέλυσο	ἐλέλυσθε	y'all had been loosed
he/she/it had been loosed	ἐλέλυτο	λελυμένοι ἦσαν	they had been loosed

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. πτωχὸς δὲ τις ὀνόματι Λάζαρος ἐβέβλητο πρὸς τὸν πυλῶνα αὐτοῦ. A (certain) poor (man) by name Lazarus had been put near his doorway. (*Luke 16:20*)
2. διερχόμενος γὰρ καὶ ἀναθεωρῶν τὰ σεβάσματα ὑμῶν εὔρον καὶ βωμὸν ἐν ᾧ ἐπεγράπτο, Ἄγνώστῳ θεῷ. (While I was) going through and observing your objects of worship I found an altar upon which had been written, "To an unknown god." (*Acts 17:23*)
(τὸ σεβᾶσμα, -τος = place or object of worship, from σέβομαι = I worship
ὁ βωμός = altar, ἄγνωστος, -ον = unknown, from ἀγνοέω = I don't know)
3. καὶ κατέβη ἡ βροχὴ καὶ ἦλθον οἱ ποταμοὶ καὶ ἔπνευσαν οἱ ἄνεμοι καὶ προσέπεσεν τῇ οἰκίᾳ ἐκεῖνῃ καὶ οὐκ ἔπεσεν, τεθεμελίωτο γὰρ ἐπὶ τὴν πέτραν. And the rain came down, and the rivers came and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. (*Matt. 7:25*)
4. καὶ ἀναστάντες ἐξέβαλον αὐτὸν ἐξῶ τῆς πόλεως, καὶ ἤγαγον αὐτὸν ἕως ὄφρυος τοῦ ὄρους ἐφ' οὗ ἡ πόλις ᾠκοδόμητο αὐτῶν, ὥστε κατακρημνίσαι αὐτόν· And having risen up, they threw him out of the town and led him as far as the brow of the hill on which their town had been built so as to throw him down. (*Luke 4:29*)
(ἡ ὄφρυς, -ύος = brow of a hill κατακρημνίζω = I throw down (from a cliff)
5. ἐξῆλθεν ὁ τεθνηκὼς δεδεμένος τοὺς πόδας καὶ τὰς χεῖρας κειρίαις, καὶ ἡ ὄψις αὐτοῦ σουδαρίῳ περιεδέδετο. The dead man came out (with his) feet and hands (having been) bound with bandages and his face had been wrapped in a cloth. (*John 11:44*)

(τεθνηκὼς = Perfect Participle of θνήσκω - I die ὁ τεθνηκὼς = the "having died" man
δεδεμένος = Perfect Participle Passive of δέω - I bind ἡ κειρία - bandage
ἡ ὄψις, -εως - face, appearance τὸ σουδαρίον - kerchief περιδέω - I bind around, wrap)

6. ἤδη γὰρ συνετέθειντο οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἵνα
ἐάν τις αὐτὸν ὁμολογήσῃ Χριστόν,
ἀποσυνάγωγος γένηται.
(*συνετέθειντο* - *Pluperfect Middle of συντίθημι* - *I put together, make an agreement*
ἀποσυνάγωγος - *excommunicated, put out of the synagogue (denied membership)*
γένηται - *Aorist Subjunctive of γίνομαι* - *I become, happen, am*)
The Jews had already agreed that
if anyone confessed him (to be the) Christ
he should be put out of the synagogue.
(*John 9:22*)
7. Ἀπολελεύσθαι ἐδύνατο ὁ ἄνθρωπος οὗτος
εἰ μὴ ἐπεκέκλητο Καίσαρα.
(*ἀπολελεύσθαι* = *Perfect Infinitive Passive of ἀπολύω* - *I release, set free*
ἐπεκέκλητο = *Pluperfect Middle of ἐπικαλέω* - *I call upon, appeal to*)
This man could have been released
except (that) he had called upon Caesar.
(*Acts 26:32*)

57.4 The Future Perfect in English has the form "I will have done something" - an action will be completed in the future. The Future Perfect in Greek is similar, though it is more often used with a passive force "something will have been done".

In classical Greek a Future Perfect Indicative Passive was built by adding -σ- with a thematic vowel (-ο- or -ε-) to the stem of the Perfect Middle

The basic pattern for the Future Perfect was

PTSTEM-σομαι -ση -σεται -σόμεθα -σεσθε -σονται

However, even with Classical Greek, a Future Perfect was more often made periphrastically by using the Perfect Participle with the future tense of εἰμί.

Perfect Participle + ἔσομαι ἔσῃ ἔσται ἐσόμεθα ἔσεσθε ἔσονται

The few examples of Future Perfects found in the GNT are all periphrastic.

There are a few examples in the LXX which may be synthetic Future Perfects (one-word forms, built on a Perfect stem). These are mainly forms of κράζω (I cry out), e.g. κεκράξομαι. which, as a Future Perfect, may be translated as "I shall have cried out" but which seems to have a simple Future sense of "I shall cry out"

Practice - until you can read and translate easily

1. δώσω σοὶ τὰς κλειδας τῆς βασιλείας
τῶν οὐρανῶν, καὶ ὃ ἐὰν δήσῃς ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς
ἔσται δεδεμένον ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς
καὶ ὃ ἐὰν λύσῃς ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ἔσται
λελυμένον ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς,
(*δήσῃς* = *Aorist Subjunctive Active of δέω* - *I bind* - see Chapter 59) (*Matt. 16:19*)
(*λύσῃς* = *Aorist Subjunctive Active of λύω* - *I loose* - see Chapter 59)
I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of
the heavens, and whatever you bind on the
earth will have been bound in the heavens
and whatever you loose on the earth will
have been loosed in the heavens.
2. Ἀμήν λέγω ὑμῖν, Ὅσα ἐὰν δήσητε
ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ἔσται δεδεμένα ἐν οὐρανῶ,
καὶ ὅσα ἐὰν λύσητε ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς
ἔσται λελυμένα ἐν οὐρανῶ.
(*δήσητε* = *Second Person Plural Aorist Subjunctive of δέω* - *I bind*
λύσητε = *Second Person Plural Aorist Subjunctive of λύω* - *I loose*)
Amen, I say to you, "Whatever (things) you
may bind on the earth will have been bound
in heaven, and whatever (things) you
may loose on the earth will have been
loosed in heaven. (*Matt. 18:18*)
3. ἔσονται γὰρ ἀπὸ νῦν πέντε ἐν ἐνὶ οἴκῳ
διαμεμερισμένοι, τρεῖς ἐπὶ δυσὶν
καὶ δύο ἐπὶ τρισίν.
From now on there will be five (people) in
one house, (having been) divided three
against two and two against three.
(*Luke 12:52*)
4. πρὸς σέ κύριε κεκράξομαι.
I will cry out to you, Lord. (*Ps. 29:8*)

57.5 Sentences for reading and translation

1. καὶ οὐδεὶς ἐπέβαλεν ἐπ' αὐτὸν τὴν χεῖρα, ὅτι οὐπω ἐληλύθει ἡ ὥρα αὐτοῦ. (John 7:30)
2. εἰρήκει δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς περὶ τοῦ θανάτου αὐτοῦ. (John 11:13)
3. πολλοὶ δὲ ἐκ τῶν Ἰουδαίων ἐληλύθεισαν πρὸς τὴν Μάρθαν. (John 11:19)
4. καὶ ἰδὼν ἀνὴρ Αἰθίοψ . . . ὃς ἐληλύθει προσκυνήσων εἰς Ἱερουσαλήμ. (Acts 8:27)
(προσκυνήσων = Future Participle of προσκυνέω - I worship. In classical Greek, a Future Participle after a verb of motion indicates purpose - "had gone to Jerusalem to worship")

57.6 Writing Practice : Write the Greek text several times, while saying aloud (Rev.15:4)

τίς σε οὐ μὴ φοβηθῆ, κύριε,	Who shall not fear thee, Lord,
καὶ δοξάσει τὸ ὄνομά σου ;	and glorify thy name?
ὅτι μόνος ὁσῖος,	Because (thou) alone (art) holy,
ὅτι πάντα τὰ ἔθνη ἥξουσιν	because all the nations shall have come
καὶ προσκυνήσουσιν ἐνώπιόν σου,	and (shall) worship before thee,
ὅτι τὰ δικαιώματά σου ἐφανερώθησαν.	because thy righteous deeds have been revealed.

57.7 There is no New Testament Passage for reading and translation.

The Practice Sentences have demonstrated almost all the examples of the Pluperfect which occur in the GNT, except for the Pluperfect of οἶδα - see Chapter 68

57.8 Vocabulary to learn

A. Continue to learn the first five Principal Parts of the verbs listed in Appendix D 01

B.

ἀναθεωρέω	I observe closely, reflect upon	
διαμερίζω	I divide	
καταδικάζω	I condemn	
ἡ βροχή	rain	(from βρέχω - I rain)
τὸ δικαίωμα	righteous deed, requirement, commandment	
ἡ κλείς, κλείδος	key	(from κλείω - I shut, lock, close)
ὁ φθόνος	envy, spite, malice	
ἀναίτιος, -ον	guiltless, innocent	
οὐπω, μήπω	not yet	