



# **Ancient Greek language in today's world**

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**Greek** ελληνικά - elinika or greek language=ελληνική γλώσσα-eliniki glosa, is an independent branch of the European languages. Native to the southern Balkans it has the longest documented history of any European language, spanning 34 centuries of written records.

Its writing system has been the Greek alphabet for the majority of its history. Other systems, such as Linear B and the Cypriot syllabary were previously used.

Greek has been spoken in the Balkan Peninsula since around the late 3rd millennium BC.

The earliest written evidence is found in the Linear B clay tablets in the "Room of the Chariot Tablets", (1400 BC) region of Knossos, in Crete, making Greek one of the world's oldest recorded living languages.



The Greek language holds an important place in the histories of Europe (Evropi).

The canon of ancient Greek literature includes works of monumental importance and influence for the future Western canon, such as the epic (epika) poems **Iliad- iliada** and **Odyssey-Odyseia**.

Greek was also the language in which many of the foundational texts of Western philosophy, such as **the Platonics dialogues** and the works of Aristotle, were composed.

Farther more the New Testament of the Christian Bible (biblio=book) was written in Greek and the liturgy (**liturgia**) continues to be celebrated in the language in various Christian denominations (particularly the Eastern Orthodox and the Greek Rite of the Catholic Church).

Recently they found a text By Galileo written in Greek language



## Periods

The Greek language is conventionally divided into the following periods:

**Proto-Greek:** Since in the early 2nd millennium BC,

**Mycenaean Greek,** is recorded in the Linear B, from 15th c. BC.

**Ancient Greek:** In its various dialects the language of the Archaic and Classical periods of the ancient Greek civilization. It was widely known throughout the Roman Empire.

**Common Greek –Koine Elliniki- Hellenistic language**

**Medieval Greek:** also known as Byzantine Greek, the continuation of Koine Greek during the Byzantine Empire in the 15th century.

**Modern Greek:** Stemming from Medieval Greek, Modern Greek usages can be traced in the Byzantine period, as early as the 11th century. It is the language used by modern Greeks and apart from Standard Modern Greek, there are several dialects of it.

## **Common Greek –Koine Elliniki- Hellenistic language:**

The fusion of various ancient Greek dialects with Attic- the dialect of Athens, resulted in the creation of the first common Greek dialect, **which became a lingua franca** across **Eastern Mediterranean and Near East.**

In the beginning, it was spoken in the armies and conquered territories of Alexander the Great, but **after the Hellenistic colonization of the known world**, it was spoken from **Egypt to the fringes of India.**

**After the Roman conquest of Greece**, an unofficial diglossy of Greek and Latin, was established in the city of Rome and Koine Greek became a first or second language in the Roman Empire.

**The origin of Christianity** can also be traced through Koine Greek, as the Apostles –Apostoloi (gr) used it, to preach in Greece and the Greek-speaking world, **also known as the Alexandrian dialect.**

**Post-Classical Greek or even New Testament Greek**, as it was the original language **of the New Testament.**

## GREEK LANGUAGE IN TIME..

- ✓ With the Latin texts and traditions of the Roman world (which was significantly influenced by ancient Greek society), the study of the Greek texts and society of antiquity **constitutes the discipline of Classics.**
- ✓ Greek was a widely spoken lingua franca in the Mediterranean world and beyond during Classical Antiquity, and
- ✓ **Eventually become the official parlance** of the Byzantine Empire.
- ✓ **In its modern form,** it is the official language of Greece and Cyprus and one of the 23 official languages of the European Union.



**Greek roots are often used to coin new words for other languages, especially in the sciences and medicine**

**Greek and Latin are the predominant sources of the international scientific vocabulary.**

**Over fifty thousand English words are derived from the Greek language.**





## The first alphabet with vowels

The Ancient Greeks played an important part in the development of the alphabet.

The first two letters of the Greek alphabet - **alpha** and **beta** - have given us the word 'alphabet'.



The “a” in the beginning of a word means **without**,  
like:

**A+gnostic** ΑΓΝΩΣΤΟ=means that is not known. Γνωστό=  
Known

**a+hydrous**. ΑΝΥΔΡΟ=No water,( Ύδωρ=water)

**a+nonymous**= ΑΝΩΝΥΜΟΣ.Without name. Όνομα=  
Name

**a+mnesia**. ΑΜΝΗΣΙΑ=oblivion. Μνήμη=memory

**A+norexia**. ΑΝΟΡΕΞΙΑ-lack of appetite. Όρεξη= appetite

OTHER

**Aerobios**. ΑΕΡΟΒΙΟΣ=living in air= aerobic, anaerobic

**genesis** = ΓΕΝΕΣΙΣ= birth.

**deltion** =ΔΕΛΤΙΟΝ= small writing tablet: **deltiology**

**Βαθύς**- bathus - deep bathybius, bathymetry

**βακτήριον** bacterion **βακτηριο**- stick, bacteremia, bacteria

**Βάλλω**- ballo I throw, ballistics,

**βαπτίζειν** baptizein **immerse**, cleanse anabaptist baptism baptist,

**βασιλεύς** basileus – king , basil basilica, basilisk

**βάσις** basis - walk, go base, basis,

**βιβλίον** biblion - book bible, bibliography, bibliolatry, bibliomancy, bibliomania, bibliophile, bibliotherapy

**βίος** bios- life antibiotic, autobiography, biography biology biopsy bios

**βλαστός** blastos, germ blastoderm, blastoid, blastoma blastula

**βλάσφημος** - To speak of God in an irreverent manner blaspheme

**βορέας** boreas north, the north wind Aurora Borealis, hyperborean

**PLANET= PLANHTHS-ΠΛΑΝΗΜΙ= GO**

**AROUND**

**Etc....**

# THANKS

## EY-HARISTOYME

