

## Vowel Contraction

	α	αι	ε	ει	η	η	ο	ου	οι	ω
α	α	α	α	α	α	α	ω	ω	ω	ω
ε	η	η	ει	ει	η	η	ου	ου	οι	ω
ο	ω	ω	ου	οι	ω	οι	ου	ου	οι	ω

Make observations, e.g., for α, α + o-sound = ω, α + others = α.

### Rules (from the contracted)

1. ου is formed by εο, οε, and οο.

Ex. ποιου̂μεν = ποιε + ομεν

2. ει is formed by εε.

Ex. ποιει̂τε = ποιε + ετε

3. ω is formed by almost any combination of ο/ω with any other vowel, except for rule #1.

Ex. αγαπω̂σι = αγαπα + ουσι = αγαπα + ονσι

4. α is formed by αε.

Ex. αγαπα̂ = αγαπα + ει

5. η is formed by εα.

Ex. ποιεη̂ = ποιε + η = ποιε + εαι = ποιε + εσαι

6. οι is formed by οει.

Ex. πληρο̂ις = πληρο + εις

7. Contraction with diphthongs

a. If contract vowel = first vowel of diphthong, they simplify: ει = ε + ει, ου = ο + ου

Ex. ποιει̂ς = ποιε + εις

b. If contract vowel  $\neq$  first vowel of diphthong, they contract:  $\text{OU} = \varepsilon + \text{OU}$   
(If second vowel of diphthong = iota, it subscript; otherwise it drops off.)

Ex.  $\pi\text{O}\text{I}\text{O}\hat{\text{U}}\text{S}\text{I} = \pi\text{O}\text{I}\varepsilon + \text{O}\text{U}\text{S}\text{I}$

8. Contract verbs contract as if the true personal endings are those visible in the present indicative.

### Alternative Rules (from the uncontracted)

1. Two like vowels form their common long vowel

$$\alpha + \alpha = \alpha$$

Exceptions:  $\varepsilon + \varepsilon = \varepsilon\text{I}$                        $\text{O} + \text{O} = \text{OU}$

2. An O or  $\text{O}$  will overcome an  $\alpha$ ,  $\varepsilon$  or  $\eta$  regardless of their order, and form  $\text{O}$ .

$$\alpha + \text{O} = \text{O} \qquad \text{O} + \alpha = \text{O}$$

Exceptions:  $\varepsilon + \text{O} = \text{OU}$                        $\text{O} + \varepsilon = \text{OU}$

3. If  $\alpha$  comes before  $\varepsilon/\eta$ , they contract to  $\alpha$ . If  $\varepsilon/\eta$  comes before  $\alpha$ , they contract to  $\eta$ .

$$\alpha + \varepsilon/\eta = \alpha \qquad \varepsilon/\eta + \alpha = \eta$$

4. When a single vowel is followed by a diphthong that begins with the same vowel, the two similar vowels simplify and the second vowel remains the same.

$$\text{O} + \text{OU} = \text{OU} \qquad \alpha + \alpha = \alpha$$

5. When a single vowel is followed by a diphthong that begins with a different vowel, the single vowel and the first vowel of the diphthong contract according to the regular rules. If the third vowel is an upsilon it will drop off. If it is an iota it will subscript.

$$\alpha + \text{OU} = \text{O} \qquad \varepsilon + \text{OU} = \text{OU}$$

Exceptions:  $\text{O} + \varepsilon\text{I} = \text{OI}$                        $\text{O} + \eta\text{I} = \text{OI}$

### Examples:

$$\acute{\alpha}\gamma\alpha\pi\alpha + \text{ON}\text{S}\text{I} = \acute{\alpha}\gamma\alpha\pi\alpha + \text{O}\text{U}\text{S}\text{I} = \acute{\alpha}\gamma\alpha\pi\hat{\text{O}}\text{S}\text{I}$$

$$\pi\text{O}\text{I}\varepsilon + \varepsilon\text{S}\alpha\text{I} = \pi\text{O}\text{I}\varepsilon + \varepsilon\alpha\text{I} = \pi\text{O}\text{I}\varepsilon + \eta = \pi\text{O}\text{I}\varepsilon\hat{\eta}$$

## Contract Verbs – Present Indicative

	Active		Mid/Pas
α-ω	ἀγαπῶ	α-ομαι	ἀγαπῶμαι
α-εις	ἀγαπᾶς	α-η	ἀγαπᾶ
α-ει	ἀγαπᾷ	α-εται	ἀγαπᾶται
α-ομεν	ἀγαπῶμεν	α-ομεθα	ἀγαπώμεθα
α-ετε	ἀγαπάτε	α-εσθε	ἀγαπάσθε
α-ουσι	ἀγαπῶσι(ν)	α-ονται	ἀγαπῶνται
ε-ω	ποιῶ	ε-ομαι	ποιούμαι
ε-εις	ποιεῖς	ε-η	ποιῆ
ε-ει	ποιεῖ	ε-εται	ποιεῖται
ε-ομεν	ποιούμεν	ε-ομεθα	ποιούμεθα
ε-ετε	ποιεῖτε	ε-εσθε	ποιεῖσθε
ε-ουσι	ποιούσι(ν)	ε-ονται	ποιούνται
ο-ω	πληρῶ	ο-ομαι	πληροῦμαι
ο-εις	πληροῖς	ο-η	πληροῖ
ο-ει	πληροῖ	ο-εται	πληροῦται
ο-ομεν	πληροῦμεν	ο-ομεθα	πληρούμεθα
ο-ετε	πληροῦτε	ο-εσθε	πληροῦσθε
ο-ουσι	πληροῦσι(ν)	ο-ονται	πληροῦνται