The GREEK Alphabet Pronunciation and Transliteration

September 18, 2014

Alpha-Omega

Alpha, Beta, Gamma

The Greek Alphabet song

a

- Alpha, a as in father

a

<u>a</u>

B

- Beta, b as om Bible

B

b

Y

- Gamma, g as in gone

Y

g

8

- Delta, d as in dog

9

0

3

Epsilon,e as in met

3

<u>e</u>

5

- Zeta, z as in daze

5

7

ŋ

- Eta, e as in obey

ŋ

ē

H

- Theta, th as in thing

O

th

- lota, i as in intrigue

K

- Kappa, k as in kitchen

K

K

 λ

- Lambda I as in law

Λ

H

- Mu m as in mother

H



ν - Νυ n as in new

ソ

5

- Xi x as in axiom

5



O - Omicron
o as in not

T - Pi
p as in peach

71

P

P - Rho r as in rod

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O

- Sigma sit

O

5

5

T - Tau t as in talk

7

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U

- Upsilon
u as the german ü

U



* Transliterated as a "u" if preceded by another vowel, and as a "y" if it occurs as a single vowel.



- Phi ph as in phone



ph

X

- Chi ch as in loch

X

ch



- Psi, ps as in lips



05

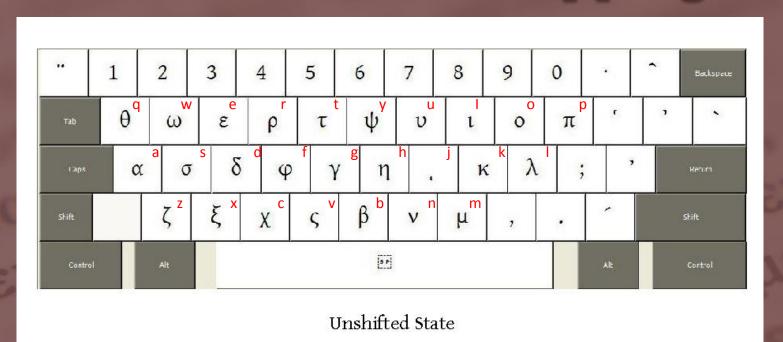
(W)

- Omega o as in tone

(U)



SBL Font and Greek mapping



Pronunciation — γ Special

- γ usually has a hard "g" sound as in "get" or "goat"
- However when the " γ " is followed by " $\gamma \kappa \chi \xi$ " then it is pronounced as "n". This is called a gamma nasal

Pronunciation — γ Special examples

Greek	TransLit	Sounds like
γγ	ng	As ng in bing
γκ	nk	As nk in boink
γχ	nch	As nch in bunch
γξ	nx	As nx in anxious

Diphthongs

• A diphthong is a combination of two vowels that produce one sound. The second vowel is always "ı" or "v".

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Diphthongs (cont)

Diphthong	As in	Greek Example
αι	As in aisle	αιρω
E1	As in eight	E1
01	As oil	οικια
αυ	As in sauerkraut	αυτοσ
ου	As in soup	ουδε
υι	As in suite	υιος
C1) 21)	As in feud	ευθυσ
ευ, ηυ	As in redu	ηυξανεν

Breathing Marks

 Greek has two breathing marks, "rough" and "smooth". Every word beginning with a vowel, or a rho has a breathing mark.

"`" is the rough breathing mark
"'" is the smooth breathing mark

Breathing Marks (cont)

- Rough breathing mark:
 - -Adds an "h" sound before the vowel
 - -Adds an "h" sound after the rho
- Smooth breathing marks are not pronounced.
- Either breathing mark is placed ahead of an opening Capital letter.
- Either breathing mark is placed over the 2nd letter in a diphthong.

SBL Font — Breathing Marks

rough 2 3 5 7 8 9 0 1 4 6 Backspace 0 ψ ω 3 P τ U 1 0 π λ σ α φ Y η K β X 5 V μ 1 5 P **Unshifted State**

smooth

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Syllabification

Greek words syllabify much the same as English words do.

- 1. There is one vowel or dipthong per syllable
- 2. A single consonant goes with the following vowel ie, αυ-τος not αυτ-οσ

Detailed Syllabification Rules

- 1. There is one vowel or diphthong per syllable
- 2. Two consecutive vowels that do not form a diphthong are divided
- 3. A single consonant goes with the following word.
- 4. A consonant cluster that does not form a single sound is divided
- 5. A consonant cluster that forms a single sound goes with the following vowel
- 6. Double consonants are divided (two of the same consonants adjacent)
- 7. Compound words are divided where joined.

John 3:16, Normal & Syllabified

• Ούτως γὰρ ἠγάπησεν ὁ θεὸς τὸν κόσμον ὥστε τὸν υἱὸν τὸν μονογενῆ ἔδωκεν, ἵνα πᾶς ὁ πιστεύων εἰς αὐτὸν μὴ ἀπόληται ἀλλὰ ἔχη ζωὴν αἰώνιον.

Ού-τως γὰρ ή-γά-πη-σεν ὁ θε-ὸς τὸν κό-σμον ὥσ-τε τὸν υί-ὸν τὸν μο-νο-γε-νῆ ἔ-δω-κεν, ἵνα πᾶς ὁ πι-στεύ-ων εἰς αὐ-τὸν μὴ ἀ-πό-λη-ται ἀλλὰ ἔ-χη ζω-ὴν αἰ-ώ-νι-ον.

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ACCENTS

Accents - There are Three

Acute
Grave
Circumflex

voice rose
voice dropped
voice rose
& dropped

αἰτέω θεὸσ Ἰησοῦς Gk101 — Introduction to Hebrew and Greek - Fall 2014

PUNCTUATION

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Punctuation

- There are 4 punctuation marks:
 - 1. Period Same as English.
 - 2. Comma Same as English,
 - 3. SemiColon

a period above the line.

4. Question Mark an English semicolon;

Transliteration Usage

Many Greek "tools" will include a transliteration of the text being studied. Examples include:

- Verb: λέγω (legō), GK 3306
- Noun: σάρξ (sarx), GK 4922
- Noun: ἀββά (abba), GK 5

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LET'S TRY SOME READING

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John 1:1-5 Bible Reading

1.1 Έν ἀρχῆ ἦν ὁ λόγος, καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεόν, καὶ θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος. 2 οὖτος ήν εν άρχη πρός τὸν θεόν. 3 πάντα δι' αὐτοῦ έγένετο, καὶ χωρὶς αὐτοῦ έγένετο οὐδὲ ἕν. δ γέγονεν 4 ἐν αὐτῷ ζωὴ ἦν, καὶ ἡ ζωὴ ἦν τὸ φῶς τῶν ἀνθρώπων· 5 καὶ τὸ φῶς ἐν τῆ σκοτία φαίνει, καὶ ή σκοτία αὐτὸ οὐ κατέλαβεν.

- Holmes, M. W. (2010). The Greek New Testament: SBL Edition (Jn 1). Lexham Press.







Let's Try a little reading!

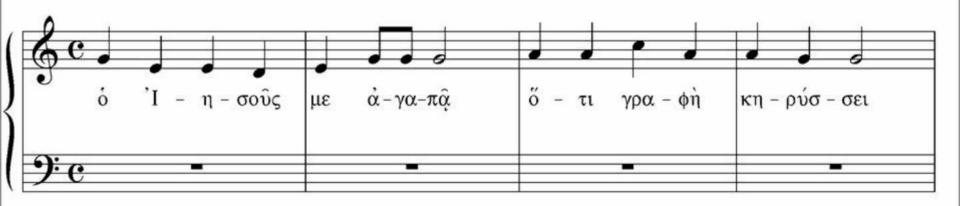
Let's Try a little reading!

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LET'S SING JESUS LOVES ME.

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