

Lesson 1

The Alphabet

	Form		Name	Sound
A	α	ἄλφα	alpha	a
B	β	βῆτα	beta	b
Γ	γ	γάμμα	gamma	g
Δ	δ	δέλτα	delta	d
E	ε	ἕ ψιλόν	epsilon	e
Z	ζ	ζῆτα	zeta	z
H	η	ἦτα	eta	e
Θ	θ	θῆτα	theta	th
I	ι	ἰῶτα	iota	i
K	κ	κάππα	kappa	k
Λ	λ	λάμβδα	lambda	l
M	μ	μῦ	mu	m
N	ν	νῦ	nu	n
Ξ	ξ	ξεῖ (ξῖ)	xi	x, ks
O	ο	ὀ μικρόν	omicron	o
Π	π	πεῖ (πῖ)	pi	p
P	ρ	ῥῶ	rho	r
Σ	σ, ς	σίγμα	sigma	s
T	τ	ταῦ	tau	t
Υ	υ	ῦψιλον	üpsilon	u (y)
Φ	φ	φεῖ (φῖ)	phi	ph
X	χ	χεῖ (χῖ)	chi	ch (German)
Ψ	ψ	ψεῖ (ψῖ)	psi	ps
Ω	ω	ὦ μέγα	omega	o

Gamma γ before the palatals (κ γ χ) has the sound of ng as in think.

γγ ἄγγελος (Lat. angelus)

γκ ἄγκυρα

γξ Σφίγξ

γχ ἡλέγχθην

Vowels, Diphthongs

long	short
α/ᾱ	α
η	ε
ι/ῖ	ι
ω	ο
υ/ῦ	υ

$\bar{\alpha}$ $\bar{\iota}$ $\bar{\upsilon}$ are used in the Classical Greek to denote the long vowels and they are no longer used in the LXX or New Testament Greek. Thus, vowels α ι υ may be long or short.

A diphthong combines two vowels in one syllable.

αι ει
οι υι
αυ ου
ευ ηυ

Diphthongs are normally treated as long vowels except when $\alpha\iota$ $\omicron\iota$ are used as endings. (but, long in the optative in the aorist)

	sing. opt. act.	infinitive act	sing. imper. mid
λύω	λύσαι	λύσαι	λύσαι
ἄπολύω	ἄπολύσαι	ἄπολύσαι	ἄπόλυσαι
παιδεύω	παιδεύσαι	παιδεύσαι	παίδευσαι

Iota subscript and Adscript

An iota ι with long vowels ($\bar{\alpha}$ η ω) is written beneath (subscript) and is not pronounced. $\alpha\iota$ $\eta\iota$ $\omega\iota$. With capital letters, is written on the same line. $\lambda\acute{\omicron}\gamma\omega$ ΛΟΓΩΙ

Breathings

--A *rough breathing* (´), sounding *h*, is pronounced before the vowel. Ex. Ἑλένη (Helene), ὑπόθεσις (hypothesis), ῥητορικὴ (rhetorike).

--A *soft breathing* (´) makes no effect on pronunciation.

ᾠ) εἰρήνη, ἐλυόμην, οὐρανοῖς, ἄνθρωπος

Syllables and Accents

The number of syllables are determined by the number of vowels or diphthongs.

Ex.) ἀπόστολος (ἄ-ποσ-το-λος---four syllables)

Accent

Regardless of the number of syllables, only the last three syllables receive the accents.

The names of the syllables from the last are called *ultima*, *penult* and *antepenult*.

ᾠ) ἀπόστολος

ultima—λος

penult-- το

antepenult-- πος

1. acute (´): on any of the last three syllables.
2. circumflex (˘): on any of the last two syllables (*ultima* or *penult*) with a long vowel.
3. grave (˘): only on the last syllable.

** When the ultima is:

- a. Long: *antepenult* cannot be accented. Ex.) παιδεύω
- b. Short: & if *penult* is long and accented, it takes circumflex accent. Ex.) παιδεύον, λυε

Exercises

1. Read aloud the following sentences.

ἐν ἀρχῇ ἐποίησεν ὁ θεὸς τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ τὴν γῆν

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος, καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν, καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος.
οὗτος ἦν ἐν ἀρχῇ πρὸς τὸν θεόν.
πάντα δι' αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο, καὶ χωρὶς αὐτοῦ ἐγένετο οὐδὲ ἓν. ὃ γέγονεν
ἐν αὐτῷ ζωὴ ἦν, καὶ ἡ ζωὴ ἦν τὸ φῶς τῶν ἀνθρώπων.

2. Write each words ten times and read aloud.

ἀκούω
εἰρήνη
ἀλήθεια
αἷμα
ώρα

3. Study lesson 2 and memorize new words.