

In-class Drills on the use of αὐτός (see Mounce Ch. 12) ANSWER KEY

For the following examples, I have constructed sentences using English and Greek, where the Greek is in the proper case (based on function). The point is to drill the precise point of Greek grammar. Note: these are all full sentences, not sentence fragments or phrases.

For the following sentences, identify the proper use of αὐτός (P, INT, or ID) and translate the rest of the sentence:

[1] Independent 3rd person pronoun = P (for “he, she, it, they” and their objective or possessive cases--“him, her, his, their, etc”)

[2] Intensive Adjective = INT (for construction like, “John *himself* said....”)

[3] Identical Adjective = ID (for construction like, “The *same* man said....”)

P

1. αὐτός ἐστὶν ὁ ἄνθρωπος. He is the man.<sup>1</sup>

ID

2. ὁ αὐτός ἄνθρωπος is an alien. The same man is an alien.<sup>2</sup>

INT

3. ὁ ἄνθρωπος αὐτός is an alien. The man himself is an alien.<sup>3</sup>

P

4. I love τὸν πατέρα αὐτοῦ. I love his father (the father of him).<sup>4</sup>

INT

5. I love αὐτὸν τὸν πατέρα. I love the father himself.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Pronoun use (it does not accompany a noun and agree with it in case/gender/# like an adjective does); it functions as the Subject of the sentence, so it's Nom case. When used as a pronoun, αὐτός will *never* have the article in front of it. Note well: pronoun αὐτός cannot be articular, but just because I might see a sentence where αὐτός is anarthrous, that does not make it a pronoun use. The intensive adjective use of αὐτός will be anarthrous as well, because that adj. use is in predicate position.

<sup>2</sup> This is an adj. use (not a pronoun use) for two reasons: the fact that αὐτός is articular tells me that it cannot be the pronoun (since pronoun αὐτός must be anarthrous), and the fact that αὐτός agrees with a noun in case/gender/# (ἄνθρωπος, Nom sg. masc.) tells me it's an adj. use. Which adj. use? The position of the adj. αὐτός tells me this: because αὐτός is articular, that article in front is attributive position, and so it is the identical adj. use.

<sup>3</sup> This is also an adjective use of αὐτός, since it agrees with a noun in case/gender/# (ἄνθρωπος, Nom sg. masc.). Which adj. use? The position of the adj. αὐτός tells me this: because αὐτός is anarthrous, that lack of an article in front is predicate position, and so it is the intensive adj. use.

<sup>4</sup> Here αὐτοῦ is the Pronoun, not an adjective. Even though it occurs right next to a noun τὸν πατέρα, it cannot be an adjective modifying that noun because it does not match case/gender/#. τὸν πατέρα is Acc sg. masc.; whereas αὐτοῦ is Gen sg. masc. Adjectives must agree with their nouns in all three, but there's a mismatch. So the only choice is for this to be a pronoun: 'the father *of him*'.

ID

6. I love τὸν αὐτὸν πατέρα. I love the same father.<sup>6</sup>

INT

7. σὺ αὐτός are the light of the world. You yourself are the light of the world.<sup>7</sup>

INT

8. σὺ αὐτή are the light of the world. You yourself are the light of the world.<sup>8</sup>

ID

9. I sent a message τῷ αὐτῷ ἀνδρί. I sent a message to the same man.<sup>9</sup>

INT

10. I sent a message τῷ ἀνδρὶ αὐτῷ. I sent a message to the man himself.<sup>10</sup>

P

11. I sent a message αὐτῷ. I sent a message to him.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> This is also an adjective use of αὐτός, since αὐτὸν agrees with a noun in case/gender/# (τὸν πατέρα, both are Acc sg. masc.). Which adj. use? The position of the adj. αὐτὸν tells me this: because αὐτὸν is anarthrous, that lack of an article in front is predicate position, and so it is the intensive adj. use.

<sup>6</sup> This is also an adjective use of αὐτός, since αὐτὸν agrees with a noun in case/gender/# (πατέρα, both are Acc sg. masc.). Which adj. use? The position of the adj. αὐτὸν tells me this: because αὐτὸν is articular, and because that presence of an article in front is attributive position, it is the identical adj. use.

<sup>7</sup> Here, the word αὐτός cannot be the pronoun, because there is already a subject pronoun for the sentence, σὺ. It would not make sense to say ‘You he are the light of the world’. It must be an adjective use. But how to determine which one? So far, we’ve used attributive position v. predicate position to determine it. But he pronoun σὺ is anarthrous (no article), so we cannot use article placement to determine whether αὐτός is in attributive or predicate position. At this point, the semantic notion of the two adjectives uses, in relation to σὺ, must govern our thinking. Assume that this is the identical use; how would you translate that idea? ‘The same you are the light of the world’. That is semantically odd, if not nonsensical. What about the intensive use? ‘You yourself are the light of the world’. Ah, that’s soothing! That makes sense. Note that the pronoun σὺ is Nom sg.; the intensive adjective αὐτός that I used is Nom sg. masc. Remember, αὐτός is marked for gender, while the first and second person pronouns are not. So what kind of a “you” am I talking about? A masc. sing. “you”! “You (man) yourself are the light of the world!”

<sup>8</sup> Here, all the things I mentioned in the prior discussion apply, Except I used αὐτή (Nom sg. fem.) instead of αὐτός (Nom sg. masc.). So what kind of “you” (σὺ) am I talking to? Right—a Fem. sing. “you”: “You (woman) yourself are the light of the world!”

<sup>9</sup> This is also an adjective use of αὐτός, since αὐτῷ agrees with a noun in case/gender/# (ἀνδρί, both are Dat sg. masc.). Which adj. use? The position of the adj. αὐτῷ tells me this: because αὐτῷ is articular, and because that presence of an article in front is attributive position, it is the identical adj. use.

<sup>10</sup> This is also an adjective use of αὐτός, since αὐτῷ agrees with a noun in case/gender/# (ἀνδρί, both are Dat sg. masc.). Which adj. use? The position of the adj. αὐτῷ tells me this: because αὐτῷ is anarthrous, that lack of an article in front is predicate position, and so it is the intensive adj. use.

<sup>11</sup> Pronoun use (it does not accompany a noun and agree with it in case/gender/# like an adjective does); it functions as the Indirect Object of the sentence, so it’s Dative case. When used as a pronoun, αὐτός will *never* have the article in front of it.