Lesson 37: The Predicate/Verb Chains

A. Study lesson 37 and answer the following questions about verb chains:

1. What is a catenative verb (§565)?

2. In the following verb chain of three verbs, place a c in the verbal slot(s) which must be occupied by catenative verbs and a v in the slot(s) which can be occupied by any verb (§§566.1-2):

   (verb 1) _____ + (verb 2) _____ + (verb 3) _____

3. In the same three verbal slots, place a 2 (§566.1) in those which must be occupied by a finite verb and a g/i (§§566.2-3) in those which must be occupied by a participle or infinitive (§566.3):

   (verb 1) _____ + (verb 2) _____ + (verb 3) _____

4. What is periphrasis (§568)?

   Why is periphrasis not as common in Greek as in English (§567)?

5. What are the three features of Group I verb chains (§573.1-3)?

   (1) 

   (2) 

   (3) 

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6. In what two ways do Group II verb chains differ from Group I verb chains (§§574.2 and 576)?

(1) 

(2) 

B. Indicate, on the basis of the catenative verbs (§§571, 571.1, 571.2, 575), whether the following verb chains belong to Groups Ia, Ib or II:

1. διὶ οὖ δύνασθε ἄκουειν τὸν λόγον τὸν ἐμὸν (Jn 8:43b)

2. ἀνέβη εἰς τὸ δρος κατ' ἰδίαν προσεύξασθαι (Mt 14:23)

3. οὐ παύομεν εὐχαριστῶν ὑπὲρ ὑμῶν (Eph 1:16)

4. ἦν γὰρ διδάσκων αὐτός (Mt 7:29)

5. Ἐρχεται γυνὴ ἐκ τῆς Σαμαρείας ἄντλησαι ὀδὼρ (Jn 4:7)

C. Verb chains may occur in any of the six sentence types discussed in lessons 32-33 and take whatever complements the finite form of the participle or infinitive would take (§566.4). Diagram the five sentences in B according to the parsing code in §§5550-5550.4 and indicate the sentence types (S-I to VI) in the following blanks:

1. ______ 4. ______

2. ______ 5. ______

3. ______

D. Find and copy the five verb chains in Jn 5:31-47, placing a $g$ over the catenative verbs, a $p$ over the participles and an $i$ over the infinitives:
1. 

2. 

3. 

4. 

5. 

E. Read Jn 5:31-47 and be prepared to translate it in class.

Notes


5:35 ὁ καυδέμονος καὶ φανών: participles functioning as adjectives in second attributive position (§§127.2 and 770).

5:36 μείζων τοῦ Ἰωάννου: genitive of comparison (§§890.2): greater than John's; on the form of μείζω, see §§2351.1 and 245. Since the comparative adjective μείζω is in predicate position to τὴν μαρτυρίαν (cf. §§128 and 507), this clause equals ἡ μαρτυρία [ἡν ἑξὼ] μείζων ἐστίν [see Bl-D, §270(1)].

ἐνα τελειώσω: Τ-ἐνα (see §580.3) for the infinitive of purpose, τελειώσατι [a Group IV verb chain, §583.5; cf. Bl-D, §390(4)].

αὐτὰ τὰ ἔργα ... μαρτυρεῖ: see §536.

5:37 ὁ πέμψας με πατήρ: an attributive participle, with its own object, με, modifying ὁ πατήρ: the father who sent me.

ἐκείνος: in apposition to ὁ πατήρ.

5:38 ὃν: [he] whom; the antecedent is omitted.

tούτω: dative object of πιστεύετε (see §591) which refers to ὃν.
5:39 εἶσιν αἱ μαρτυροῦσαι: the presence of the article with the participle indicates it is the predicate noun of an S-II, rather than periphrasis for the present tense of μαρτυρῶ [§568; cf. Bl-D, §273(3)].

5:40 οὖ θέλετε έλθεῖν ... ἵνα ...: a combination of two types of verb chains, Ia (θέλετε έλθεῖν; see §581) and II (Τ-ἵνα for an intransitive verb of motion, ἐρχομαι, followed by an infinitive of purpose; see §576).

5:42 ἐγνώκα: from γινώσκω (class V).

5:43 ἐλήλυθα: from ἐρχομαι (class VI); on Attic reduplication, see §344.

5:44 ζητείτε: a finite verb instead of the participle, ζητοῦντες, which would normally occur in coordination with λαμβάνοντες καὶ ... [cf. Bl-D, §468(3); Moule, p. 180, attributes the change to Semitic influence].

5:45 μὴ δοκείτε: imperative, do not think (see §615.1 on the use of μὴ with the non-indicative moods); Bl-D, §336(3), suggests that the present imperative has a durative force: stop thinking.

5:46 εἰ ... ἄν: if ..., then ...

Μωϋσεῖ: cf. §§206.3 and 591.

ἔκεινος: that [one], refers to Μωϋσεῖ (cf. §0725).