

Yevgeniya Chekareva (Kharkov)

Temporal Adjectives in Ancient Greek

The tasks of the modern linguistics are not only in description of language phenomena, but also in solving the problem of the way the world reflects in the people's conscious. To be implemented in a particular language form a phenomenon should be realized by a person, interpreted in light of his/her individual picture of the world, as well as in socio-cultural, historical context of native speakers.

The concept of time is an important component of any individual's picture of the world, as it is an absolute attribute of matter. All the objects, processes, phenomenon as components of people's life have space-time characteristics (Smirnov A. I., 1986, 3-16).

Time relations depend on the peculiarities of interaction of material objects. The properties of absoluteness and relativity of time are in dialectic unity. Its absoluteness in different processes shows itself being the universal attribute of matter, exposing unity of matter, movement and time. In its turn variety of time processes and phenomenon suggests its relativity (Sinkevich D. A., 2009, 148-152).

The concept of real and perceptual time appeared as a result of comprehension of ambivalence of time. Perceptual time, which is connected with individual time "sensation" and perception, not always precisely corresponds to real time, which can be measured and valued exactly and is connected with changes of real objects and phenomena's states (Mostonpanenko A. M., 1974, 5-14). Perceptual time is defined as internal empiric setup of person's perception, which reflects the objective temporal reality (Zvonska-Denisiuk L. L., 2005, 11).

Even taking into account all its special features perceptual time is basically correspondent to the reality. Despite the subjectivity of temporal phenomena's perception, the changes of individual feelings still reflect the order of real events' changes.

The concept of perceptual time can be applied not only to an individual with his/her subjective time perception, but also to a group of people, the language native speakers' community in a particular historico-cultural period.

As world outlook picture is transformed in the direction of its optimization due to fundamental necessities of a person, the understanding of the category of time has not always been the same, but has been changing taking into account mental behaviour of a person in a particular historical epoch (Bondarko A. V., 2003, 22). The factor of time, therefore, plays an important part in the creation of a human model, as well as a person does in the modelling of time (Arutiunova N. D., 1997, 52).

For Ancient Greek world outlook system, that was realized in mythological form, the idea of cyclical time was a feature. The background of such ideas is in essential dependence of a person and human society on environment and relation between a life rhythm and a sequence of the seasons. On the other hand, perishability of individual being stimulated the appearance of a fundamental for the time idea of timeless absolute being (Molchanov Ju. B., 1977, 6-7). The cyclical conception of the time is a periodicity with no deviation that repeats again and again under any conditions with no changes (Kovalev V. P., 2004, 42). Consequently there is the time's loss of three modi (past, present and future), as well as usage of eternal, frozen in time "now" (Zvonska-Denisiuk L. L., 2005, 12).

Archaic thinking is absolutely "atemporal" and denotes mostly emotionally-evaluating attitude to the environment. A person of that time lived feeling his/her belonging to the common space, feeling as a part of eternity. Therefore there was ignorance of physical time as simultaneous, homogeneous and irreversible, and its perception as heterogeneous, multivariate and reversible (Aleksina T. A.).

With civilization development, transformation to the state system surely changed the idea of time. Static, cyclic understanding of time gradually was changed by linear perception of temporal relations that reflected in the system of Ancient Greek on its different levels.

Language acts as an interpreter, expression of nation culture (Nikolaeva E. A., 2007, 72). There reflects all the experience and knowledge that

were gained by the people during its existence, its mental peculiarities and the type of its view of the world (Kolshanskiy G. V., 2005, 24). Language gives an opportunity to regulate and systemize all the multitude of knowledge to build a typical for a definite ethnocultural community language picture of the world (Maslova V. A., 2004, 11). As time is an objective category, the system of time values should reflect the general model of time relations that reproduces perception of existence and acting in time, which was formed by a person in the process of development and cognition of the environment (Vsevolodova M. V., 1975, 6).

Thus, universally-existential picture of time is realized on the mental and language levels. The process of category of time's reflection in language evolves from perception to onto-gnoseological ideas of time that exists in human conscious and has an influence on the choice of a particular time model. The datum point of forming language expressing of time relation is definite mental views of time that is correspondent to a language correlate. The forming in the conscious of definite views of time and these views' representation on the different levels of language on the different stage of its development depend on the kind and the way of perception, as well as on objective features of the language (Zvonska-Denisiuk L. L., 2007, 32-33).

Due to relevance of structures of human conscience and language the results of human perception of time reflects in time language picture of the world (Maslova V. A., 2004, 73).

There is no general point of view as for understanding and interpretation of category of time. The idea of time is loosely interpreted and expresses itself in several semantic categories: temporality, taxis, aspectuality and time localization. These categories are often united due to their complex expressing through tense verbal forms that don't often correspond exactly with each of named categories. The problem of distinguishing of the categories and differentiation of special means for their expressing is still rather actual (Zeleneckiy A. L., 1983, 138-139).

Aspectuality, as a rule, is considered as interpretive (subjective) category of the verb, that is an interpretation of an action's temporal structure by addressant (Maslov Ju. S., 1990, 83). It should be noted that the point of view of addressant may agree or disagree with the objective reality.

In his work *Shifters, Verbal Categories and the Russian Verb* R. Jakobson proposed to distinguish, besides known grammatical categories that are

expressed by the verbal forms, one more that he called "taxis". "The time – writes R. Jakobson – characterizes the informed event with the reference to the act of speech. Taxis characterizes the informed event with respect to another informed event without reference to the speech act" (Jakobson R. O., 1972, 100).

Category of temporality, which is traditionally also called the absolute time, reflects the relations between the informed fact, the event and the moment of speech and in this sense is really deictic category that is related to the conditions of the communicative act. Grammar tense is the core of temporality. Being agreed in content, tense and the field of temporality differ in their expression. Tense is attached to morphological forms of verb. Though temporality includes the whole range of expressed by means of language time's relations of objective world (in this sense temporality is a complex phenomenon) (Seniv M. G., 1997, 157-159).

In the works, devoted to category of time, it is semantic interaction of tense forms of the verb and the other means of time relation's expressing that are more often analyzed. The question of differentiation of two language paradigms of "grammar tense" and "lexical time" is rather topical and is intensively studied in the science of our country and abroad.

Traditionally the question of lexical time is considered in linguistics in the context of studying of category of tempus that includes lexical as well as grammar means and determines the correlation of time of action's realization correspondently to the time of expression production.

Grammar means of category of tempus are verb's tense forms, but they, according to a traditional point of view, are often insufficient for time correlation of the moment of expression production and time of action realization. Lexical means for demonstration of time correlation play an important part there.

Lexical component of temporality includes the range of means of time relations' expressing with the help of the special time vocabulary: conjunctions, prepositions, pronouns, adjectives, nouns.

So, the most important concepts are coded in language, some of them on the grammar level, the other on the lexical one (Maslova V. A., 2004, 16). The concept of time on the logical level was realized in different groups of lexemes, particularly in the system of adjectives.

Adjectives name "particular properties or characteristics of subjects" (Kubriakova E. S., 2004, 281), besides these properties are not processual,

lack of “phaseability” and perceived in every moment of time. According to N. A. Basilaia, adjectives take a special place in the system of parts of speech, noting a separately comprehended aspect of the object, pointing to the single, entitative from its carrier, feature, moreover the feature is relevantly steady and stable (Basilaia N. A., 1988, 75).

The formation of the class of adjectival vocabulary symbolizes an important stage in language establishment and possibility of perception of features, qualities and characteristics of subjects separately from the subjects themselves in the process of logical thinking development. As it is noted by Z. Kharitonchik, the differentiation of the subject as it is in the aggregate of all its features and its individual qualities and characteristics resulted in separation of initially united for Indo-European system of names and forming of the special category of words that mean characteristics, features, and qualities of a subject – that is adjectives (Kharitonchik Z. A., 1986, 10).

The characteristic is “an index, the part of the subject or phenomenon that can help to know, identify or describe the subject or the phenomenon” (Kubriakova E. S., 2004, 250). The adjective points at the separately realized part of the object, the single, abstracted from its carrier, index, which is rather stable and constant (Kubriakova E. S., 2004, 251).

The contemporary researchers single out those structures of knowledge that, as a rule, are coded with the help of adjectives. In the best and fuller way nominative spaces, denoted by adjectives, were named by R. Dixon. The main among them are parametric, colour, age and temporal (Dixon R. M. W., 1982, 13).

Adjectives that indicate subjects’ properties in the time system of coordinates are a part of main vocabulary of the language that realizes a communicative process and a connection with the prior stage of language development. Temporal adjectives are characterized by relative stability and historico-cultural independence, reflecting the specificity of time perception and fixation of time properties by native speakers.

The features of adjectives according to their vocabulary, world-building structure, and semantics are peculiar for every single language and reflect, in particular, the character of cognitive activity and fixation of its results by a human.

Copious vocabulary of Ancient Greek contains valuable information about the way of world perception as a whole and time in peculiar. To

understand such encoded information the deep analysis of lexeme from the point of view of their semantics, quantitative indexes, filling of single lexical-semantic groups and world-building structures is necessary. Generalization of findings will allow understanding of what and how exactly was named by Ancient Greek speakers, in what quantity of elements important information of environment was fixed.

The adjectives of temporal semantics in Ancient Greek are an insufficiently learned group of words, though adjectives as main parts of speech (along with nouns, verbs and adverbs) are the subject of the closest examination.

Some particular problems connected with adjectives' functioning in the Classic Languages can be found in the works of M. Seniv, A. Dobiash, S. Sobolevskij, M. Slaviatinskaia, I. Tronskij, K. Kujbida, D. Kajer. That is why the analysis of temporal adjectives and identification of their part in forming of Ancient Greek's picture of the world is seen as rather topical and perspective.

Therefore semantic group of temporal adjectives' studies will allow revealing essential characteristics of the lexical system of Ancient Greek and identifying the relation between mental peculiarities of time perception and their realization in the concrete lexical unit.

In Ancient Greek temporal adjectives form a big group of units that are different in their form and content.

Among semantic classification of temporal adjectives basing on the materials of different language V. A. Karashchuk's classification that we'll take as a basic one in our research stands by because of its particularization and comprehensiveness.

The author suggests defining the group of qualitative-temporal and adverbial-temporal adjectives (Karashchuk V. A., 1978, 4).

Qualitative-temporal adjectives denote characteristics of particular objects (denotata), their semantics is complicated by different non-temporal semes, that is why they are not related as properly temporal. For example, ἀιθαλής nondeciduous, evergreen; immortal; γαμήλιος wedding, matrimonial; γεραϊός old, venerable; ancient; δίφορος yielding twice a year; ειρηναίος peaceful; ἔκτελής perfected, completed; mature, adult; μειρακιώδης adolescent, youthful, juvenile, βιοθάλλμιος in one's prime, in the bloom of youth healthy, blooming; νεόνυμφος newlywed, young married, newly married; ἀνέορτος ferial.

Adverbial-temporal adjectives are properly temporal that are relative in many aspects to temporal adverbs, as for example, ἡμερήσιος one-day; στιγμιαῖος momentary; ἔμμηνος monthly; βαιός short, brief; μέτριος medium-lived or short-lived; ταχύς fast, momentary, immediate; δολιχός long, prolonged, ἑκατονταετής centenary, centennial, centenarian; πανεπόρφνιος lasting the whole night; ἀζηχής continuous; uninterrupted, unbroken; persistent, permanent; continual, ceaseless; steady.

So let's study the group of properly temporal adjectives.

Adverbial-temporal adjectives correlate with different parts of time field (Karashchuk V. A., 1978, 5). They can be divided into two main semantic groups: "duration" and "moment". Each of groups consists of micro-groups that differ in their quantitative and qualitative characteristics.

There are two groups in the "duration" group, precisely, the definite and indefinite duration.

The "definite duration" group includes lexemes with the meaning of ἐνιαύσιος one-year, annual; μηνιαῖος one-month; ἑκατονταετής centenary, τετρακόρωνος living four crow's life that means very long-lived; τριέσπερος lasting three evenings; ἐφήμερος acting the same day; one-day, fleeting; πανεπόρφνιος lasting the whole night; πανέσπερος lasting the whole evening; covering ten sowing, i.e. ten-year, decennia, ten years, ten-year-old; μυριατής lasting ten thousand years, i. e. endless, infinite, unlimited, boundless, interminable, eternal, everlasting, perpetual; τελεόμηνος containing the full number of months, i. e. whole, all year round, (here and then the translation from Ancient Greek is ours – E. Ch.): ἐννέα τοι ζῶει γενεᾶς λακέρυζα κορώνη, ἀνδρῶν ἡβώντων ἔλαφος δέ τε τετρακόρωνος· τρεῖς δ' ἐλάφους ὁ κόραξ γηράσκειται (Plut., *De def. orac.*, (409e-438d)) – a chattering crow lives for nine generations, while people are in their prime; a deer [lives] for four crow's lives; and during three [lives] of a deer a crow gets old: εἰ δ' ἦν μυριατής ὁ βίος ἢ χιλιετής, παμμεγέθεις τ' ἂν ἔδει γίγνεσθαι τοὺς ἐξ ἀρχῆς καὶ φύεσθαι πολλάκις (Arist., *De gener. animal.*, 745 a) – if the life lasted ten thousand or one thousand years, [teeth] would have to be initially huge and cut a lot of times.

The "indefinite duration" group is divided into such microgroups: "indefinite duration with regard to the norm" and "indefinite duration with no regard to the norm."

The “indefinite duration with regard to the norm” microgroup is made of the words with the following meanings:

1) “less than norm”: αἰψήρως immediate, quick; βραχύς short, not long; μινυυθάδιος brief, short-lived, short-term; ὀλιγοχρόνιος short-termed; of short duration, short-term; παναώριος an adjective used to characterise the one to die untimely; untimely; σύντομος premature; short, brief; ἀκαριαῖος quite small, rather little, insufficient, slight, minor; μινυώριος short-lived, ephemeral, of short duration, transient; ταχύπομος going fast, i. e. impetuous, violent, rash, headlong, quick, fast, swift, rapid; prompt: οὐδὲ τοκεῦσι θρέπτρα φίλοις ἀπέδωκε, μινυυθάδιος δὲ οἱ αἰὼν ἔπλεθ’ ὑπ’ Αἴαντος μεγαθύμου δουρι δαμέντι (Hom., *Il.*, 4, 477-479) – but he didn’t thank even his kind parents, his life was short, it was broken by ruthless spear of brave Ajax: ἀλλ’ ἔμπης, πάντας μὲν ὀδυρόμενος καὶ ἀχεύων, πολλάκις ἐν μεγάροισι καθήμενος ἡμετέροισιν ἄλλοτε μὲν τε γόῳ φρένα τέρομαι, ἄλλοτε δ’ αὐτε παύομαι αἰψήρως δὲ κόρος κρυεροῖο γόοιο (Hom., *Od.*, 4, 100-104) – often crying and grieving for them, here I sit under the home roof, sometimes feasting my heart with the grief, sometimes forgetting of my grief as freezing sorrow makes you tired quickly;

2) “more than norm”: μακρός long; πολλοστός prolonged; ἐπίμονος long, long-continued, constant; χρόνιος long, lengthy, protracted, lingering; μακράϊων long, prolonged; durable, long-run; παμμήκης extremely long, excessively prolonged; συχνός constant, lengthy, long; δολιχός long, enduring; prolonged, long-drawn; μακεστήρ prolonged, durable; παραμόνιμος long, vast, extensive diffuse, verbose, wordy, long-winded, lengthy: ὄψε δὲ δὴ μετὰ νῶϊ κίε Ξανθὸς Μενέλαος, ἐν Λέσβῳ δ’ ἔκικεν δολιχὸν πλόον ὀρμαίνοντας (Hom., *Od.*, 3, 168-169) – later golden-haired Menelaus went on ship, he met [us] in Lesbos thinking of long voyage; τὸ δ’ ἦθος ὀξύς λέγεται γενέσθαι καὶ πρὸς ὀργὴν καὶ πρὸς χάριν, οὐ μὴν ὀμοίως, ἀλλ’ ἐλαφρὸς μὲν ἐν τῷ κολάζειν καὶ οὐκ ἐπίμονος (Plut., *Vitae parall. Titus*, 1. 2. 3) – they say, he was hot-tempered and knows no limits either in wrath or in mercy, but he demonstrates it in different ways, he punished slightly and was not vindictive.

The “indefinite duration with regard to the norm” microgroup include lexemes with the following meanings:

1) limited duration: καίριος transient, fleeting;

σὺ δ', ὦ γεραῖέ – καίριος γὰρ ἤλυθες – λέξον, τί δρῶν ἂν φονέα τει-
σαίμην πατρός (Eur., *Electr.*, 598) – and you, an old man, you are in time
here, give me advice, revenge for my father to this evildoer;

2) unlimited duration: ἀϊδιος eternal; μυρίος interminable, never-ending;
ἐνδελεχής continuous, constant; κατάμονος constant; διατελής constant,
continuous, long-continued; ἀειχρόνιος eternal, imperishable; ἀμετρόβιος
living eternally long, extremely long-lived; ἀκατάπαυστος continuous,
endless, constant, lifelong perpetual; συνεχής ceaseless, constant: τὰ γὰρ
ἀόρατα αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ κτίσεως κόσμου τοῖς ποιήμασιν νοούμενα
καθοραῖται, ἢ τε ἀϊδιος αὐτοῦ δύναμις καὶ θεϊότης (NT, *Rom.*, 1, 20) – so,
his invisible from creation of the world through a creation becomes
visible; ὅθεν ἅμα τῷ διελθεῖν τὰς ἐν ταῖς ἀνοχαῖς ἡμέρας κατάμονος
αὐθις ὁ πόλεμος ἐγγέγονει τοῖς Αἰτωλοῖς (Polyb., *Hist.*, 20, 10, 17) – that is
why as soon as the time of armistice ran off, the prolonged war with the
Aetolians were recommenced.

At the same time the concept “unlimited duration” supposes rather no
indication of the limit than real infinity: ἐννῆμαρ δ' ἐς τεῖχος ἴει ῥόον· ὕε
δ' ἄρα Ζεὺς συνεχές, ὄφρα κε θᾶσσον ἀλίπλοα τείχεα θείη (Hom., *Il.*,
12, 25-26) – nine days he directed them to the stronghold; Zeus constantly
shed the rain to make the stronghold sink in the deep.

If to compare quantitative indexes in the groups above, clear
dominance of adjectives with the meaning of duration of a feature in time
becomes obvious. Adjective with the meaning of “eternal, endless” in
Ancient Greek form a big group of 58 units, while the meaning “transient,
fleeting” is represented by 12 lexemes.

The semantic group “moment” represents time in different ways. Pre-
sence or absence of reference time is of great importance there. Such start-
ing point in the system of time coordinates is “today”, as in the process of
conceptualization and categorization of environment a person identify
himself/herself and nearest objects within the concepts “here” and “now”.

Therefore, the semantic group “moment” is divided into two subgro-
ups: “the moment with no regards to the starting point” and “the moment
regarding the starting point.”

The subgroup “the moment with no regards to the starting point” is
represented by such lexemes: ὑπόρθριος occurring before dawn, early,
morning; ἠωρόνυκτος midnight, late; μεσημβρινός midday, noon; ἀπόκ-
λιτος drooping; ἐαριόρρεπτος spring; ἡμερόφαντος appearing at day, day;

φθινοπωρινός autumn; χειμερινός winter; (before) evening; σεληναῖος lunar: κἄν ἔγρη μεσημβρινός, οὐδεῖς σ' ἀποκλείσει θεσμοθέτης τῆ κιγκλίδι (Arph., *Vesp.*, 774) – when you wake up at midday, they will not lock the bars, as it is there; ὁ δὲ φθινοπωρινός, ἐν ᾧ φυλλοχοεῖ τὰ δένδρα, πολλὴν ἀνωμαλίαν ἔχων καὶ τραχύτητα διαστρέφει (Plut., *Quaest. Conviv.*, 612c) – autumn air in the period of abscission is uneven and rough.

The subgroup “the moment regarding the starting point” includes such microgroups:

1) “the moment regarding present time”: ἔνος last year's; λοιπός future, coming; προτεραῖος previous, former, preceding; τελευταῖος last, latest, final; ὑστεραῖος next, tomorrow; ἐπιεπής referring to the current year, this year; καθημέριος present; ἀρχέγονος initial, original, primary, prime; πανημέριος going to be during the rest of the day; χθιζός yesterday's, of yesterday, last night's:

βραχὺς δέ σοι πάντως ὁ λοιπός ἦν βιώσιμος χρόνος (Eur., *Alcest.*, 650) – your age [ad verbum *the rest time of the life*] was too little; ὁ τελευταῖος διαπλεύσας αὐτοῖς ἀπὸ τῶν ἐκ τῆς ἠπείρου Λακεδαιμονίων ἀνήρ ἀπήγγειλεν (Thuc., *Hist.*, 4, 38, 3) – the last [messenger], that sailed to them from those who were on the continent brought a decision;

2) “The moment regarding fixed time”: μέσος average; ὀμφακίας premature, early; ἄκαιρος untimely, irrelevant; ἄνωρος premature; καιρός in-time, appropriate, proper; τυχικός accidental, fortuitous; ὠριος in-time, well-timed; ὠμός premature, early, untimely; ἐξαίφινιδιος sudden, unexpected; surprise; κύριος appointed, assigned, set, prescribed, established, fixed; γνώμα δ' οἷς μὲν ἄκαιρος ὄλβου, τοῖς δ' ἐς μέσον ἦκει (Eur., *Iphig. Taur.*, 419) – their opinion is not welcomed by the fate that is favourably disposed toward self-restrained [i. e. reserved]; γάμος δέ τοι ὠριος οὗτος (Hes., *Op. et dies*, 697) – this marriage is in time for you.

The group of adjectives with the meaning of reiteration that include lexemes with the shade of periodic, cyclic feature or property should be named separately. They are ἀμοιβαῖος alternate, rotational; ἕκαστος every, any; πυκνός frequent, quick; ἐπημοιβός interchangeable, alternate, aguish; ἡμερήσιος daily; ἐγκύκλιος circular, round; περιοδικός alternate; regularly alternate, periodical; διάτριτος recurring every third day; πενταετηρικός taking place every five years; ἐτεροήμερος alternating in a day:

αὐτὰρ ὄγ' ἡμάτιος μὲν ἐν οὐρεσι φύλλ' ἐτίνασσεν τυτθὸν ἐπ' ἄκρο-
τάτοισιν ἀήσυρος ἀκρεμόνεσσιν (Apoll. Rhod., *Argonaut.*, 2, 1100) – win-
ded the whole day in the mountains, slightly swing leaves in the upper
branches by its gentle breathing.

In the semantic group “moment” adjectives of the group “the moment
regarding fixed time” should be special emphasised. There such lexemes
that indicate the feature regarding the next moments can be singled out:

1) annual cycle:

a) year (5 unites): ἐνιαύσιος annual, yearly; ἔτειος annual; yearly, lasting
during a year; ἐτήσιος annual, yearly; διετήσιος annual, yearly; ἐπετή-
σιος annual, yearly: καὶ μὴν καὶ τῶν πόνων πλείστας ἀναπαύλας τῇ
γνώμῃ ἐπορισάμεθα, ἀγῶσι μὲν γε καὶ θυσίαις διετησίαις νομίζοντες,
ἰδίαις δὲ κατασκευαῖς εὐπρεπέσιν, ὧν καθ' ἡμέραν ἢ τέρψις τὸ
λύπτρον ἐκπλήσσει (Thuc., *Hist.*, 2. 38. 1-2) – we established a lot of
entertainment for a soul to rest after work, that relieves hardship of
everyday life by happiness of annual competitions and celebrations, as
well as by modesty of home life; κάκεινων <...> ἢ φύσις φρυγανώδης, ἢ
μὲν ἐπέτειος οὔσα μόνον, ἢ δὲ πολυχρονιωτέρα (Theophr., *Hist. Plant.*, 6,
6, 2) – their nature is diverse, some of them are annual, the others live
much longer;

b) month (2 unites): ἔμμηνος month's, monthly; ἐπιμήνιος month's,
monthly: ἢ δ' ἔμμηνος κάθαρσις οὐ πλήθους ἀλλὰ διαφθορᾶς καὶ φαν-
λότῃτος ἐστὶν αἵματος (Plut., *Quaest. Conviv.*, 612 c) – monthly clarifica-
tion happens not because of blood fullness, but because of infirmity and
sickness;

c) day (9 unites): ἡμερήσιος one-day, day's, ephemeral, ephemeral;
ἡμέριος one-day, day's, ephemeral, ephemeral, living not longer than a
day; ἐφημέριος one-day, day's, ephemeral, ephemeral, lasting one day;
ἐφήμερος happening the same day, one-day, day's, ephemeral, epheme-
rous, lasting one day; καθημερινός daily, everyday; καθημέριος daily,
everyday; παρήμερος daily, everyday; πανημέριος lasting the whole day,
taking place in the last part of the day; πανήμερος daily, everyday,
happening from day to day, happening during the current day: ἐγένετο
δὲ ἐν τῷ ἱερατεύειν αὐτὸν ἐν τῇ τάξει τῆς ἐφημερίας αὐτοῦ ἔναντι τοῦ
θεοῦ (NT. *Lc.*, 1.8) – once he served his day turn in the sight of God;

2) day, day and night, 24 hours:

a) morning (9 unites): έωθινός morning, early; έξως occurring before dawn, morning; ήέριος morning, occurring at dawn; όρθριος morning, early; σύνορθρος occurring at dawn, occurring before dawn; ύπηϊος occurring before dawn, morning; ύπόρθριος occurring at dawn, occurring before dawn; πρωινός morning: πρωί δ' ύπηϊοί σὺν τεύχεσι θωρηχθέντες στησόμεθ' ἄμ πύργους (Hom., *Il.*, 18, 277-278) – in the morning at dawn [*ad verbum we, that are at dawn*] we, armoured, will stand on the towers; ἀποκλινομένης δὲ τῆς μεσαμβρίας γίνεται σφι ό ήλιος κατά περ τοῖσι ἄλλοισι ό έωθινός (Her., *Hist.*, 3, 104, 13) – after the midday the sun is shining there as bright as in the morning at our place;

b) day (7 unites): ήμάτιος day, day's, daily, working during daylight hours; ήμερήσιος day, day's, daily; ήμερινός day, day's, daily, arriving at daytime; ήμέριος day, day's, daily, happening at daytime; μεθήμερινός day, day's, daily; μεσημβρινός midday, meridional; ήμερόφαντος day, day's, daily, emerging at daytime: ένθα και ήματιή μὲν ύφαίνεσκεν μέγαν ιστόν, νύκτας δ' ἄλλύεσκεν, ἐπὴν δαΐδας παραθεῖτο (Hom., *Od.*, 2, 104-105) – at daytime [*ad verbum daily*] she weaved a big linen, at night, having lighten the torches, she unravelled it; πρὸ γάρ τ' ἄλέγνυνεν ἕκαστα ήμάτιος (Apoll. Rhod., *Argonaut.*, 3, 1199) – after all, it was made beforehand at daytime;

b) evening (6 unites): έσπεριος evening, night; έσπερος evening, night; ἀκρέσπερος appearing early or late at night; ἀκροκνέφαιος appearing with dusk coming; ἀπόκλιτος drooping; καταφερής just before the sunset: Τηλεμάχῳ εἰκυῖα κατὰ πτόλιν ὤχετο πάντη, καί ῥα ἑκάστῳ φωτὶ παρισταμένη φάτο μῦθον, έσπερίους δ' ἐπὶ νῆα θοῖν ἀγέρεσθαι ἀνώγει (Hom., *Od.*, 2, 383-385) – she took the shape of Telemachus and ran all over the city, addressing kindly to everyone, invited everybody to the fast ship in the evening [*ad verbum happening in the evening*]; έσπεριος δ' ἂν ἔπειτα λοεσσάμενος ποταμοῖο ἰδρῶ ἀποψυχθεῖς προτὶ Ἴλιον ἀπονεοίμην (Hom., *Il.*, 21, 564-565) – and there I, as soon as evening [*ad verbum happening in the evening*] comes, will wash myself in the torrent of sweat and come back to Ilion again;

c) night (13 unites): παννύχιος lasting all night long; πάννυχος lasting all night long; νυκτερήσιος night; νυκτερινός night; νύκτερος night; νύκτιος night; νύχιος night; έννύχιος night, midnight; ἐπινύκτιος night; ἀκρόνυχος emerging with night's coming; ἀωρόνυκτος midnight, late; μεσονύκτιος midnight; νυκτερωπός emerging at night, night: έγρεο

Τυδέος υιέ' τί πάννυχον ὕπνον ἀωτεῖς (Hom., *Il.*, 10, 159) – Get up Tydeus' son! The one that sleeps [*ad verbum* lasting the whole night] the whole night; εἶθε με κοιμάσειε τὸν δυσδαίμον' Ἄιδου μέλαινα νύκτερός τ' ἀνάγκη (Eur., *Hipp.*, 1388) – You, Hades' dark night power, make me, the poor thing, asleep.

In subgroup “the moment with no regards to the starting point” adjectives with general meaning “timely” (5 unites) are found: καίριος timely, opportune, well-timed, convenient, appropriate; ὤριος timely, opportune, well-timed, being in time; ἐπικαίριος timely, opportune, pressing, urgent; εὐκαίριος timely, opportune, appropriate, pertinent, well-timed; and “untimely” (9 unites): ἄκαιρος untimely, inopportune, unseasonable, tardy, inappropriate, irrelevant; ἄωρος untimely, inopportune, unseasonable, tardy, premature, early, untimely; ἄνωρος premature, early, untimely; ἀποκαίριος untimely, inopportune, unseasonable, tardy, unnecessary, needless useless; ἔκκαιρος untimely, inopportune, unseasonable, tardy; ἔξωρος untimely, inopportune, unseasonable, tardy, inappropriate; irrelevant; παρακαίριος untimely, inopportune, unseasonable, tardy, inappropriate, irrelevant: ἀκούσαντες οἱ Λάκωνες ταῦτα ἔφασαν ἐρεῖν καὶ ἄλλα ὅποια ἂν δύνωνται κράτιστα· καὶ εὐθὺς ἐπορεύοντο ἔχοντες πάντας τοὺς ἐπικαιρίους (Xen., *Anab.*, 7. 7. 15) – after having listened Laconians said that they can propose these as well as other convincing arguments; and started out at once, taking with them everybody who had any connection to this.

The analysis of quantity and quality of particular semantic groups and subgroups allowed making some interesting conclusions.

On the whole, the meaning of duration in the group of temporal adjectives is represented by a greater number of units. Semantic groups of “duration”, “moment”, “reiteration” have the following percentage: 53% – 40% – 7% correspondently.

The quantitative index within the group also differs. For example, unites with the meaning of “indefinite duration” prevail in the semantic group of “duration” (59%). Correspondently the subgroup “definite duration” includes 41% of lexemes.

In the semantic group “moment” the adjectives with the meaning of “the moment regarding the starting point” dominates over the subgroup “the moment with no regards to the starting point” (67% and 33%). There is essential predominance of lexemes with the meaning of “the moment

regarding fixed time" comparing with the adjectives that denote the "the moment regarding present time."

The quantity of unites in the above studied subgroups certainly gives some evidence of level of significance of single time intervals in Ancient Greeks' perception. Thus, the presence among adjectives of annual cycle of nine unites with the general meaning "daily", "everyday" shows the importance of the interval for perception and measuring of time. These adjectives are derivatives from the noun *ἡμέρα* made by the prefixes that specify the characteristic of being inside the time interval named by noun stem (*ἔφημέριος*, *ἐφήμερος*, *καθημερινός*, *καθημέριος*, *παρήμερος*). A year interval also plays an important part in comprehension of time process. Adjectives with the meaning "annual", "yearly" are based on the nouns *ἔτος*, *ἐνιαυτός* and are made by suffix (*ἐνιαύσιος*, *ἔτειος*, *ἐτήσιος*) or prefix (*διετήσιος*, *ἐπετήσιος*) word building way. It should be noted that a month interval, which is represented by a minimum quantity of units, is irrelevant for Ancient Greek native speakers.

The parts of a day are represented in Ancient Greek by great number of units with their special structures. Nine adjectives with the meaning of "morning" are mostly derivatives of the nouns with the meaning "dawn, daybreak" (*ἔως*, *ὄρθρος*) and indicates the interval of time before the dawn or just after the sunrise. So, morning for Ancient Greeks is mainly the time of dawn. Seven unites with the meaning of "day, daily" are based on the noun "day", the one of the same root as the day as a whole, as a part of the annual cycle. "Day, daily" in the Ancient Greek is relevant to light part of the day after the dawn before the dusk. "Evening" is based on the General-Indo-European root **Fεσπερ-* and also contains some verbal unites with the meaning of "taking place after the dawn". The adjectives with the meaning of "night" are mainly derivatives from the noun *νύξ* and, having a compound structure, are made with the suffixes (*νυκτερήσιος*, *νυκτερινός*, *νύκτερος*, *νύκτιος*, *νύχιος*), prefixes (*ἐννύχιος*, *ἐπινύκτιος*), by stem-compounding (*παννύχιος*, *πάννυχος*, *ἀκρόνυχος*, *ἄωρόνυκτος*, *μεσονύκτιος*, *νυκτερωπός*). The variety of ways of making adjectives with the meaning "night", the inspiration to concretize this temporal characteristic of objects or phenomena indicates a special status of this time of day. Night, as the most mysterious, as the time of a day that, in a way, is beyond comprehension, finds its realization in a number of units with the difficult and various structure, and that reflects a human

desire to name in a most concrete way the phenomenon that cannot be fixed and evaluated from time point of view. It is obvious that comprehension of contemporaneity/incontemporaneity of an event or a phenomenon was important for Greeks, the meaning of “impertinence, irrelevance” of the event dominates and finds its realization in a number of lexemes.

Basing on the give statistics we may conclude the following.

The quantitative filling of the particular groups and subgroups, on the one hand, testify the objective fixation of the pieces of reality in language. That can be well illustrated by the ratio of microgroups “the moment regarding present time”/“the moment regarding fixed time”, as present time being the starting point is characterized by limited quantity of points that interact with it in the time system of coordinates. The other points of time, which are chosen and fixed by a speaker, are various and have a great number of connections with the other points of time; that found its reflection in the structure of the microgroups of the temporal adjectives.

On the other hand, predominance of unites in one of the groups under the comparison shows the great importance, significance of the part of the knowledge of the world that expresses itself in these lexemes for native-speakers.

So, we can say that perception of time duration appears to be more essential than a particular moment fixation for Ancient Greek native-speakers. Besides the vision of indefinite duration gets its expression and particularizes in a number of lexemes.

The group of adjective with the meaning of reiteration shows by its quantity (7% of the whole quantity of temporal adjectives) Ancient Greek’s typical perception of time as cyclic, repetitive current of events.

Important information for understanding of peculiarities of the category of time’s expression in the system of adjectives is given by the analysis of their world-building structure in different semantic groups and subgroups.

As a whole, the dominance of noun stems of nouns and adjectives is evident here. Moment/duration adjectives, derivatives of nouns (often temporal, acting to concretize the space of time) dominate in the groups with the meaning of definite time: ἡμερῖνός day; θερινός summer; νυκτερινός night; ὅλοτελής whole, complete, finished; ἐπιμῆνιος monthly; διετήσιος a year-long.

The “indefinite duration” subgroup attracts special attention as adjectives that are derivatives from verb stems dominate there (65% of this group’s lexemes). Verb stems’ basis in the case strengthen the aspect of duration, eventfulness that is not limited by time, as a part of semantic structure of the adjectives: ἀδιάπαυστος continuous, permanent, constant; ἀμετάστατος firm, stable, invariable, constant; δύσλυτος endless, infinite; προσεχής constant, continuous, permanent; συμφύης entire, unbroken.

As the received data are based on the results of the continuous sampling from the dictionary, the question as to accuracy of proposed conclusions may arise, the lexemes that were analyzed are really elements of different dialect groups and sometimes relates to different periods of development of Ancient Greek. There we proceed from the fact of the unique status of Ancient Greek that during all its development harmoniously united “new” and “old” in itself – in different periods archaic forms always co-existed with contemporary ones, obsolete grammar and lexical unites are deeply intertwined with neologisms. The mosaic structure of Ancient Greek never prevented its native speaker from adequate perception of its functional variants: spoken and literary language. As both variants were relevant to the principals of objectivation of knowledge about the world, framework of successful communication Ancient Greek always was apprehended and realized integrally. At the same time it should be noted that the perspective of diachronic analysis of functions and semantics of some adjectives is also seen as rather productive, that is proved by the results of similar researches based on the other languages’ material.

So returning to the thought given before, language is an expresser, an interpreter, a keeper of knowledge about the world. The result of cognitive and transforming activity of people is reflected in it. In that sense the language itself can become our way of perception, a way of getting information about results of cognitive activity of particular peoples, of their world view, in particular, perception of the category of time.

The analysis of semantic and world-building structure of temporal adjectives, studying of particular components of these structures in their correlation gives an opportunity to reconstruct the temporal picture of the world of Ancient Greeks, to identify its dominants and priorities.

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Abstract

The concept of time is an important component of any individual's picture of the world, as it is an absolute attribute of matter.

The forming in the conscious of definite views of time and these views' representation on the different levels of language on the different stage of its development depend on the kind and the way of perception, as well as on objective features of the language.

In the works, devoted to category of time, it is semantic interaction of tense forms of the verb and the other means of time relation's expressing that are more often analyzed. The question of differentiation of two language paradigms of "grammar tense" and "lexical time" is rather topical.

The concept of time on the logical level was realized in different groups of lexemes, particularly in the system of adjectives.

The features of adjectives according to their vocabulary, world-building structure, and semantics are peculiar for every single language and reflect, in particular, the character of cognitive activity and fixation of its results by a human.

Copious vocabulary of Ancient Greek contains valuable information about the way of world perception as a whole and time in peculiar. To understand such encoded information the deep analysis of lexeme from the point of view of their semantics, quantitative indexes, filling of single lexical-semantic groups and world-building structures is necessary. Generalization of findings will allow understanding of what and how exactly was named by Ancient Greek speakers, in what quantity of elements important information of environment was fixed.

The analysis of semantic and world-building structure of temporal adjectives, studying of particular components of these structures in their correlation gives an opportunity to reconstruct the temporal picture of the world of Ancient Greeks, to identify its dominants and priorities.