

Iambic verse is the meter of comedy. There are 3 units of 2 feet each; the second half of each foot must be long; the first half of the first unit can be long or short, but the first half of the second unit must be short.

Below I've used an n dash – to separate the 3 units, with a hyphen - between the two feet of each unit. The **bold** indicates a heavy syllable and blue indicates a light, while grey is for anceps (heavy or light).

'Εξ ḥ-δονῆς – γὰρ φύ-εται – τὸ δυσ-τυχεῖν.

'Εξ ḥδονῆς γὰρ φύεται τὸ δυστυχεῖν.

'Η γὰρ - σιω-πὴ, μαρ-τυρεῖ – τὸ μὴ - θέλειν.

'Η γὰρ σιωπὴ, μαρτυρεῖ τὸ μὴ θέλειν.

Ἄνηρ - ὁ φεύ-γων καὶ - πάλιν – μαχή-σεται.

Ἄνηρ ὁ φεύγων καὶ πάλιν μαχήσεται.

Εἰ θνη-τὸς εῖ, – βέλτισ-τε, θνη-τὰ καὶ - φρόνει.

Εἰ θνητὸς εῖ, βέλτιστε, θνητὰ καὶ φρόνει.

Σιγή - ποτ' ἔσ-τὶν, αἱ-ρετω-τέρα - λόγου.

Σιγή ποτ' ἔστὶν, αἱρετωτέρα λόγου.

Φεῦγ' ḥ-δονὴν, – φέρου-σαν ὕσ-τερον - βλάβην.

Φεῦγ' ḥδονὴν, φέρουσαν ὕστερον βλάβην.

Βέβαιον ούδέν ἐστιν, ἐν – θνητῷ - βίῳ.

Βέβαιον ούδέν ἐστιν, ἐν θνητῷ βίῳ.

Ἡ γλῶσσα πολλῶν ἐστιν αἰτία κακῶν.

Ἡ γλῶσσα πολλῶν ἐστιν αἰτία κακῶν.

Τῶν γὰρ - πενήτων εἰσὶν οἱ λόγοι - κενοί.

Τῶν γὰρ πενήτων εἰσὶν οἱ λόγοι κενοί.