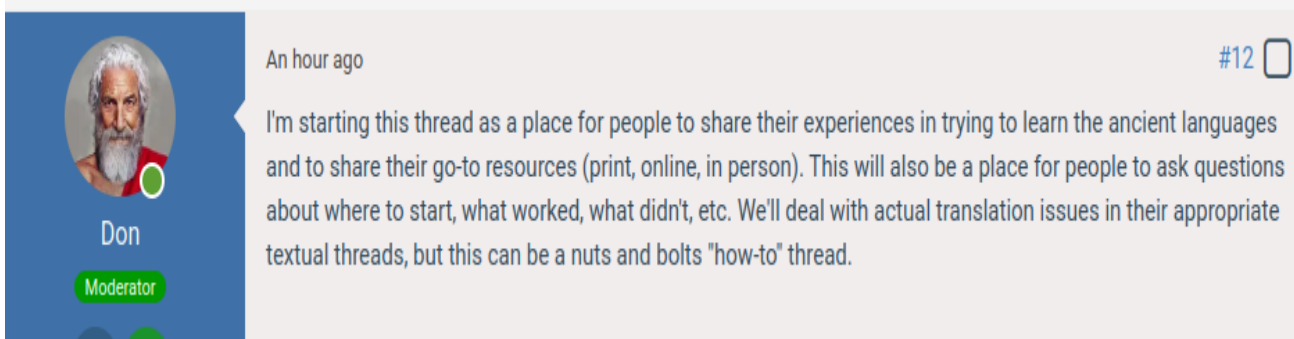


So You Want To Learn Ancient Greek Or Latin?

Post by “burninglights” of November 17, 2023 at 8:20 PM



A screenshot of a forum post. On the left is a profile card for a user named 'Don', who is a moderator. The post itself is titled 'An hour ago' and is the 12th in a thread. The text of the post reads: 'I'm starting this thread as a place for people to share their experiences in trying to learn the ancient languages and to share their go-to resources (print, online, in person). This will also be a place for people to ask questions about where to start, what worked, what didn't, etc. We'll deal with actual translation issues in their appropriate textual threads, but this can be a nuts and bolts "how-to" thread.'

DON: I'm starting this thread as a place for people to share their experiences in trying to learn the ancient languages and to share their go-to resources (print, online, in person). This will also be a place for people to ask questions about where to start, what worked, what didn't, etc. We'll deal with actual translation issues in their appropriate textual threads, but this can be a nuts and bolts "how-to" thread.

[Cassius' Admin Edit: This thread was branched off from [the lengthy "gods" thread](#) as it is a new and important topic, and that's why this first post comes from Burninglights, as it was requested there.]

[Don](#), by the way, reading your various comments here and your translation of the Menoecus letter where you proudly proclaimed yourself an amateur inspired me to take a first leap into ancient Greek today. I'm not sure how far I will go with it, but thank you for the inspiration all the same!

Post by “Don” of November 17, 2023 at 8:51 PM

[Quote from burninglights](#)

inspired me to take a first leap into ancient Greek today.



That's great!! This may involve starting another thread, but what resources are you using? I might have some suggestions, but only if you (or others) are interested.

Post by “Don” of November 18, 2023 at 12:16 AM

[Quote from burninglights](#)

Just the LSJ and one free .edu site I signed up for that I [can't even pronounce](#) and haven't figured out how to use yet. It appears to run on the LSJ too. I'm definitely open to suggestions! I can't say I have grand ambitions, but it's nice to feel empowered enough to "check under the hood" when I have questions about translations and stuff.

The two best (i.e., easiest and free) ways to access the LSJ is to:

(a) Use the Perseus Digital Library for texts: ex. [Diogenes Laertius, Book X](#) - then look to the right for "Greek (R.D. Hicks, 1972) focus load" - click on "load" - that will give you the Greek text while maintaining the English. Click on ANY word in Greek, and it will open up a separate window with options to see definitions and declensions in the LSJ, Middle Liddell, Slater, and Autenrieth dictionaries.

(b) Open Wiktionary - <https://www.wiktionary.org/> - copy and paste in any ancient Greek word - get a good solid basic definition (with sample declensions for nouns, conjugations for verbs!) - and link to the Perseus LSJ and other dictionaries.

That's all my secrets I'm divulging for tonight 😁

PS. Okay, definitely check out Luke Rainieri's stuff online, especially his You Tube channels, ex. <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLU1WuLg45Six4gYLaBrTAlvfjXWKJ1EkN&feature=shared>

Post by “Cassius” of November 18, 2023 at 6:20 AM

I am slow to the Greek game but I am thinking we will probably split out these last comments / hints into a "Can We Persuade Don To Make A "Greek For Beginner's" Presentation?"

My own small contribution is that I just finally discovered if I did a screen shot of a Greek term I could upload it to Google Images and it will provide a translation. This is hugely useful to me

because I am regularly cutting and pasting from PDFs of books that have Greek words, but for some reason my PDF program does not pick up the Greek letters and turns it into gibberish. And looking for a Greek keyboard to retype them is very difficult when you're not familiar with the letters. What I've just discovered is that the link below will take an image of the Greek lettering and turn it into Greek text for you.



Post by “Don” of November 18, 2023 at 6:30 AM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

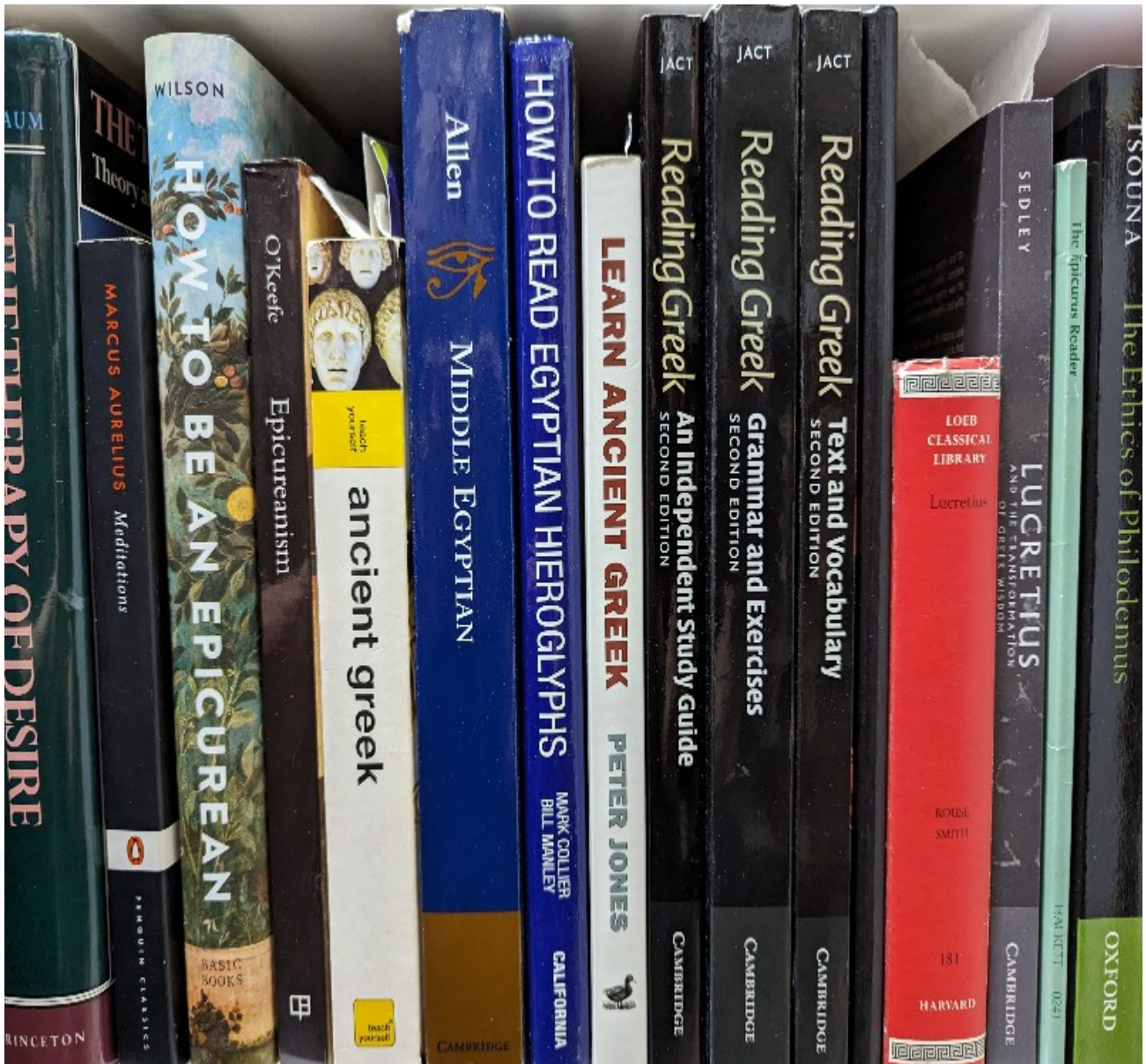
I am regularly cutting and pasting from PDFs of books that have Greek words, but for some reason my PDF program does not pick up the Greek letters and turns it into gibberish.

That all has to do with how good the OCR of the PDF was done by whoever uploaded it.

Post by “Don” of November 18, 2023 at 6:42 AM

I'm starting this thread as a place for people to share their experiences in trying to learn the ancient languages and to share their go-to resources (print, online, in person). This will also be a place for people to ask questions about where to start, what worked, what didn't, etc. We'll deal with actual translation issues in their appropriate textual threads, but this can be a nuts and bolts "how-to" thread.

Post by “Don” of November 18, 2023 at 9:26 AM



btw, I own Dr. Austin's book as an ebook!

... And, full confession, I have NOT completely read all these the whole way through.

And I also just realized my Penguin copy of A.E. Stallings' *On the Nature of Things** isn't on that shelf! I'll have to remedy that.

(*It's on the shelf. Just off the frame 🙄)

Post by “Don” of November 18, 2023 at 11:26 AM

It probably goes without saying, but the first step for anyone wanting to learn Ancient Greek is simply sit down and learn the alphabet.

You'll need it to read.

You'll need it to look up words in dictionaries.

You'll need it to eventually pronounce words.

A fun way to practice is just write English words using the Greek letters like a code. It reinforces the system. In 7th grade, high school, through college, I'd take notes in class in Greek letters, and I still run across those notebooks in a drawer once in awhile.

Just sit down and do it.

Many are the same or at least similar. It just takes practice. Here's one to decipher:

I KAN PEAΔ ΓΡΕΕΚ ΛΕΤΤΕΡΣ. ΛΟΟΚ ΑΤ ΘΑΤ!

Post by “Don” of November 18, 2023 at 11:51 AM

Ανοθερ τιπ... Oh, sorry... Another tip:

Duolingo has a Greek course that includes an alphabet learning section. I'm currently on day 67 of the course.

But... And this is a big "but"... The language is modern Greek, not ancient or Koine Greek. So the grammar and pronunciation are modern. So, it can be helpful, but it's not a substitute for learning ancient or Koine Greek itself.

Note: I am NOT getting into the pronunciation "debate" here in this post! However, be aware that that is a HOT topic for modern Greeks. For now, stick to reading.

Post by “Don” of November 18, 2023 at 12:02 PM

Y'all will notice I haven't mentioned Latin yet.

I am woefully remiss in learning Latin. I really like Luke Ranieri's Latin content on his channels, but I've had a long-lasting mental hurdle to get over for learning Latin.

In my youth, I remember sitting at my grandmother's kitchen table on the farm and her sharing that she still remembered the declension of agricola... agricolas... and so on from school.

I'm from German and Celtic stock, so the my hurdle involved seeing the Romans as the bad guys. Why would I want to learn their languages. But I've discovered Lucretius, Ovid, Vergil, Cicero (...shudder...), and the rest, so maybe it's time to hunker down.

Confession on my ancient Greek skills: Honestly, my skills are probably ****just**** good enough to get me in trouble. I've never gotten through an entire course. I rely on dictionaries and other tools. I cannot sit down and just **read** a Greek text on sight. So, I appreciate the confidence y'all have shown in me. I'm not going anywhere, but, I just wanted to say that if I can do this, y'all can, too. Let's all dig into the texts together!

Post by “Don” of November 18, 2023 at 12:35 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

if I did a screen shot of a Greek term I could upload it to Google Images and it will provide a translation. This is hugely useful to me

That is a good tip! I used that when I was working through the French of *Les Epicuriens*. Take a photo of the page, plug it into Google Translate.

Just keep in mind, however, that Google is going to translate it from **modern** Greek into English. This isn't necessarily an issue all the time, but the evolution of meanings has changed over the past 2,000+ years, so just be aware of that.

Post by “Joshua” of November 18, 2023 at 10:41 PM

Quote

A fun way to practice is just write English words using the Greek letters like a code. It reinforces the system. in 7th grade, high school, through college, I'd take notes in class

in Greek letters, and I still run across those notebooks in a drawer once in awhile.

I can't remember where I saw this (textbook, website, etc), but it was a set of famous speeches in English but in Greek script. The Gettysburg Address for example is rather well known, and if you already know the words you can work out the Greek letters without much trouble.

I can't find it with Google, but maybe I still have the book.

Post by “Cassius” of November 19, 2023 at 5:53 AM

[Quote from Joshua](#)

The Gettysburg Address for example is rather well known, and if you already know the words you can work out the Greek letters without much trouble.

That seems like a VERY good idea. Take a passage you know by heart and express it in Greek lettering.

What about word order in Greek? Do we have the same issues of order and use of inflection that we have in Latin? Did the Greeks write long sentences and intentionally make you wait to the end of the sentence to find out what it is about like the Romans did? 😊

Post by “Don” of November 19, 2023 at 7:39 AM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

That seems like a VERY good idea. Take a passage you know by heart and express it in Greek lettering.

And one can do this by writing longhand or typing. I'll try to provide a brief guide to the various keyboards and fonts out there soon for those who want to be able to type in polytonic Greek. Anybody want to share their work? Post it here if you want to challenge other beginners to "decipher" it. I suggest writing as English words sound and not as they're spelled sometimes: *υεν* "when"; *δισπλαι* "display", etc. You can also puzzle through names to start acclimating to the alphabet: *Επίκουρος*, *Μετροδορος*, *Αχιλλεύς*, *Σόκρατες*, *Πλατό*, *Οδυσσέας*, *Αθήνα*,

Αφροδίτη,...

[Quote from Cassius](#)

What about word order in Greek? Do we have the same issues of order and use of inflection that we have in Latin? Did the Greeks write long sentences and intentionally make you wait to the end of the sentence to find out what it is about like the Romans did?

Of course 😊 Greek is an inflected language, but this is a feature and not a bug. The genius of this is that a word can be placed first in the sentence for emphasis regardless of whether it's a direct object, subject, etc. I highly recommend the short book *The Ingenious Language: Nine Epic Reasons to Love Greek* by Andrea Marcolongo.

Post by “Cassius” of November 19, 2023 at 8:59 AM

How about short classic Epicurean phrases:

[Death is nothing to us.](#)

Nothing comes from nothing or goes to nothing (or some version of that) and other similar short sentences as a start in both Latin and Greek

Post by “Eikadistes” of November 19, 2023 at 9:28 AM

[Quote from Don](#)

Many are the same or at least similar. It just takes practice. Here's one to decipher:

Ι ΚΑΝ ΡΕΑΔ ΓΡΕΕΚ ΛΕΤΤΕΡΣ. ΛΟΟΚ ΑΤ ΘΑΤ!

A fun side-effect I experienced learning the ancient Greek alphabet is that I suddenly became capable of reading all of the road signs I see on TV when they're covering anything happening in Russia or Ukraine. 👍

... don't have a clue what they mean, but I can at least sound them out!

Post by “Don” of November 19, 2023 at 10:06 AM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

[Death is nothing to us.](#)

For example:

"English": ΔΕΑΘ ΙΣ ΝΟΘΙΝΓ ΤΟ ΥΣ.

"English" upper and lower: Δεαθ ις νοθινγ το υς.

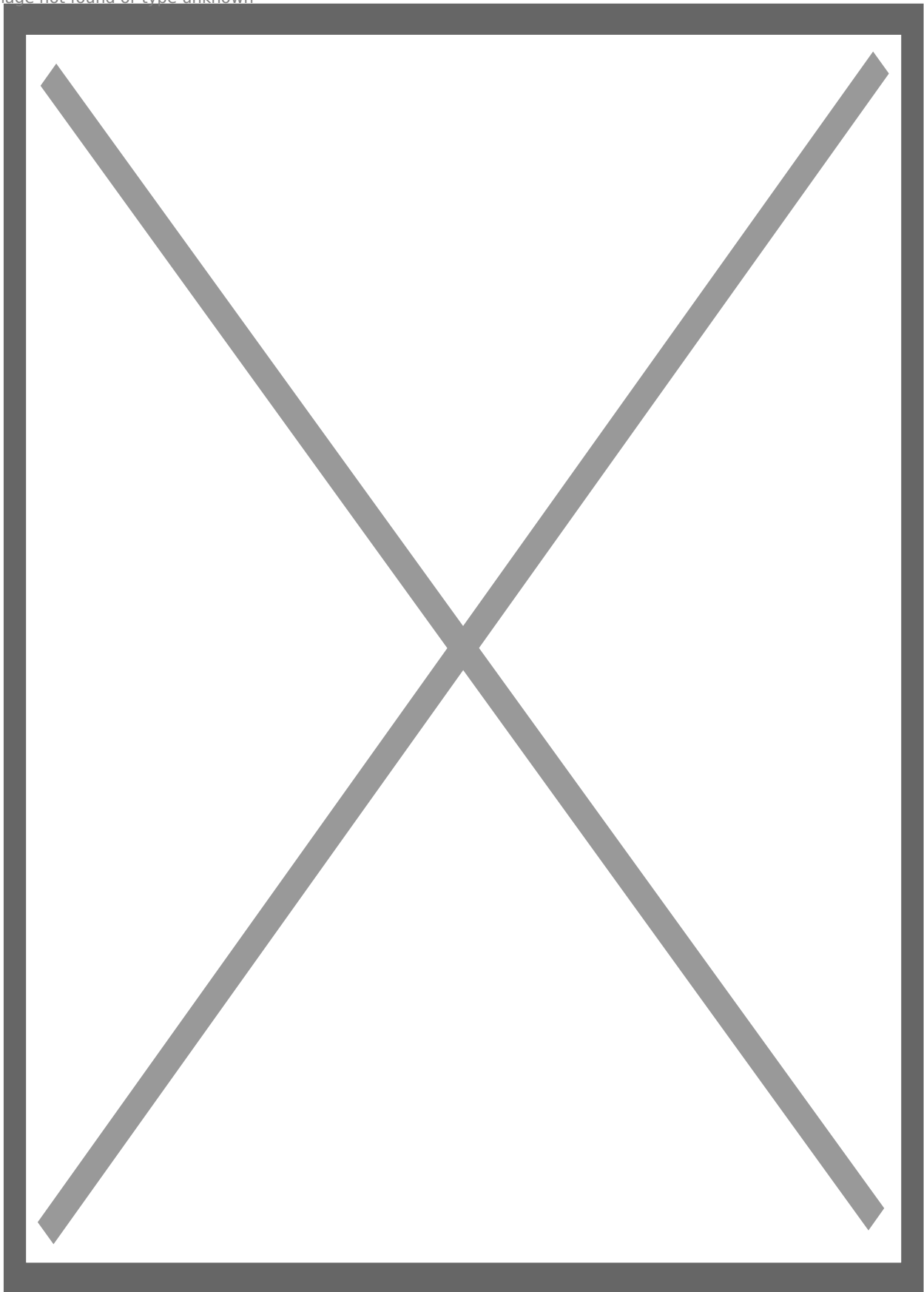
Greek: Ο θάνατος ουδέν προς ημάς.

Literal: The death nothing to us [is].

Post by “Don” of November 23, 2023 at 7:45 PM

I've mentioned Podium Arts narrated by Ioannis Stratakis. Here's the link:

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[Podium-Arts](#)

Spoken Ancient Greek; texts in reconstructed pronunciation. For learning or enjoyment. Samples of audiobooks (most of which are for sale on www.ancientgreek.eu...
[youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

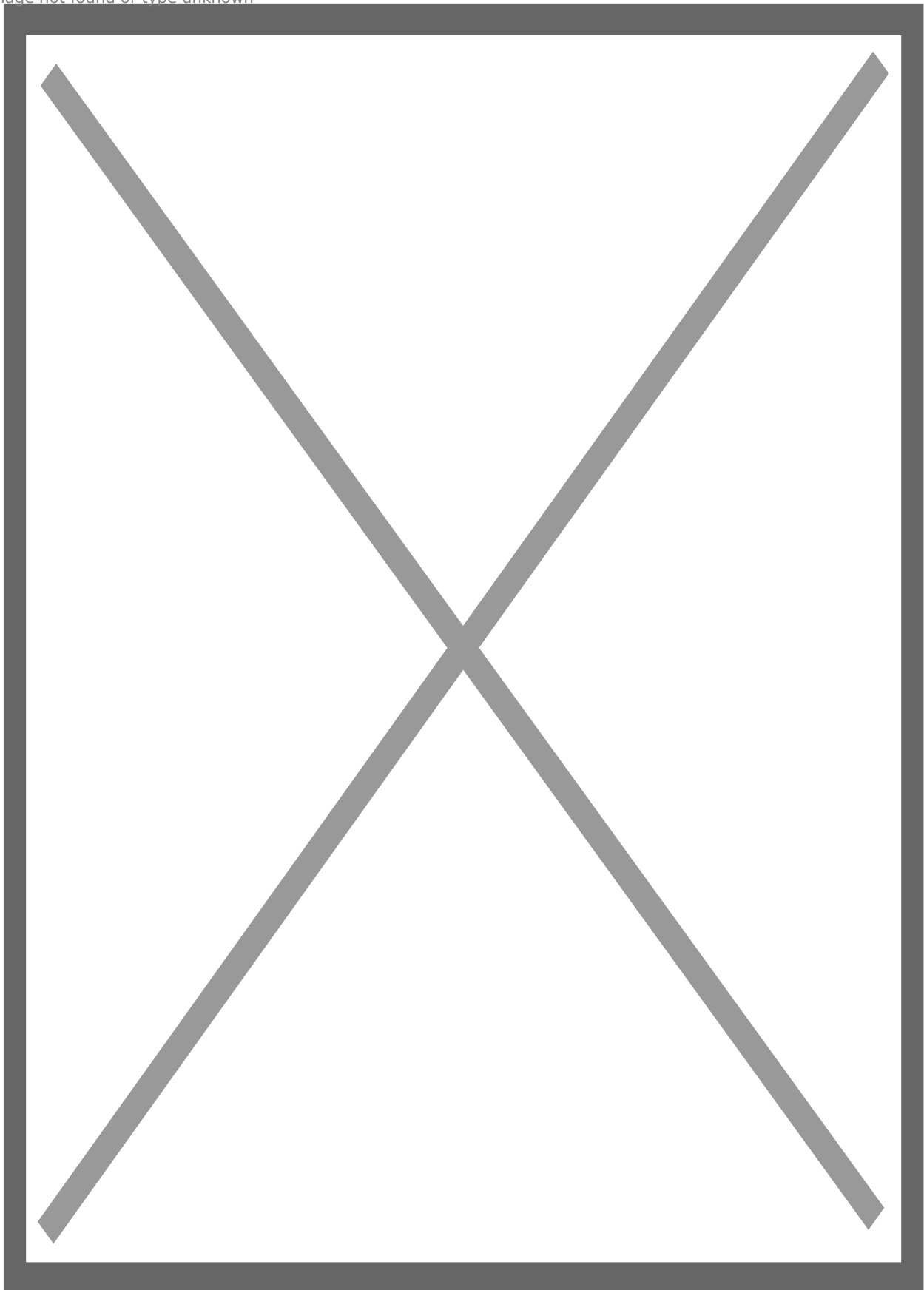
Post by “Don” of November 27, 2023 at 12:03 AM

So, you have the alphabet memorized now? Where do you start learning the language?

I'm going to stick with ancient Greek and/or Koine, but some of these have good Latin content as well.

I can't say enough nice things about Luke Ranieri and his Scorpio Martianus and Polymathy channels on YouTube:

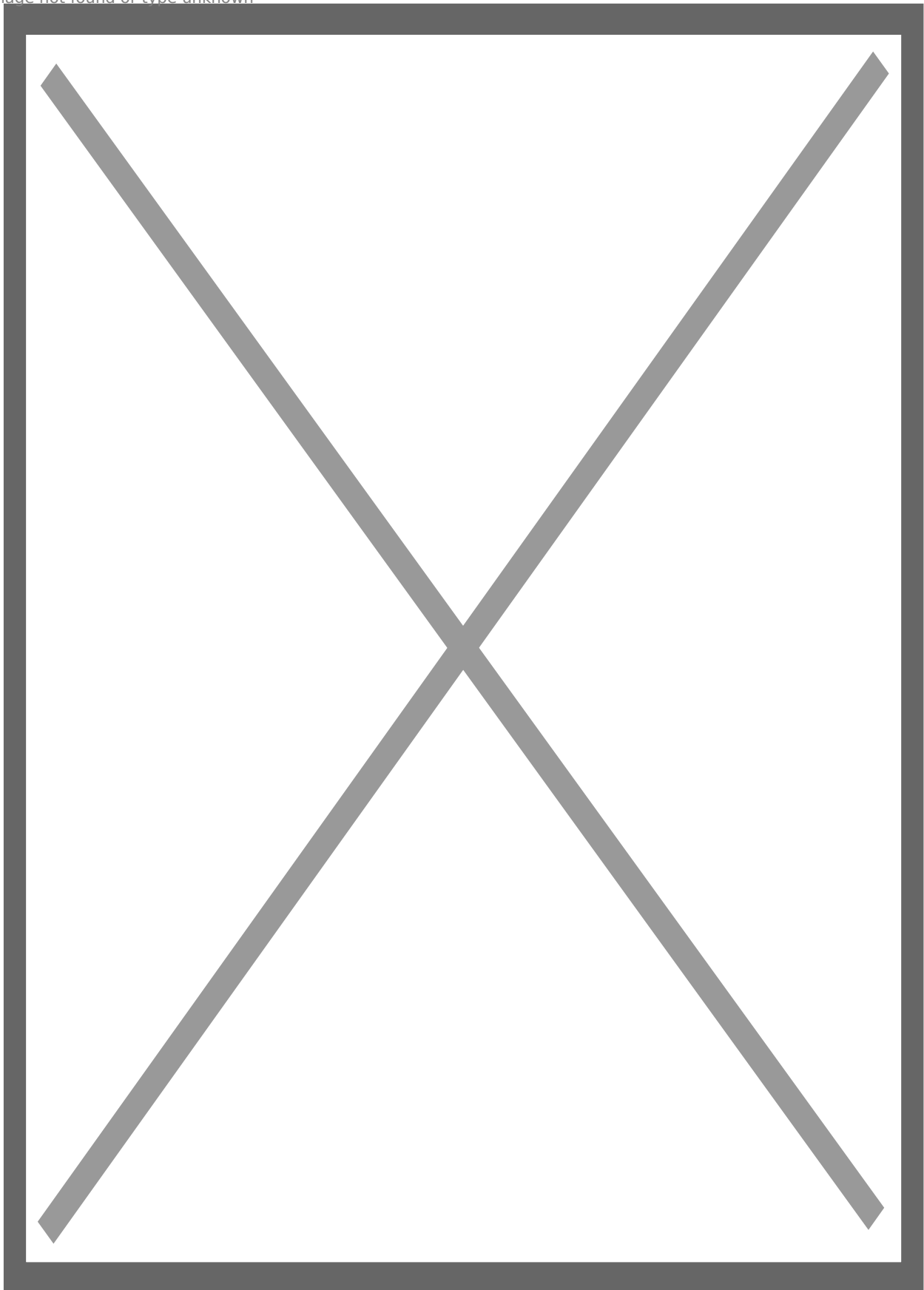
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[ScorpioMartianus](#)

Spoken Latin, Ancient Greek, and Ancient Egyptian videos by Luke Amadeus Ranieri. [\[\] \[\] \[\] \[\]](#) Topics & tags: Latin Language Lessons for beginners, Latin Language,...
www.youtube.com

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[polyMATHY](#)

Polymathy is the study of many things. On my videos I want to share with you what I find interesting about science, technology, languages, geopolitics, and...

www.youtube.com

Feel free to look around, but a good place to start is his *Ancient Greek in Action* series:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yoYBnFZLiZo&list=PLU1WuLg45Six4gYLaBrTAlvfjXWKJ1EkN>

He uses his [reconstructed Lucian Pronunciation of Ancient Greek](#) in the videos, but there are other videos that talk about other reconstructed ancient pronunciation. (I'm gravitating to his reconstructed Pompeiian pronunciation, but I am still liking Sidney Allen's reconstruction from *Vox Graeca*).

If you want an IN-DEPTH discussion on the best ways to learn Ancient Greek or Latin on your own, may I suggest (and one of these includes [Carla Hunt of Found in Antiquity](#)):

https://youtu.be/dPpMMT5zqFE?si=f5A_8Eea56GmlJvk

<https://youtu.be/d5Mxtj4R8w0?si=whQ1ceTrHAehrrlu>

If you want a VERY traditional way to learn Ancient Greek, there's the 118-video series from the Center for Hellenic Studies with Prof. Leonard Muellner (Professor Emeritus of Classical Studies at Brandeis University) and Belisi Gillespi, his teaching assistant:

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLq5ea-jR9u2puDaLoRL-nBkpwrkURbLjT&si=uLf_4weTiFSIBXHi

The most important thing is just... start somewhere! Explore! See what works!

Post by “Don” of November 28, 2023 at 9:06 AM

Another interesting online resource is Textkit:

[Textkit Greek and Latin Forums - Index page](#)

It's both a forum and a resource for learning Ancient/Koine Greek and Latin. There are some valuable discussions about books and other things but also in-depth grammar discussions. I haven't spent much time there myself (maybe I should?), but I think it's a good resource to be aware of.

All this online discussion is not to say you shouldn't look at good old books. I think Textkit uses some old books on Internet Archive to learn Greek and Latin like <http://www.cloviscorp.com/collegium/gram...se/grammar.html>

but there's also

Athenaze

The JACT Reading Greek series (see my bookshelf image above)

Teach Yourself Ancient Greek

Etc...

However, some of those stick to the grammar-translation method which isn't necessarily the best way to go about it. Comprehensible Input (CI) seems to be more in favor now, but it seems to me both have their place. Both Luke Ranieri and Carla Hunt are big proponents of the CI approach and have GREAT content to back it up.

Here's more Latin CI content:

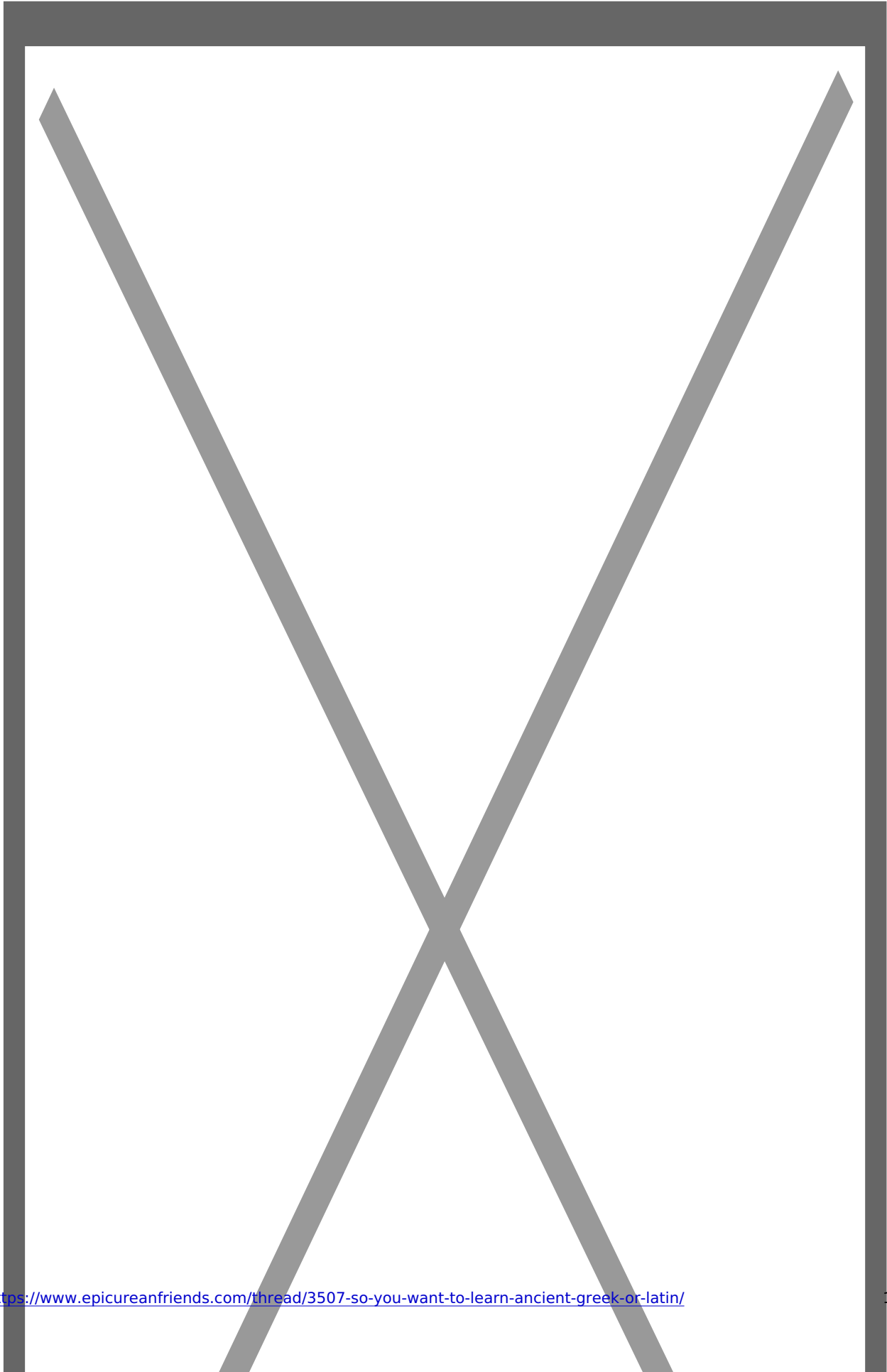
[Comprehensible Input - John P. Piazza, M.A.](#)

[please excuse the dead or missing links and general confusion while I am updating my website] Comprehensible input resources for Latin teachers (useful links...

johnpiazza.net

<https://youtu.be/i7cNF-lq19k?feature=shared>

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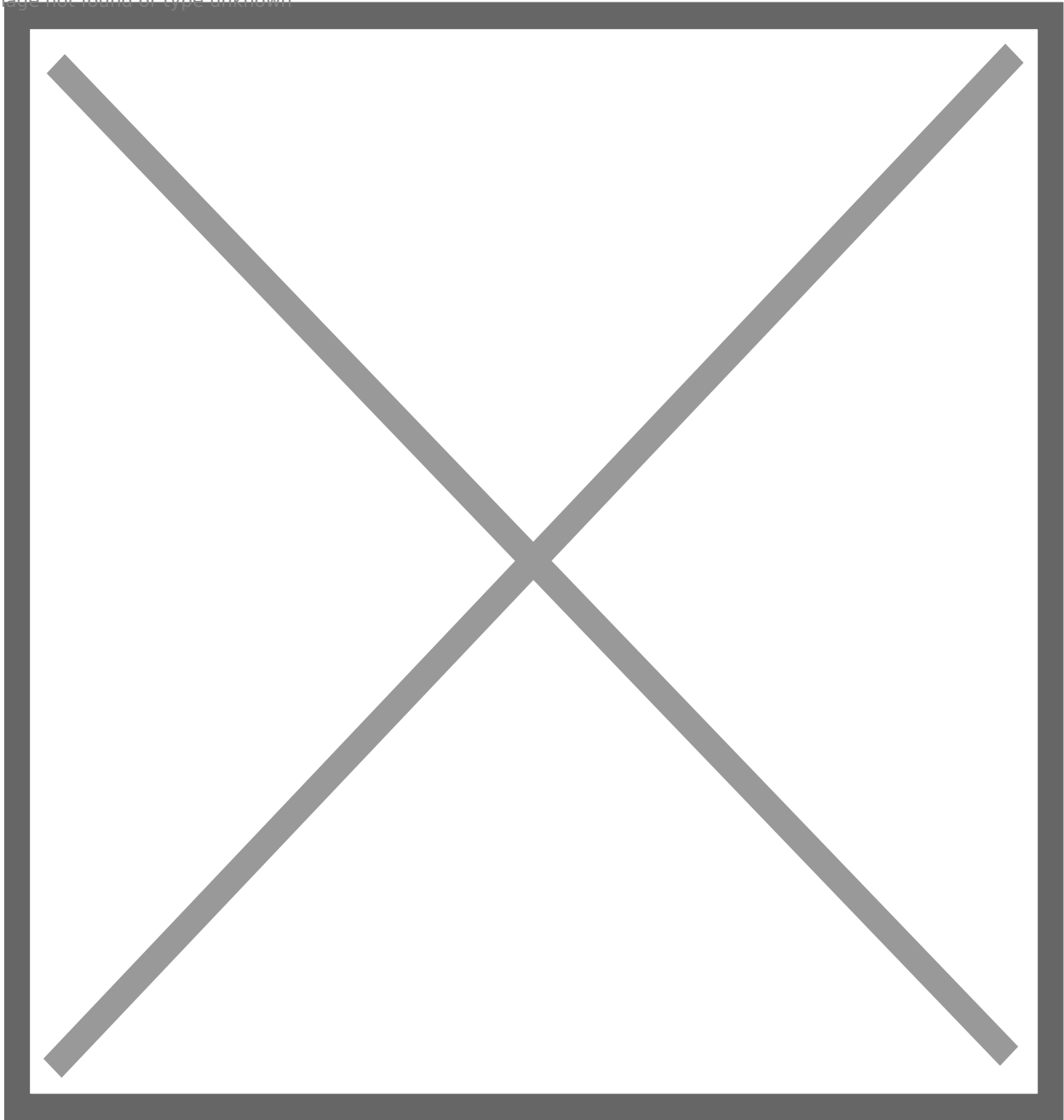


[Latin - Bryce Hedstrom - Comprehensible Input Materials & Training](#)

Here are the best links to comprehensible input-based language instruction.

www.brycehedstrom.com

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[Launching a new Ancient Greek YouTube channel](#)

As I've been making more Ancient Greek language videos on my Latin channel, it has become increasingly clear that it is best if these Greek videos have their...

foundinantiquity.com

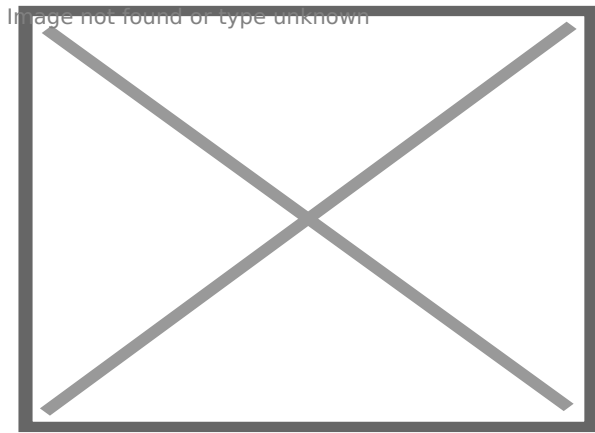
That's enough for now! 😊

I encourage others to share their experiences and favorite (or least favorite!) learning resources.

Post by “Don” of December 3, 2023 at 12:40 AM

Ways to type Ancient Greek on a keyboard (in some cases without downloading any new software):

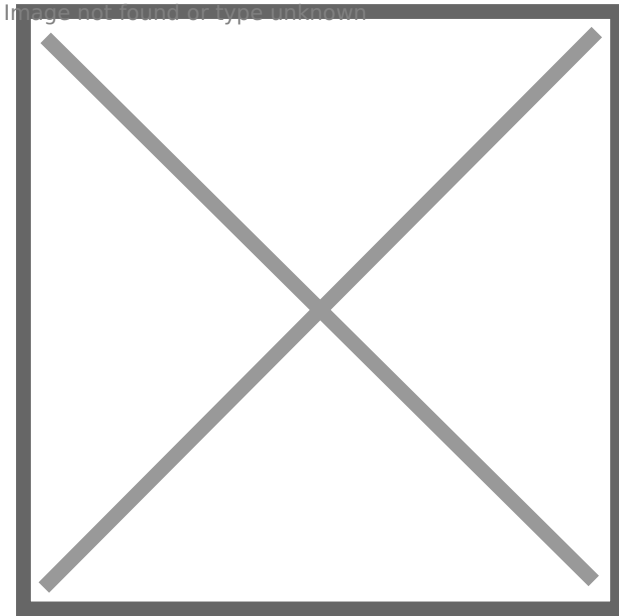
1 - within a browser (type in browser, copy and paste into documents):



[Ancient Greek Keyboard - Polytonic Diacritics - LEXILOGOS](http://www.lexilogos.com)

www.lexilogos.com

2 - if you use Windows 10:



[How do I easily type Greek letters on Windows 10?](#)

I have only ever used English language settings for keyboards and Operating Systems. As I am starting to learn Greek, I would like to be able to easily type in...

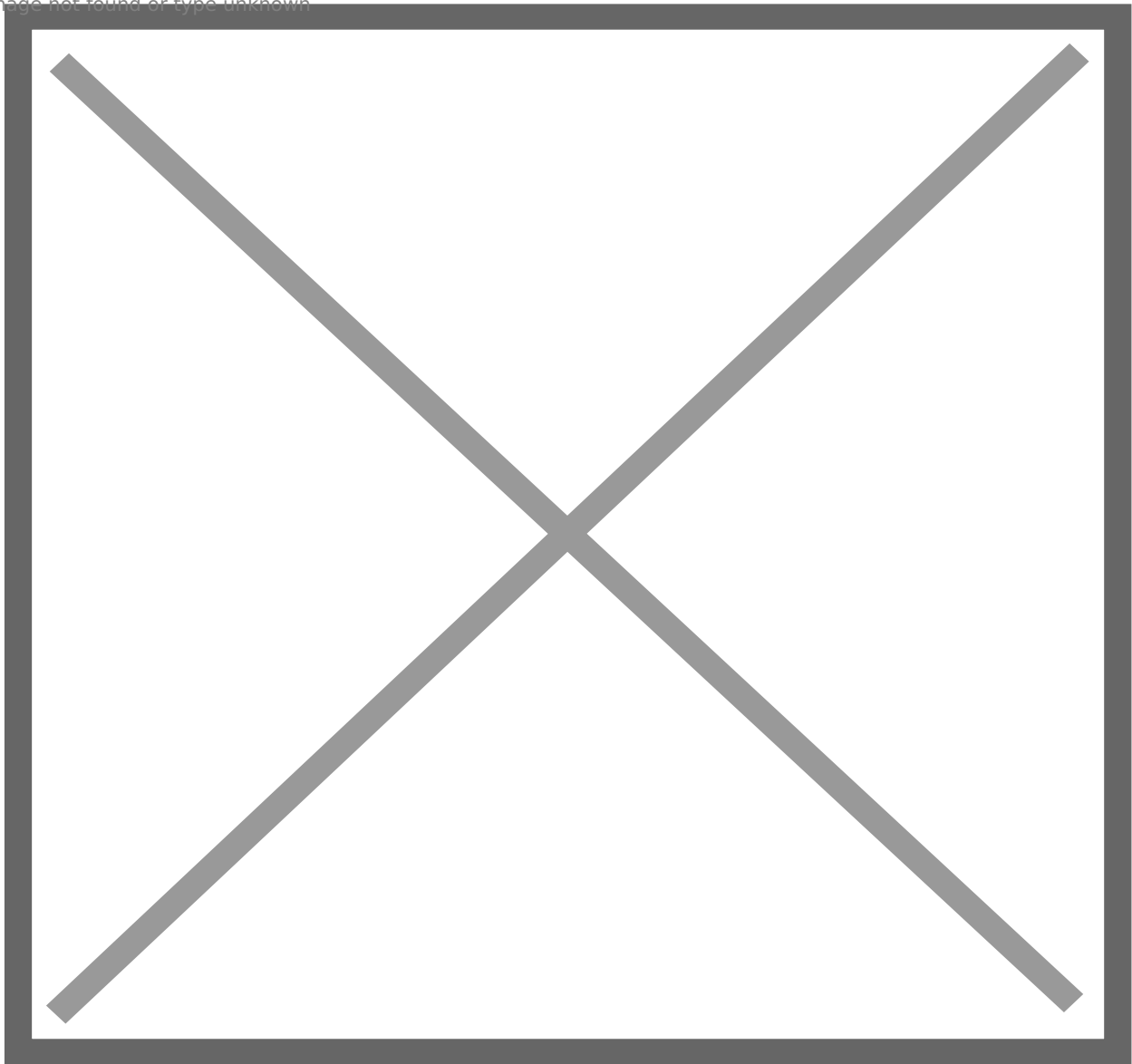
latin.stackexchange.com

3 - document for Windows environment:

<http://www.dramata.com/Ancient%20polytonic%20Greek%20in%20Windows.pdf>

4 - various methods for various platforms

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[Typing in Ancient Greek](#)

Note: This is a collection of sites/tools to help students and enthusiasts. I am posting it gain because I frequently get the question and there is no simple...
sententiaeantiquae.com

Post by “Don” of December 9, 2023 at 6:33 PM

This is the video I've been waiting on!!

<https://youtu.be/dQBpwKWnZAo?feature=shared>

Post by “Bryan” of December 9, 2023 at 10:53 PM

This is great. I see that for classical Attic he is recommending light aspirated stops, which is excellent. This chart shows clearly what I think is one of the more complicated parts of pronunciation.

Post by “Don” of December 9, 2023 at 11:38 PM

[Quote from Bryan](#)

This chart shows clearly what I think is one of the more complicated parts of pronunciation.

That's one of the reasons I'm gravitating toward the Pompeian Variant of Lucian Reconstruction with fricative $\phi\theta\chi$ although I like the aspirated stops. That latter Classical pronunciation is used by Ioannis Stratakis at Podium Arts. It's just really hard, as an English speaker, to distinguish and produce the required contrast between aspirated and unaspirated stops. Plus we have Philodemus's connection to the area of Pompeii and Herculaneum.

Post by “Eikadistes” of December 10, 2023 at 2:38 AM

[Quote from Bryan](#)

This is great. I see that for classical Attic he is recommending light aspirated stops, which is excellent. This chart shows clearly what I think is one of the more complicated parts of pronunciation.

One thing about ancient Greek are the aspirations. I took *Phi* or "ph" for granted as /f/ like "philosophy" when it would have been pronounced more like the /p^h/ in "pot" or "pond". The

same is true of *Theta* or "th" which we sometimes pronounce like "thorn" and "thistle", but would have been pronounced more like the /tʰ/ in "top".

[Bryan](#) I'm not sure if you're interested, but I published a little Tolkien project a while ago and this chart was one of the key things that came out of it. It helped me to understand phonology better with a visual map.

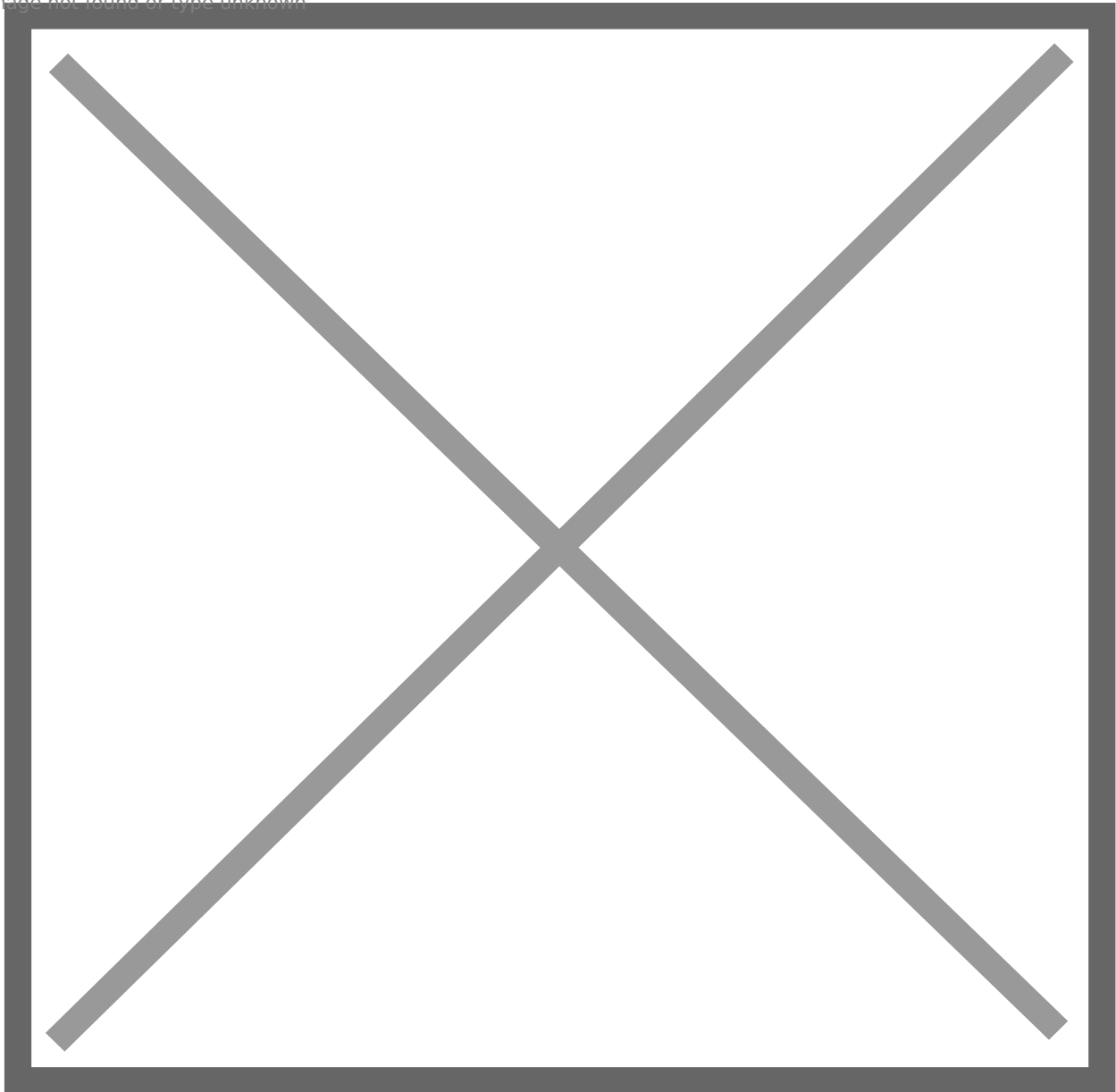


Post by “Don” of December 10, 2023 at 7:50 AM

@Nate : Elen sila lumenn' omentielvo!! 😊

The evolution of Greek pronunciation is fascinating. Modern Greek has gone all in on the fricatives βδγφθχ and also collapsed a number of vowels and diphthongs. But the language started back in Classical times with phonemic distinctions like aspirated vs unaspirated stops, pitch accent, phonemic vowel length, and others. I highly recommend Luke Ranieri's Greek Pronunciation Chronology Spreadsheet to see it laid out:

Image not found or type unknown



[Ranieri's Greek Pronunciation Chronology](#)

All Greek w/ Alternative Coaeval Pronunciations All Greek with Alternative Coaeval Phonemes, Luke Amadeus Ranieri's GREEK PRONUNCIATION CHRONOLOGY Spreadsheet... docs.google.com

So, Stratakis uses a reconstructed Classical Attic convention, including all those ancient distinctions; whereas Ranieri provides a spectrum of evolutionary steps. Both are firmly rooted and supported by historical and linguistic research.

I'm a bit of a linguistics nerd and find all this fascinating. I learned the International Phonetic Alphabet in high school, etc. I fully agree with Ranieri when he talks about the importance of

pitch accent and vowel length in especially being able to appreciate ancient poetry and to appreciate just the sound of the language. It's an interesting thought experiment to consider how "evolved" Epicurus's pronunciation was toward fricativization and other features, or Philodemus, or Diogenes of Oenoanda.

Full disclosure: This is a highly controversial topic in some circles but historical evidence is clear, compelling, and definitive in backing up this linguistic evolution. All languages go through it.

Here are some other links on Ranieri's site:

<https://www.patreon.com/posts/80661461>

<https://lukeranieri.com/lucianpronunciation/>

Post by “Bryan” of December 10, 2023 at 1:55 PM

[Quote from Don](#)

It's just really hard, as an English speaker, to distinguish and produce the required contrast between aspirated and unaspirated stops.

It really is -- and the video does a good job of highlighting those difficulties. I know that many teachers will mention the fact that this was the more nearly correct pronunciation of Attic, but will discard it on the first day in favor of $\varphi\theta\chi$ fricatives. I like the idea, but it is difficult. Attempts to adopt the older pronunciation lead me to the expected awkwardness and errors, mostly overdoing the aspiration to provide a contrast with the unaspirated (a common mistake, as he says).

That is a good chart, thank you for sharing!

Regarding vowels: as I am looking at his chart, although I am consistent, I'd be guilty of the dreaded "anachronistic combinations of phonemes." Is it too sloppy to say that if it was used before the common era it is fair game? Some town could probably be found using that mix.

[Quote from Don](#)

It's an interesting thought experiment to consider how "evolved" Epicurus's pronunciation was toward fricativization and other features

Exactly, I think all we can say of the Greek used in the garden is that it was somewhere in the evolution -- even possibly including features more associated with later dates.

[Quote from Nate](#)

I published a little Tolkien project a while ago

I am interested, but sincerely ignorant of Tolkien (beyond the fact he is the author of The Lord of the Rings). I just did a quick wikipedia read however - interesting stuff! Is the script of Tengwar actually printed in the books and legible?

Post by “Don” of December 10, 2023 at 2:06 PM

[Quote from Bryan](#)

I am interested, but sincerely ignorant of Tolkien (beyond the fact he is the author of The Lord of the Rings). I just did a quick wikipedia read however - interesting stuff! Is the script of Tengwar actually printed in the books and legible?

I won't steal @Nate 's fire, but chime in on my own experience.

The Appendices of The Lord of Rings have a whole section on the languages and writing systems. They can be seen in use on most editions' title pages, on The Doors of Durin at the entrance to Moria, in the song book "The Road Goes Ever On" with Tolkien and Swann, and in Tolkien calligraphy online (and there's a LOT of fan art with the letters).

The thing that has always endeared Tolkien to me is that ****the languages came first****! He was a conlanger from an early age, created the "Elvish" languages and wanted a world in which they were spoken... hence Middle-earth came into being!

If you're curious at all, a wonderful site is [Ardalambion](#) from Helge Fauskanger.

I realize we're way afield of Epicurus's Garden here, so I'll put my Tolkien fandom (which began back in the late 70s/early 80s) back into my pocket for now. 😊

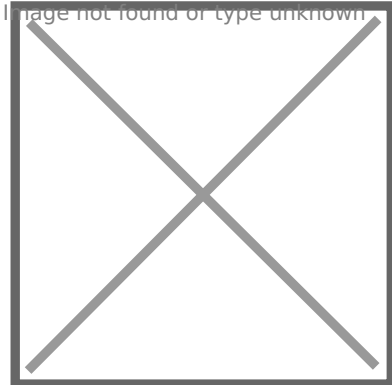
Post by “Eikadistes” of December 10, 2023 at 3:38 PM

[Quote from Bryan](#)

[Quote from Don](#)

Is the script of Tengwar actually printed in the books and legible?

It sure is! The first half of an old book I self-published is a collection lyrical poetry from three albums I wrote:



[The Book of SHAZDAR](#)

The Book of Shazdar is a mythopoetic manifesto of lyrical poetry, supplemented with an extended reflection of art, music, and philosophy. It is organized into...
www.academia.edu

Those lyrics are in the English language that uses a modified version of Tolkien's Tengwar script for English instead of the Roman characters (that, for example, limits our ability to express phonemes like "th", "sh", and "ch"). There's a whole rabbit hole down which to fall ... I'm a big fan, and Tengwar got me into linguistics in the first place. I'm a **BIG** fan.



Post by “Bryan” of December 12, 2023 at 10:07 PM

[Quote from Nate](#)

I self-published is a collection lyrical poetry from three albums I wrote:

That is beautiful. However much we may like Latin, I am ready to put my vote for a nice new script for writing English! Honestly, I have always thrown the fictional baby away with the religious bathwater. Having been burnt by the Bible, I spurned all fiction since childhood. I need to get over it and try to read some Tolkien! There are infinite worlds, after all. We know there are worlds similar to ours, but we must also see that there are worlds very dissimilar from ours. It's wild out there.

[Quote from Don](#)

This is a highly controversial topic in some circles

Yes it can be a hot topic! I respect those who feel strongly about it, but I do not. We can tolerate academic fussing, but we don't want to get yelled at in Greek about the national spirit. I learned from Smyth, and it seems I have stuck to it, despite being somewhat bothered by the anachronistic φθχ fricatives at times (as you indicated, we can hold onto the 1st c. BC "Pompeian" usage like a life raft).

I compared Smyth to his recommendations from the 6th to the 1st c. BC. I see mostly agreement (to the extent that I am correctly connecting it to the IPA). Good stuff, thanks again for pointing it out!

[Comparison with Ranieri's Greek Pronunciation Chronology](#)

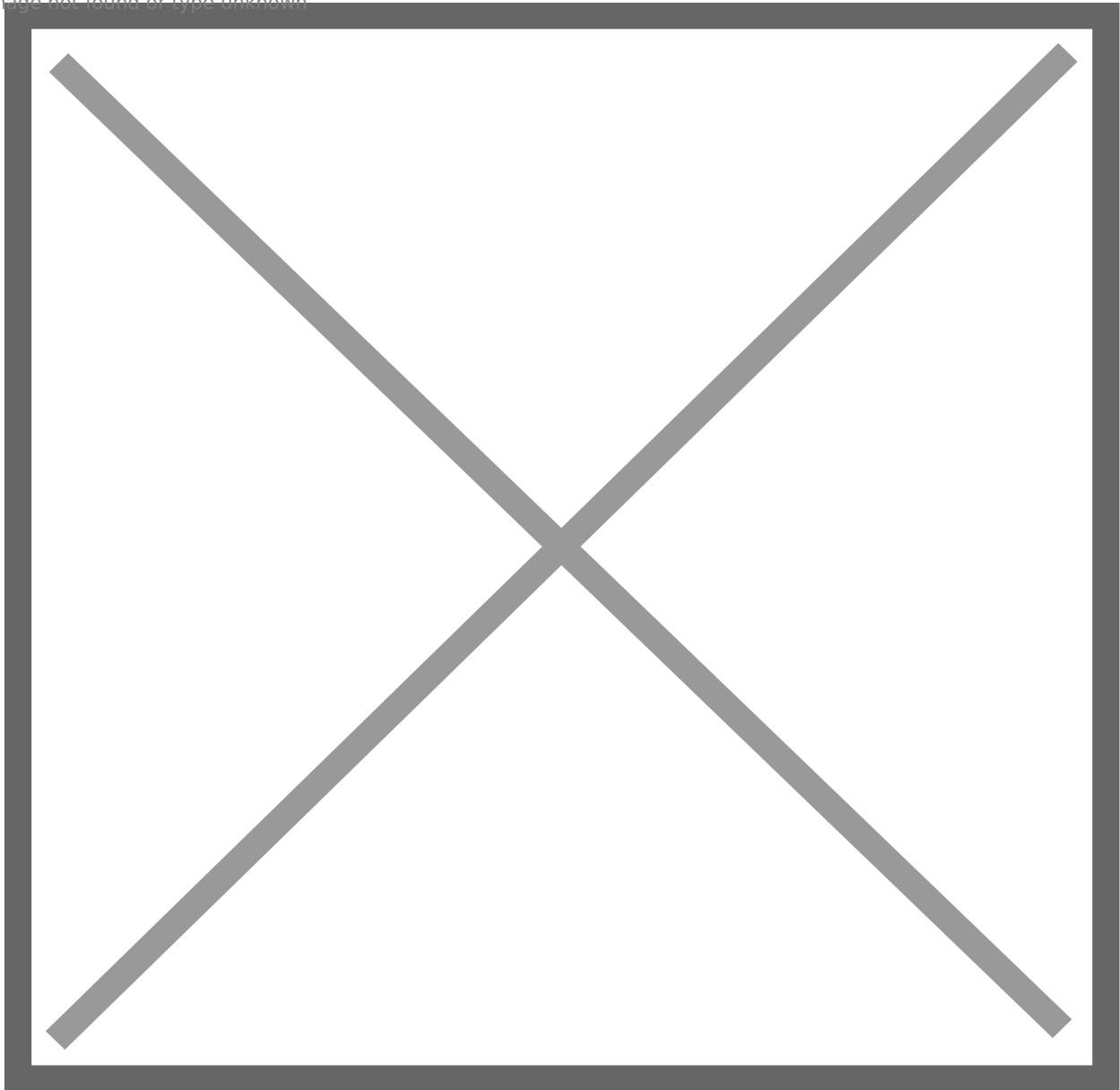
Post by “Don” of December 12, 2023 at 11:27 PM

[Quote from Bryan](#)

I am ready to put my vote for a nice new script for writing English!

For your consideration:

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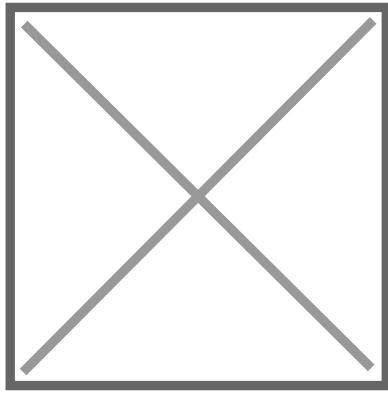
[Constructed scripts and languages](http://www.omniglot.com)

www.omniglot.com

Post by “Don” of December 15, 2023 at 7:33 AM

Somewhat into the weeds of Ancient Greek, but this paper provides practical applications of learning that language:

<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/3507-so-you-want-to-learn-ancient-greek-or-latin/>



[Hellēnizein: A Flexible Structure for Teaching Greek to Archaeologists and Ancient Historians \(2nd author with E. Parisinou\). Milton Keynes, 2004; Liverpool, 2008; Leicester, 2015](#)

Hellēnizein: A Flexible Structure for Teaching Greek to Archaeologists and Ancient Historians (2nd author with E. Parisinou). Milton Keynes, 2004; Liverpool,...

www.academia.edu

Being able to pick out names and phrases on artifacts in museums is quite rewarding.

Post by “Bryan” of December 15, 2023 at 11:24 AM

Their recommendation for alpha to be pronounced as the "a" in "bad" is surprising. I am not sure I have even seen that suggested before. I suppose they did that to distinguish it from their recommendation of omicron to be pronounced as "o" in "got" (which is reasonable) but also is very close to the more normal range of recommendations for the pronunciation of alpha.

As they say this is for "degrees in ancient history, archaeology or classical archaeology where a high level of language expertise is not required" I know they are in the UK, so the "a" in bad is not as far off as it is in the US, so even if we pronounce "bad" like the king does, the recommendation still seems bad. A little IPA would have gone a long way.

They also say "α combines the sounds of alpha and iota, producing a diphthong similar to the English 'eye'." I agree with this, but I think it contradicts their recommendation for alpha to be pronounced as the "a" in "bad."

If we take the "a" in "bad" and slide it with an iota (either as "beat" or "bit") - we do not get "eye" but "a-ei" in "Maggie." However if alpha is pronounced as Smyth recommends (Spanish "casa" or "father") the slide of the diphthong correctly produces "aye."

Post by “Don” of December 15, 2023 at 11:28 AM

[Bryan](#) : Yeah, I wasn't impressed with their pronunciation convention. It seemed a little hodgepodge and too "Erasmian."

I was more impressed with this paleography sections.

Post by “Bryan” of December 15, 2023 at 8:16 PM

The results are mixed, and the robot translations are bad, but just producing this "backbone" would have previously taken a lot of time yet this only took a few hours. With this as a starting point, producing another translation (not that another one is needed) is made fun and easy --- as most of the pieces are put right in front of you.

Post by “Don” of December 15, 2023 at 9:30 PM

[Bryan](#) : You might need interested in these videos:

<https://youtu.be/vi1IDgA9SxM?feature=shared>

<https://youtu.be/iNTEW0PNqjU?feature=shared>

Post by “Cassius” of December 16, 2023 at 2:52 AM

[Quote from Bryan](#)

Just as an experiment, I wanted to see how well GPT could automatically break the text into smaller sections and produce a vocab list. I ran the letter to Herodotus through it and added some translations for comparison

That looks very interesting! You have a couple of versions of each sentence joined with a sort of "nodictionaries.com" word by word definition? I can't tell from my phone layout but depending

on how arranged on a page definitely has possibilities as a study aid.

Post by “Don” of December 16, 2023 at 9:16 AM

[Quote from Bryan](#)

Just as an experiment, I wanted to see how well GPT could automatically break the text into smaller sections and produce a vocab list

That's an impressive start. And that vocab list was generated automatically by ChatGPT? Some of the grammar and definitions are basic, but I'll admit I'm a little stunned, encouraged, and just a little bit intimidated.

PS: Upon further reflection, I still believe you need a *human* intelligence to interpret, to understand, and to communicate what the texts mean and how to apply them.

Post by “Bryan” of December 16, 2023 at 6:41 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

You have a couple of versions of each sentence joined with a sort of "nodictionaries.com" word by word definition?

It is comparable to "nodictionaries.com" but I think their formatting is superior. I intended to have the vocabulary at an intermediate level, but that formatting for "nodictionaries.com" allows for full flexibility to toggle between levels. This makes it more alive, which I really appreciate.

[Quote from Don](#)

And that vocab list was generated automatically by ChatGPT?

Yes it was and (I think even more helpfully) it put the text into sections (I attached the prompt, but it is nothing special). Although, I did make the large breaks (eg, breaking [44] into [44a] and [44b]) and added the translation comparisons. I'll be going through it in 2024 and add

etymological notes and another translation. It's much better than a crossword puzzle.

"I want death to find me planting my cabbages, but careless of death, and still more careless of my unfinished garden." —Montaigne

Post by “Bryan” of January 7, 2024 at 8:00 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

You have a couple of versions of each sentence joined with a sort of "nodictionaries.com" word by word definition?

[Quote from Don](#)

Some of the grammar and definitions are basic

I want to give a very hearty thanks to you both, Don and Cassius, for your attention and comments. I am about to start giving this project more attention, and rewriting the GPT errors. I wanted to share this prototype with the group - any further comments and critiques will be appreciated and will likely help the process. Thank you.

[OneDrive](#)

Post by “Cassius” of January 7, 2024 at 8:28 PM

Wow that is great! When you get it in the form where you are ready for us to feature it as a resource on the page please let us know. Looks like you have made a lot of progress!

Post by “Don” of January 7, 2024 at 11:32 PM

First, impressive amount of work and a decent start.

Taking a quick look, it seems the transliterations from Greek to Latin script are a little idiosyncratic. The use of "oo" for ω while technically correct for the length can lead people to try and pronounce it like "boot." Same for ee for η, saying "beet" instead of just a lengthened ε. Also the use of both y and u for υ (upsilon):

δυναμένοις (du-na-me-nois) δυ-να-μέ-νοις: present middle/passive part. from the verb δύναμαι (dynamai) → "to be able"

There underlining for the accents in the transliterations don't necessarily convey why their important. Plus all the accents are underlined the same way.

That said, this is a great start to an interlinear text for study purposes.

PS. The Greek to Latin letter issue is one of the reasons I decided against transliterations in my Menoikeus commentary.

Post by “Kalosyni” of February 28, 2024 at 2:06 PM

I see that there are a number of good videos which have been linked in this thread (especially in post 20). I just found this video, and looks like he mentions that he uses "standard/Erasmian" pronunciation... this video is for absolute beginners (like me) to learn the alphabet.

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=4m_Th14YfEo

Post by “Don” of February 28, 2024 at 11:58 PM

<https://youtu.be/pr1laRMrw64?si=fZa5d1Bj4CkXssMz>

Here's Luke Ranieri's Introduction to the Greek Alphabet using reconstructed Ancient Greek pronunciation all in Ancient Greek (part of the Ancient Greek in Action series of videos). This is in his Lucian pronunciation of around the 1st c. CE (based on how Lucian of Samosata would have *maybe* pronounced his Greek). Watch till the end to hear Ranieri sing an Alphabet Song in Ancient Greek 😊

Erasmian pronunciation is the default for many books teaching Ancient Greek; however, there are better methods now (i.e., more closely approximating Ancient Greek pronunciation). Erasmian - developed originally by Erasmus of Rotterdam - is an academic mishmash of

convenient pronunciations in one's native language: English "Erasmian" is different from French "Erasmian" from German "Erasmian." It doesn't really try to approximate ancient Greek pronunciation nor does it attempt to be. The vowels especially are a mess, to my understanding. Long and short vowels are supposed to be distinguished by actual time or length of pronunciation, not different sounds. For example, eta Η η is held longer (let's say twice as long) than epsilon Ε ε. Short alpha Α α is held half as long as long alpha, and so on. All that's not to say Erasmian isn't alright to start with! But approximating the ancient pronunciation, to me, is just so much cooler LOL 😎

Here's one from the JACT Summer School, JACT is the publisher of the Reading Greek series of books:

<https://youtu.be/hr5eXakQw4o?si=Y8VcITQnSEcPB1B>

Post by “Kalosyni” of February 29, 2024 at 8:10 AM

Thanks [Don](#) ! I also think it could nice to learn both modern Greek and ancient Greek at the same time, just in case I want to visit some Greek islands (no actual plans yet). I see that the pronunciation must be different between ancient and modern, and I found this on Wikipedia:

Quote

The Greek alphabet is the ancestor of the [Latin](#) and [Cyrillic scripts](#).^[6] Like Latin and Cyrillic, Greek originally had only a single form of each letter; it developed the [letter case](#) distinction between uppercase and lowercase in parallel with Latin during the [modern era](#). Sound values and conventional transcriptions for some of the letters differ between [Ancient](#) and [Modern Greek](#) usage because the pronunciation of Greek has changed significantly between the 5th century BC and today. Modern and Ancient Greek also use different [diacritics](#), with modern Greek keeping only the [stress](#) accent ([acute](#)) and the [diaeresis](#).

Source: https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greek_alphabet

But that may make it too complicated to learn both at the same time... perhaps I'll start with modern and learn some basic words for travel and basic communication 🤔

Post by “Don” of February 29, 2024 at 8:32 AM

Yes, Very different. But that can be a contentious matter.

Learning modern Greek isn't a bad idea as a start. Just realize that the grammar and even meanings of words won't translate (no pun intended) into understanding ancient Greek.

Post by “Kalosyni” of March 17, 2024 at 7:30 PM

I moved some threads around and so further advanced language studies on ancient Greek can be found over in this thread, cross-referencing:

Post

[RE: On Nature, Book 28](#)

[...]

I could see that, but then ῥῆσις has the -σις abstract suffix. I think the -σις is just doing the work of "nouncing" (to coin a clunky word) the μάρτυρέω.

ῥῆσις: Etymology From stem ῥη- of εἶρω (eírō, “to say”) + -σις (-sis, abstract noun suffix).

<https://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?do...entry=marture/w>

Derived terms:

ἀντιμάρτυρέω (antimarturéō)

ἀπομάρτυρέω (apomarturéō)

διᾶμάρτυρέω (diamarturéō)

εἰσμάρτυρέω (eismarturéō)

ἐκμάρτυρέω (ekmarturéō)

ἐπιμάρτυρέω (epimarturéō)

...



Don

March 17, 2024 at 2:07 PM

Post by “Kalosyni” of May 9, 2024 at 12:13 PM

<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/3507-so-you-want-to-learn-ancient-greek-or-latin/>

I found this in Reddit, a sub-Reddit forum dedicated to [learning ancient Greek](#).

Post by “Kalosyni” of May 9, 2024 at 1:52 PM

Just saw this:

Quote

[Koine Greek](#), the variety of Greek used after the [conquests](#) of [Alexander the Great](#) in the fourth century BC, is sometimes included in Ancient Greek, but its pronunciation is described in [Koine Greek phonology](#).

Source: [Wikipedia](#)

Post by “Don” of May 10, 2024 at 8:05 AM

For me, Luke Ranieri is still the go-to guy online for Ancient Greek and Latin. For example, a recent video goes deep into vowel length:

<https://youtu.be/9krrRIUFQZ4?feature=shared>

Post by “Don” of May 28, 2024 at 10:22 PM

<https://youtu.be/A72KdNZid3Y>

I found this interview of Dr. Emily Wilson talking about her translation of the Iliad. It's a little long, but I found it quite enjoyable, hearing about the nitty gritty of translation choices and the process of word and metaphor choices. If you have *any* interest at all in translation, this is a fun listen/watch. And read Dr. Wilson's Iliad and Odyssey!

Post by “Don” of May 31, 2024 at 1:47 PM

This was kind of fun... Ranieri reading an actual Herculaneum school in Pompeian Lucian Reconstructed Pronunciation:

https://youtu.be/ZJlkDd0_a4g?feature=shared

I was also unaware of this resource:

[GreekSchools Open Access Viewer](#)

Post by “Don” of June 11, 2024 at 10:00 AM

Seen online...



as julius caesar famously said: “vspph vphdph vphcph”



Post by “Joshua” of June 11, 2024 at 10:24 AM



I did discover poking around in DRN the other day that Yellow River could be translated as *flauus fluuius* in Latin, which gave me no end of pleasure!

Post by “TauPhi” of June 11, 2024 at 11:44 AM

Oh, common [Joshua](#) . The moment I saw your yellow river I burst into laugh because this came to my mind instantly.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yzgS61zgPEg>

Post by “Kalosyni” of June 15, 2024 at 10:27 AM

Not sure if this translator is useful, or has already been mentioned:

[Akhos Morphology](#)

Post by “Don” of June 15, 2024 at 11:13 AM

[Quote from Kalosyni](#)

Not sure if this translator is useful, or has already been mentioned:

<https://akhos.net/>

It seems a little wonky and only gives individual words definition by definition one word at a time. I would recommend simply going straight to Wiktionary.com. I think that's just what akhos is doing, so just bypass the intermediary and go straight to Wiktionary which gives links to LSJ and other sources.

Post by “Bryan” of June 15, 2024 at 7:44 PM

I noticed today that Wingdings 2:248 is an ancient punctuation mark, the asteriscus "little star," which is the proto-asterisk.

At the very least, this symbol is used a few times in Philodemus' On Methods of Inference (locations listed in second image below).

[U+070D SYRIAC HARKLEAN ASTERISCUS: ܐ - Unicode](#)

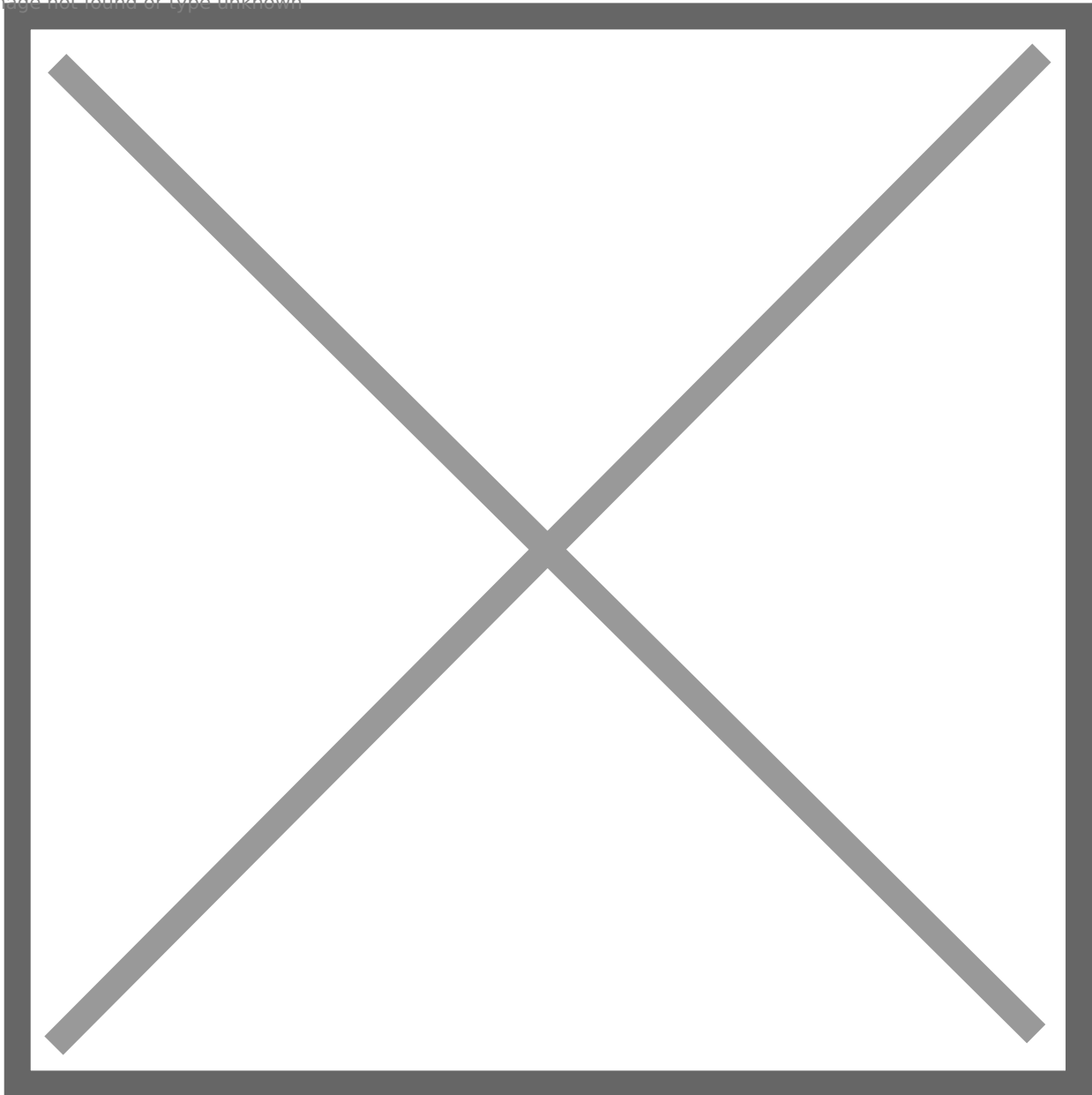
ܐ, codepoint U+070D SYRIAC HARKLEAN ASTERISCUS in Unicode, is located in the block “Syriac”. It belongs to the Syriac script and is a Other Punctuation.

[codepoints.net](#)

Post by “Remus” of June 30, 2024 at 11:05 AM

I'm looking at home study Latin courses. This one from Memoria Press seems geared toward home schoolers, and is nicely divided into Forms 1-4 with accompanying workbooks, etc. Does anyone have other recommendations?

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[Latin Curriculum | Memoria Press: Classical Education](#)

Our award-winning Latin Curriculum is designed to teach your student to master the Latin grammar through an easy to use, step-by-step process.

www.memoriapress.com

Post by “Bryan” of June 30, 2024 at 12:18 PM

Hello Remus, welcome!

I am not familiar with the Memoria Press version, but I would like to recommend Hans H. Ørberg's *Lingua Latina per se Illustrata* series ([link](#)). Everything is in Latin from the beginning, but illustrated and simple.

Post by “Remus” of June 30, 2024 at 12:52 PM

[Quote from Bryan](#)

Hello Remus, welcome!

I am not familiar with the Memoria Press version, but I would like to recommend Hans H. Ørberg's *Lingua Latina per se Illustrata* series ([link](#)). Everything is in Latin from the beginning, but illustrated and simple.

Thank you, Bryan. That was helpful. Looking more at the Memoria Press course, it seems that they are teaching Church Latin, not Classical Latin, which is a deal breaker for me 😊

Post by “Joshua” of June 30, 2024 at 8:29 PM

[Quote from Bryan](#)

Hello Remus, welcome!

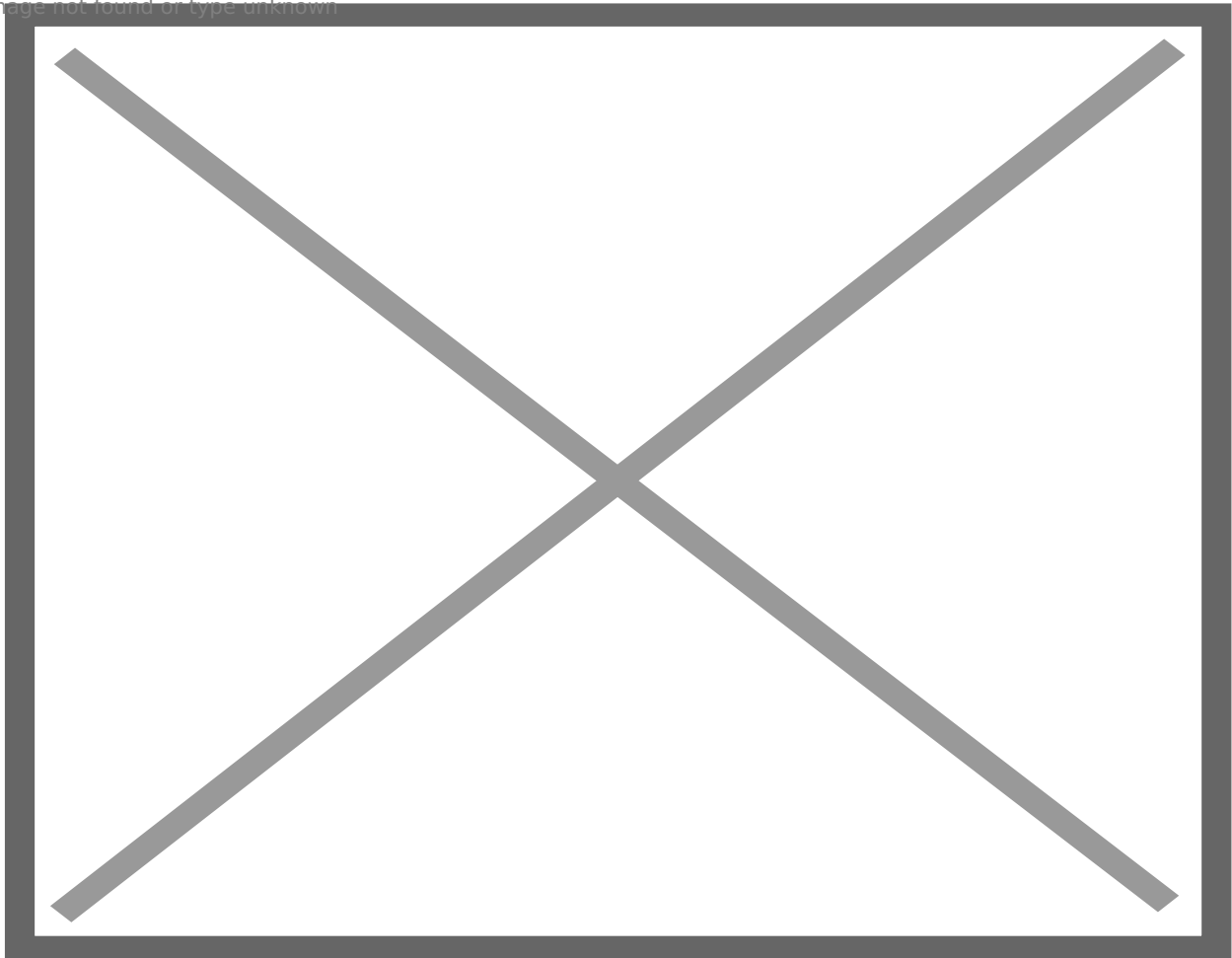
I am not familiar with the Memoria Press version, but I would like to recommend Hans H. Ørberg's *Lingua Latina per se Illustrata* series ([link](#)). Everything is in Latin from the beginning, but illustrated and simple.

Ha! I had already grabbed a link to drop here before I saw your post.

I, too, recommend this as the best introduction. I also recommend reading the late Prof. William Harris' *Homeric Prolegomena*, but since his website at Middlebury College seems to be no longer operational, I'll see if I can attach a copy.

It seems the PDF is too large. Here is a download link;

Image not found or type unknown



[Wormhole - Simple, private file sharing](#)

Wormhole lets you share files with end-to-end encryption and a link that automatically expires.
wormhole.app

Note to [Cassius](#) , it would be good to have a copy of this on the filebase here at the forum.

Post by “Remus” of June 30, 2024 at 8:57 PM

Thank you, Joshua. I think Harris' approach is sound and would apply just as well to learning Latin as to learning Greek. I took the group's advice and ordered a copy of Orberg's book. Thanks everyone!

Post by “Cassius” of July 1, 2024 at 6:06 AM

<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/3507-so-you-want-to-learn-ancient-greek-or-latin/>

Done Joshua -- When you get a chance can I get you to add some more description to the document listing?

File

[**PROLEGOMENA AD HOMERUM - Middlebury College - William Harris**](#)

A thoughtful approach to acquiring Latin and Greek.



Cassius

July 1, 2024 at 6:05 AM

Post by “Joshua” of July 1, 2024 at 11:00 AM

Thanks [Cassius](#) !

Post by “Don” of August 8, 2024 at 10:51 AM

Seen on Facebook.... Made me chuckle...

Eni-vay, idi-vay, ici-vay.

Wayno®
P & S
PIRRO.
5.30.22

Post by “Cassius” of August 8, 2024 at 11:41 AM

I laughed because I am supposed to but I am not sure I get it ? 😊 I can see the "pig" double-meaning, but why put the "vay" at the end?

Post by “Joshua” of August 8, 2024 at 12:01 PM

The rules of pig-Latin;

[Pig Latin](#)

Post by “Don” of August 8, 2024 at 12:20 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

I laughed because I am supposed to but I am not sure I get it ? 😊 I can see the "pig" double-meaning, but why put the "vay" at the end?

Latin: Veni, vidi, vici (I came, I saw, I conquered)

"Old School" Pig Latin: eni-vay,...

English: Pigs can fly. > Igs-pay an-cay y-flay.

Post by “Don” of August 8, 2024 at 8:16 PM

[Quote from Joshua](#)

The rules of pig-Latin;

<https://web.ics.purdue.edu/~morelanj/RAO/prepare2.html>

Wikipedia has a surprisingly extensive article on Pig Latin:

[Pig Latin - Wikipedia](#)

Post by “Tgonzalez3790” of August 8, 2024 at 11:33 PM

I have been learning Greek (Modern) for a few months, but along side all the other books I am reading, it is going to take a while. I just started reading (seriously) about two years ago, and there is so much catching up to do, especially in the timeperiod we are in that has an abundance of material to learn.

Post by “Don” of August 30, 2024 at 8:49 PM

Luke Ranieri included this in his latest newsletter:

Quote

As for Latin and Greek, here is a new Ancient Greek idiomatic expression I found while perusing LSJ:

ἐπ’ αὐτὸν ἦκεις τὸν βατῆρα τῆς θύρα̅ς "you arrived right on the threshold of the door" (attributed to Attic comic playwright Amipsias)

It's Latin equivalent is tetigitī acū "you have touched it with a needle" (first attested by comic playwright Plautus), and these both mean "you hit the nail on the head."

Post by “Don” of November 10, 2024 at 11:18 AM

<https://youtu.be/ge-mq6ZnceU?si=YnBRswfjY3epWxIL>

Luke Ranieri's latest video on Classical Attic pronunciation. A great intro to pronouncing ancient Greek words.

Post by “Kalosyni” of December 26, 2024 at 2:01 PM

I just came across another youtube on learning Greek (since every time I see Greek letters I have to mentally fill what I see with "sdfhsjdhfhsdhg" (not good, and wanting to be able to at least pronounce words).

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=S8hjU8Mkv1U>

Also, hoping...perhaps [Don](#) after you're done with your current ongoing project, you could put together some kind of summary of all your helpful tips and links, into our wiki.

Post by “Don” of December 26, 2024 at 10:50 PM

I have found there's no better way to get to know the alphabet - speaking as middle schooler me - than to try and write English in Greek letters. I literally took notes in junior high in Greek letters.. and that's what eventually put me on the path to try and learn Greek ("Well, if I'm writing in these letters, I should really know some of the language.") It's slow going at first. Write your name, write family members names, write pet names, write short sentences. Try to get "fluent" enough to write your shopping list in Greek letters. Write notes to yourself. Do you "to do" list. The next time you go to the grocery store, try something like:

- μιλκ
- εγγς
- βανανας
- βρεακφαστ σερεαλ
- στραυβερρι πρεσερυες
- κλεενεξ

See if you can "decipher" those. 😊

You need to be a little creative. Ancient Greek didn't have c, f (use φ), h, j, q, v, or w, and we don't typically use ps, kh, and other such letters, unless you want to try a sentence like "ἐρ λιψ υερε κρακκεδ φρομ θε κολδ." Try deciphering that, too.

It becomes a kind of code for awhile, fun to play around with.

If you try this, the letters will become second nature, THEN you can start transliterating actual Greek words much easier... and then on to translation!

NOTE: The video uses "Erasmian" pronunciation. I would recommend looking at Luke Ranieri's stuff on Polymathy, etc. including <https://lukeraniere.com/wp-content/upl...-2021-11-21.pdf>

Post by “Joshua” of December 27, 2024 at 12:14 AM

πρεσερνες

I can't believe it took me so long to realize there's no 'v' sound in the Greek alphabet. [Wikipedia](#) has it that the shift of beta from b to v may have started in the Koine period.

Quote

Beati hispani, quibus vivere bibere est.

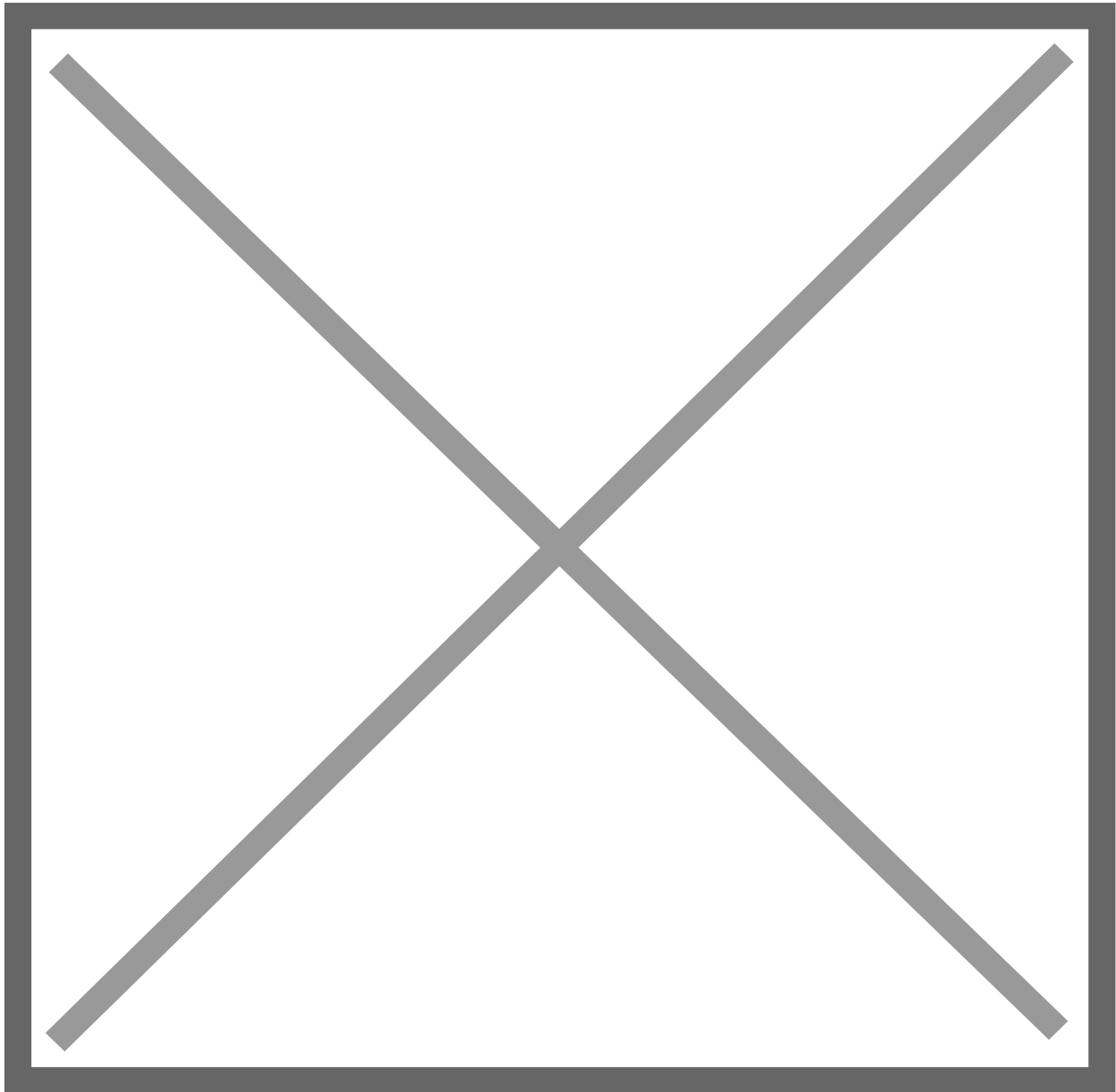
Translation: Fortunate are the Hispani, for whom living is drinking.

Post by “Don” of December 27, 2024 at 12:19 AM

Yes, β as v instead of b may have started for some dialects of Greek in the Koine period. Classical Greek and Homeric definitely had "b". Βάρβαρος was definitely barbaros, for example.

I typically used Υ/υ for U, V, and Y in my "code." Unless it came at the beginning, then υ: ιελλο συβμαριν or ΙΕΛΛΟ ΣΥΒΜΑΡΙΝ.

See also



[Ranieri's Greek Pronunciation Chronology](#)

All Greek w/ Alternative Coaeval Pronunciations All Greek with Alternative Coaeval Phonemes,Luke Amadeus Ranieri's GREEK PRONUNCIATION CHRONOLOGY Spreadsheet... docs.google.com

Post by “Don” of February 22, 2025 at 10:02 AM

This was too good not to share, from the upcoming Odyssey movie starring Matt Damon:

TĒS THDPSSSSPS 😄

Coming to theaters in 2026



THE **Θ** **Δ** **Υ** **Σ** **Σ** **Υ**

UNIVERSAL PICTURES PRESENTS
A SYNCOPY INC. PRODUCTION A CHRISTOPHER NOLAN FILM 'THE ODYSSEY' MATT DAMON TOM HOLLAND
ANNE HATHAWAY ZENDAYA ROBERT PATTINSON ELLIOT PAGE CHARLIZE THERON MIA GOTH LUPITA
NYONG'O WITH JON BERNTHAL AND HIMESH PATEL

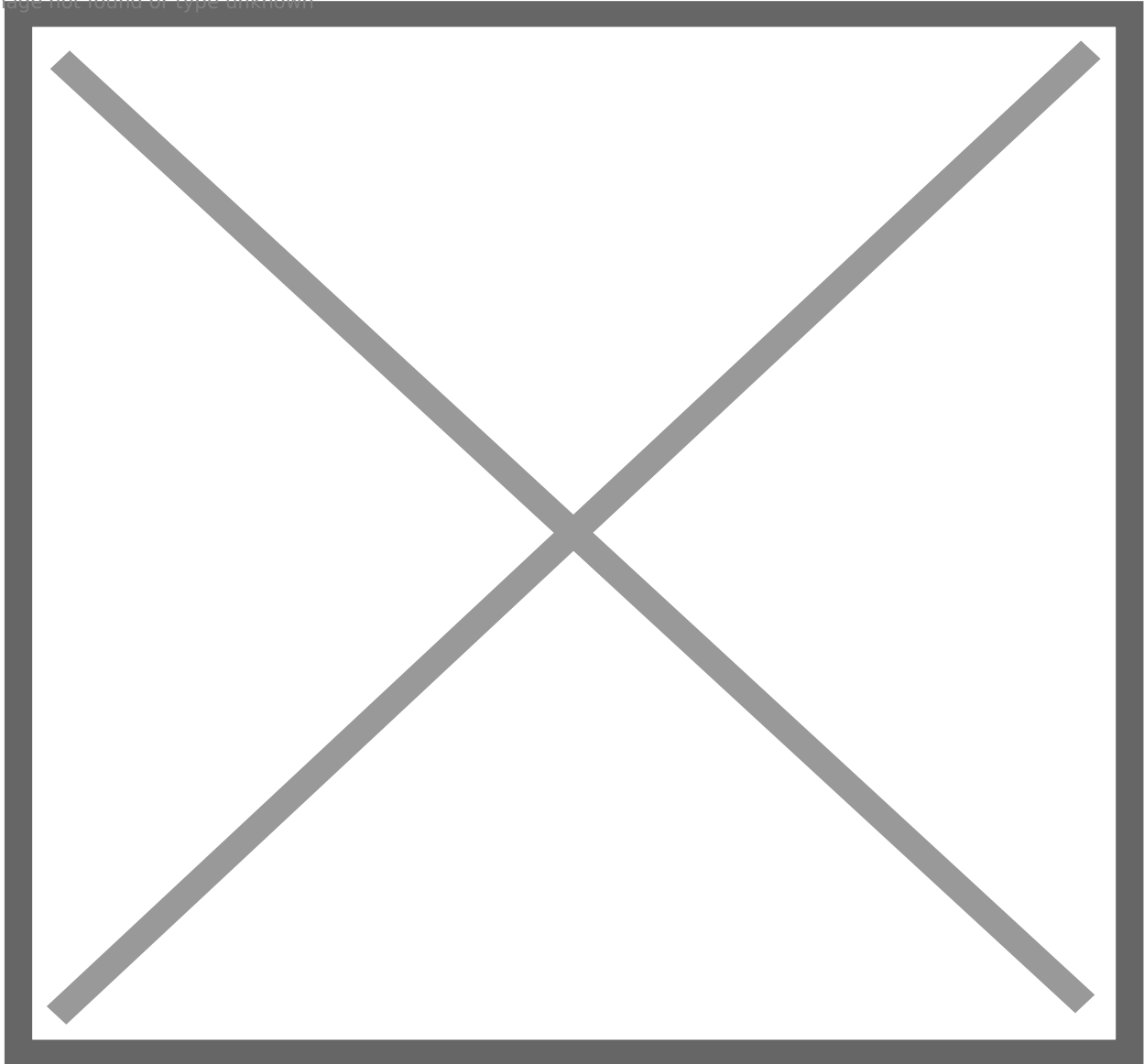
VII . XVII . MMXXVI



Post by “Don” of March 9, 2025 at 8:29 AM

Fascinating Substack article on how the ancients learned Latin and Greek.

Image not found or type unknown



[History Of Latin Pedagogy: Part One](#)

How Did The Romans Teach Latin?

open.substack.com

Post by “Kalosyni” of August 16, 2025 at 2:57 PM

<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/3507-so-you-want-to-learn-ancient-greek-or-latin/>

Good thing I didn't get my forum name as a tattoo...

Looks like γλυκυθυμία rather than καλοσύνη aligns more with my intention when I chose my forum name. 🤔

γλυκυθυμία

From [γλυκῦθυμός](#) (glükŷthŷmos, “sweet-minded”) + [-ϊᾱ](#) (-ĩā), from [γλυκῦς](#) (glükŷs, “sweet”) + [θυμός](#) (thŷmŷs, “soul”).

Pronunciation

- [IPA](#)^(key): /gly.ky.tʰy:.mĩ.a:/ → /ɣly.cy.θy'mi.a/ → /ɣli.ci.θi'mi.a/

Noun

γλυκῦθυμῖᾱ • (glükŷthŷmĩᾱ) *f* (genitive [γλυκῦθυμῖᾱς](#)); [first declension](#)

1. sweetness of mind
2. kind disposition, [kindliness](#), [benevolence](#)

Inflection

[First declension](#) of ἡ **γλυκῦθυμῖᾱ**; [τῆς γλυκῦθυμῖᾱς](#) ([Attic](#))

καλοσύνη

Etymology

[καλός](#) (kalŷs, “good”) + [-οσύνη](#) (-osŷni, “-ity, -ness”).

Noun

καλοσύνη • (kalosŷni) *f* (plural [καλοσύνες](#))

1. [kindness](#), [goodness](#), [benevolence](#) (the state of being kind; disposition to do good)
2. [kindness](#), [good deed](#) (an instance of kind or charitable behaviour)

Synonyms

- [αγαθοεργία](#) *f* (agathoergía)

Post by “Don” of August 16, 2025 at 3:11 PM

[Quote from Kalosyni](#)

γλυκύς (glükŷs, "sweet")

And that's where we get *glucose* from in English.

From Etymology Online: name of a group of sugars (in commercial use, "sugar-syrup from starch"), 1840, from French glucose (1838), said to have been coined by French professor Eugène Melchior Péligot (1811-1890) from Greek gleukos "must, sweet wine," related to glykys "sweet" (see gluco-). It first was obtained from grape sugar. Related: Glucosic.

Post by "Don" of December 7, 2025 at 11:16 AM

<https://youtu.be/9rA0gAzaBXw?si=jIEYIm8EY-z0oqla>

A helpful tutorial on Greek numerals.

PS. And note their use in the list of books of Epicurus (DL 10.28)

Τιμοκράτης γ'. (Timokrates 3 (books))

Μητρόδωρος ε'. (Metrodoros 5 (books))

Ἀντίδωρος β'. (Antidoros 2 (books))

Post by "Eikadistes" of March 19, 2026 at 9:48 AM

I don't know who needs to know this, but:

[Leía](#) means "booty" in ancient Greek.

May the Force be with you.

Post by "Eikadistes" of March 19, 2026 at 9:50 AM

Bonus Fact! **Légō** can mean "picking out stones for building".



Post by “Don” of April 27, 2026 at 6:38 AM

<https://youtu.be/KX4yuMN6pPI?si=JDZnguk5I9w82xFN>

Just saw this recitation of the beginning of the Iliad on YouTube. Imagining this as an ancient rhapsode performing at a banquet is pretty easy. I found it intriguing.

Post by “Cassius” of April 27, 2026 at 8:05 AM

Very dramatic!

Post by “Kalosyni” of April 27, 2026 at 4:34 PM

This gives you 40 seconds of the opening of the Letter to Menoecus:

[the Letter to Menoecus • Epicurus • spoken AncientGreek.eu](#)

Post by “Don” of April 27, 2026 at 10:37 PM

[Quote from Kalosyni](#)

This gives you 40 seconds of the opening of the Letter to Menoeceus:

<https://ancientgreek.eu/audiobooks/epi...-menoeceus.html>

That one I actually bought. I need to get back to that at some point.

Post by “Eikadistes” of May 1, 2026 at 9:38 AM

[Quote from Don](#)

<https://youtu.be/KX4yuMN6pPI?si=JDZnguk5I9w82xFN>

Just saw this recitation of the beginning of the Iliad on YouTube. Imagining this as an ancient rhapsode performing at a banquet is pretty easy. I found it intriguing.

I was personally blown away by [this video](#). I'm sharing this without any commentary on the figure reciting the verse. Like I said ... totally surprised (*refreshingly* surprised). Skip to 0:59.

Post by “Don” of May 1, 2026 at 10:36 AM

[Quote from Eikadistes](#)

I was personally blown away by this video. I'm sharing this without any commentary on the figure reciting the verse.



However, I also recommend watching it with the auto-generated captioning. It is hilarious!!
(More wonders of AI 😄)

Post by “Eikadistes” of May 1, 2026 at 11:34 AM

Tea Party do state alert or boules
exclude

God
elf it was a vinyasa kion lucemon hasta

A true masterpiece. 😂

Post by “TauPhi” of June 20, 2026 at 8:58 PM

Part of Lucretius' Book 3 Proem sang in classical Latin pronunciation to some medieval-like music. Lovely stuff.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9uW0PaQqglg>