

Principal Parts and Tense System

The principal parts are the minimum forms to know in order to generate all possible forms of a verb. From them, the various tense stems (= tense systems) are derived.

principal parts	tense system	tense generated	tense-suffix	practical tense-suffix	examples	
I: present active παιδεύ-ω	1: present	active	present	$\emptyset + \textcircled{\omega}/\epsilon$ or ? [1] + $\textcircled{\omega}/\epsilon$	\emptyset or ? [1]	παιδεύ- <u>ω</u>
			imperfect			έ-παι <u>δευ-ω</u> -ον
		mid-passive	present			παιδεύ- <u>ω</u> -ομαι
			imperfect			έ-παι <u>δευ-ω</u> -όμην
II: future active παιδεύ-σω	2: future	active	future	$\sigma \textcircled{\omega}/\epsilon$	σ	παιδεύ- <u>ω</u>
		middle	future			παιδεύ- <u>ω</u> -ομαι
III: aorist active έ-παι <u>δευ-σα</u>	3: first aorist	active	1 aorist	$\sigma \alpha$ [2] (subj. $\sigma \textcircled{\omega}/\eta$)	σ	έ-παι <u>δευ-ω</u> -α
		middle	1 aorist			έ-παι <u>δευ-ω</u> -άμην
	4: second aorist	active	2 aorist	$\textcircled{\omega}/\epsilon$ or \emptyset	\emptyset	έ-λι <u>π-ω</u> -ον
		middle	2 aorist			έ-λι <u>π-ω</u> -όμην
IV: perfect active πε-παι <u>δευ-κα</u>	5: first perfect	active	1 perfect	$\kappa \alpha$	κ	πε-παι <u>δευ-κ</u> -α
			fut. perf.	<i>exceeding rare</i>		
			1 pluperf.	$\kappa \eta < \kappa \epsilon \alpha,$ $\kappa \epsilon \iota < \kappa \epsilon \epsilon,$ $\kappa \epsilon$	κ	έ-πε-παι <u>δευ-κ</u> -η
	6: second perfect	active	2 perf.	α or \emptyset	\emptyset	λέ-λοι <u>π-ω</u> -α
			2 pluperf.	$\eta, \epsilon \iota, \epsilon$		έ-λε-λοι <u>π-ω</u> -η
V: perfect mid-passive πε-παι <u>δευ-μαι</u>	7: perfect middle-passive	mid-passive	perfect	\emptyset	\emptyset	πε-παι <u>δευ-ω</u> -μαι
			pluperf.			έ-πε-παι <u>δευ-ω</u> -μην
			fut. perf.			$\sigma \textcircled{\omega}/\epsilon$
VI: aorist passive έ-παι <u>δευ-θη</u> ν --- and ---	8: first passive	passive	1 aorist	$\theta \eta, \theta \epsilon$	θ	έ-παι <u>δευ-θ</u> -ην
			1 future	$\theta \eta \sigma \textcircled{\omega}/\epsilon$	$\theta \eta \sigma$	έ-παι <u>δευ-θ</u> -ησ-ην
VII: future passive [3,4] έ-παι <u>δευ-θη</u> σομαι	9: second passive	passive	2 aorist	η, ϵ	\emptyset	έ-γρ <u>αφ-ω</u> -ην
			2 future	$\eta \sigma \textcircled{\omega}/\epsilon$	$\eta \sigma$	γρ <u>αφ-ω</u> -ήσ-ομαι

Notes:

- [1]: Various present tense-suffix are use, see the six classes of present-tenses.
- [2]: -α in the aorist is a relic of the personal ending.
- [3]: The 7th p.p. is not always given, because it can be deduced from the 6th: the tense-suffix is quite different (-θη/θε- for the aorist passive, -θησ $\textcircled{\omega}/\epsilon$ - for the future passive, but because the phonetic changes with the verb-stem are the same

(because both suffixes begin with $-\theta-$), it's easy (but not very "scientific") to add $-\sigma^\circ/\epsilon-$ to the stem of the aorist.

- [4]: The suffixes $-\theta\eta-$ (aorist) and $-\theta\eta\sigma^\circ/\epsilon-$ (future) may be preceded by a $-\sigma-$. No general rule to be given to know if there is such a $-\sigma-$, but it never appears in contracts. Sometimes, we find both forms.