

**A GRAMMAR OF THE GREEK  
LANGUAGE: TRANSLATED AND  
REVISED, WITH ADDITIONS, FROM  
WARD'S INSTITUTIO GRAECAE  
GRAMMATICES COMPENDIARIA**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649040322

A Grammar of the Greek Language: Translated and Revised, with Additions, from Ward's  
Institutio Graecae Grammatices Compendiaria by William Harrison

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Cover @ 2017

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**WILLIAM HARRISON**

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BY  
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LONDON:  
PRINTED FOR J. G. F. & J. RIVINGTON,  
ST. PAUL'S CHURCH YARD,  
AND WATERLOO PLACE, FLEET MALL.

1840.

540.

LONDON:  
GILBERT & RIVINGTON, PRINTERS,  
ST. JOHN'S SQUARE.



## P R E F A C E.

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THIS translation, which is now offered to the public, has been attempted in consequence of the great impediment, which the Latin dress, as well as some parts of the arrangement of the original, offer to the young beginner, hindering a progress which would be much more rapid and satisfactory, if that difficulty were removed. Having had now for four years the classical education of upwards of one hundred and fifty boys in the third school of Christ's Hospital committed to his sole charge, the Translator has had an opportunity of testing this difficulty; and he has invariably found himself obliged so repeatedly to correct the errors, into which the Latin technicalities and expressions have led the boys, that he has been glad to seize the suggestion which has called forth this undertaking.

While so many English-Greek Grammars, however, are to be obtained, this labour may seem to have been somewhat superfluous. To this objection the Translator ventures to offer one answer, namely, that of all the Greek Grammars he has hitherto seen, there is not one upon the whole so well adapted for an Elementary Book, as this which is now published.

There has been some trifling alteration made in the arranging of the nouns, and in some of the Rules for the Formation of the Tenses ; in which latter the Translator has merely brought together those which are only necessary for the junior forms. He has also corrected some errors, besides substituting from other grammars the Account of the Dialects, and making a few additions in various parts. In short, while he has endeavoured to render the book more serviceable for youth, it has also been his aim to make it an useful manual for the more advanced Scholar.

Should any errors be detected in this edition, which has been prepared, with great exertion, in the midst of unceasing toil, it will be deemed a kindness, if any Scholar will point them out.

CHRIST'S HOSPITAL,

May, 1840.



## GREEK GRAMMAR.

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There are four divisions of Greek Grammar; Orthography, Etymology, Syntax, and Prosody.

### I. ORTHOGRAPHY.

There are twenty-four letters in the Greek Alphabet.

<i>Form.</i>	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Meaning.</i>	
Α α	ἄλφα	alpha	a
Β β Ϛ	βῆτα	beta	b
Γ γ Ϛ	γάμμα	gamma	g
Δ δ	δέλτα	delta	d
Ε ε	ε ψιλόν	e psilon	e short
Ζ ζ Ϛ	ζῆτα	zeta	z
Η η	ἦτα	eta	e long
Θ θ Ϛ	θῆτα	theta	th
Ι ι	ιώτα	iota	i
Κ κ	κάππα	kappa	k
Λ λ	λάμβδα	lambda	l
Μ μ	μῦ	mu	m
Ν ν	νῦ	nu	n
Ξ ξ	ξι	xi	x
Ο ο	ο μικρόν	o micron	o little and short
Π π Ϟ	πί	pi	p
Ρ ρ Ϛ	ῥῶ	rho	r
Σ Ϛ Ϛ Ϛ	σίγμα	sigma	s
Τ τ Ϛ	ταῦ	tau	t
Υ υ	υ ψιλόν	u psilon	u
Φ φ	φί	phi	ph
Χ χ	χι	chi	ch
Ψ ψ	ψί	psi	ps
Ω ω	ω μέγα	o mega	o great and long.

*Division of the Letters.*

Seven of the letters are vowels, α, ε, η, ι, ο, υ, ω.  
The remaining seventeen are consonants.

1. *Division of the Vowels.*

The vowels are thus divided :

Long, η, ω : short, ε, ο : doubtful, α, ι, υ.

Changeable, α, ε, ο : unchangeable, η, ι, υ, ω.

Prepositive, α, ε, η, υ, ω : subjunctive, ι, υ.

*Note.*—A doubtful vowel is one that may be either long or short; and a changeable vowel is one that may be changed into another.

A prepositive vowel is so called because it always stands *first* in a diphthong; a subjunctive vowel is so called because it is placed *last*.

When two vowels come together, and are pronounced as one letter, they are called a diphthong.

Diphthongs are proper, αι, αυ, ει, ευ, οι, ου : improper, φ, ψ, φ, ηυ, υι, ωυ.

Changeable, αι, αυ, οι : unchangeable, ει, ευ, ου.

2. *Division of the Consonants.*

The consonants are divided into mutes and semivowels.

The mutes are divided into tennes, κ, χ, τ : middle, β, γ, δ : and aspirates, φ, χ, θ.

*Note.*—The mutes are sometimes changed one into another, but the change can only be made as follows, π, β, φ : κ, γ, χ : τ, δ, θ.

The semivowels are divided into double letters, ζ (δζ), ξ (κξ), ψ (πψ) : and liquids or unchangeable letters, λ, μ, ν, ρ ; with σ, which is a peculiar letter.

## SYLLABLES.

A syllable consists of one or more letters; a word, of one or more syllables; and a sentence is made up of words.

Syllables have quantity, accents, breathings, and apostrophe.

The *quantity* of syllables will be treated of under the head of prosody.

#### The Accents.

There are three accents, which are placed over vowels only: the acute (´), the grave (`), and the circumflex (˘).

The acute accent is placed either on the ultima (or last syllable), as, Θεός<sup>1</sup>, *God*, whence the word is called an *oxytone*; or on the pen-ultima (*the last syllable but one*), as λόγος, a *discourse*, whence it is called a *paroxytone*; or on the ante-pen-ultima (*the last syllable but two*), as ἄγγελος, an *angel*, whence it is called a *pro-paroxytone*.

The circumflex is placed on the ultima, as, σκῆ, a *fig-tree*, whence the word is called *perispómenon*; or on the pen-ultima, as σῆκον, a *fig*, whence it is called *properispómenon*.

The grave accent is placed on the *last* syllable only; whence the word is called, as above, an *oxytone*, as, Χριστός, *Christ*. But if there be no accent on the last syllable, the word is called a *gravitone* or *barytone*, because the *grave* accent is always then understood; as, ἄγγελος, λόγος, σῆκον.

#### The Breathings.

There are two breathings; the soft, which is formed thus (´); and the rough, thus (´).

Every word that begins with a vowel or diphthong must receive one of these breathings over that vowel or diphthong.

All words beginning with *v* or the consonant *p* receive the rough breathing: as, ὕδωρ, *water*; ῥάδιος, *easy*.

But if *p* should be doubled in the middle of a word, the former *p* receives the soft breathing, while the latter takes the rough, as, ἔβηξε, *he broke*.

#### Apostrophe.

An apostrophe is a mark put in the place of a vowel which has been taken away on account of another vowel following, as thus (´).

The vowels *a*, *e*, *i*, *o*, are taken away by apostrophe; also the diphthongs *ai*, *oi*: as κατ' αὐτόν, for κατὰ αὐτόν, *against him*.

<sup>1</sup> This appears to be a contradiction; but it is to be understood, that whenever the grave is written on the ultima, it has the force of the acute.