

|             | sing.            |                 |               | plural           |                 |               |
|-------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
|             | <i>masculine</i> | <i>feminine</i> | <i>neuter</i> | <i>masculine</i> | <i>feminine</i> | <i>neuter</i> |
| <b>Nom.</b> | μέλας            | μέλαινα         | μέλαν         | μέλανες          | μέλαινα         | μέλανα        |
| <b>Voc.</b> | μέλας            | μέλαινα         | μέλαν         | μέλανες          | μέλαινα         | μέλανα        |
| <b>Acc.</b> | μέλαν            | μέλαιναν        | μέλαν         | μέλανας          | μελαίνας        | μέλανα        |
| <b>Gen.</b> | μέλανος          | μελαίνης        | μέλανος       | μελάνων          | μελαινῶν        | μελάνων       |
| <b>Dat.</b> | μέλανι           | μελαίνη         | μέλανι        | μέλασι           | μελαίναις       | μέλασι        |

✧ **τάλας** **τάλαινα**, **τάλαν** declines in the same way.

**c/** In the category of irregular adjectives we can include some other ones that are not declined irregularly but either have only one set of endings for the three genders, or can be only masculine or only feminine. The most common ones are: [60]

- ἄπαις, -αιδος CHILDLESS
- πένης, -ητος POOR
- ἄρπαξ, -αγος RAPACIOUS
- μάκαρ, -αρος HAPPY
- Ἑλληνίς, -ίδος GREEK ✧ Only in fem.

✧ For practical reasons, they could be considered almost like nouns rather than adjectives.

## 5. Position of the adjective [61]

**1/** The adjective in Greek is usually placed between the article and the noun it agrees with, like in English:

- ὁ ἀγαθὸς πολίτης THE GOOD CITIZEN
  - ✧ If we had written ὁ πολίτης ἀγαθός (or ἀγαθὸς ὁ πολίτης), it would mean THE CITIZEN IS GOOD, with the elided verbal form ἔστί to be supplied.

However, a small number of adjectives that convey special meanings may give a different sense to the sentence according to their position, as shown in the following examples:

- τὸ μέσον ὄρος THE MIDDLE MOUNTAIN, THE MOUNTAIN IN THE MIDDLE
  - ✧ The mountain that is in the middle of a row of several mountains, for instance.
- τὸ ὄρος μέσον THE MIDDLE OF THE MOUNTAIN.
  - ✧ The area between the base and the summit.
- τὸ ἄκρον οἶκημα THE HIGH BUILDING
  - ✧ τὸ οἶκημα ἄκρον THE HIGH PART OF THE BUILDING