

Footnote On Zeno

Post by "Cassius" of August 31, 2025 at 9:39 AM

¹ Zeno the Epicurean, a contemporary of Cicero, and named the *coryphaeus* of Epicurus. He called Socrates *scurra Atticus* and spoke of Chrysippus invariably as *Chrysippa*, in scorn of his title of "father," cf. Hor. *Sat.* 1. 3. 127: *Non nosti, quid pater, inquit, Chrysippus dicat.*
² Cf. II. § 44.

272

Loeb Edition, Tusculan Disputations, Page 272

Post by "Don" of August 31, 2025 at 1:41 PM

Coryphaeus:

Etymology

Borrowed from Latin *coryphaeus*, from Ancient Greek κορυφαῖος (*koruphaîos*, "leader of the chorus in an Ancient Greek drama"), from κορυφή (*koruphḗ*, "top of the head, crown") (possibly ultimately from Proto-Indo-European **kerh₂-* ("head, top; horn")) + *-ios* (*-ios*, suffix forming adjectives meaning 'belonging to, pertaining to').

coryphaeus (plural *coryphaeuses* or *coryphaei*)

(Ancient Greece, drama, historical) The conductor or leader of the chorus of a drama.

Synonym: *coryphée*

(by extension) The chief or leader of an interest or party.

Synonyms: *coryphe*, *coryphée*

The leader of an opera chorus or another ensemble of singers.

Post by “Cassius” of August 31, 2025 at 1:52 PM

Thank you Don!

Post by “Don” of September 2, 2025 at 6:40 AM

scurra Atticus: the clown of Athens

scurra m (genitive scurrae); first declension

1. elegant man about town, dandy, rake
2. **jester, joker, wit, clown**

Atticus: (in general) of or pertaining to Attica or Athens, Attic, Athenian

Chrysippa is simply the feminine form of Chrysippus, playing on his "father" figure status, basically giving him a "mother's" name.

Horace: You do not understand what Chrysippus,[*] the father [of your sect], says...

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