

λαλῶμεν ἑλληνιστί!

lalōmen hellēnistí!

Let's Speak (ancient) Greek!

Ἀνδρέου τοῦ Ἀνδρέου

Andréou toũ Andréou

By Andrew son of Andrew



1. How to Use This Document

“Let’s speak Greek” is a set of dialogues written in ancient Attic Greek. These written dialogues will form the basis of the kind of spoken small talk (λαλιά, *laliá*) that we’ll engage in over the course of the semester.

Spoken Greek in the classroom is 10% of the participation grade — why? Not so you can order in a restaurant, but

- So that you get a feel for the language and its special features, vocab, endings (something new!), etc.
- So that it’s not just all an abstract exercise in memorizing and decoding. *So that it’s something real*

This guide should, then, prove useful as reference and for review during and between class meetings.

- This isn’t about memorization; you’ll always have this document at hand, printed or in a window on your screen
- It’s about repetition to help it sink in and to help us feel more at ease
- Take notes, review between classes. Practice saying and reading the Greek. Say it eyes closed. See if you can make sentences of your own from it

How do I assess oral Greek? As with homework and other participation, I want to see that you’re putting good faith effort into it. I’m certainly not looking for perfection; we need to give ourselves permission to make mistakes. *Lots* of mistakes. But we also need to show we’re committed to the kind of progress oral Greek aims for.

This document will probably be added to as the semester goes on. At a certain point in the semester, oral Greek prompts may transition mostly to PowerPoints used in class.

2. ὑποκείμενοι λέξεις. *hupokeímenai léxeis*. Basic Vocabulary

This section provides basic vocabulary: words and expressions frequently encountered in our conversations. Basically, the same suggestion as previous. Don't try to learn it all at once. Rather, when you hear any of the following used in class, make note of it and review afterwards.

ἄρα; <i>āra?</i>	[No translation, introduces yes / no question]
ναί <i>nai</i>	Yes
ναίχι <i>naíchi!</i>	Yes indeed! Oh yes!
μάλιστα <i>málista!</i>	Certainly! You bet! Absolutely!
οὕτως ἔχει <i>hoútōs ékhei</i>	Right! It is thus. It is so.
ὀρθῶς γε <i>orthōs ge</i>	Right! (Correctly [you have answered])
οὐ / οὐκ / οὐχ <i>ou / ouk / oukh</i>	No. (Also means “not”)
οὐχί <i>oukhí!</i>	Certainly not! No indeed! No!
πότερον; <i>poteron?</i>	[Introduces multiple-choice questions]
ὡς οἶμαι (<i>hōs oimai</i>) ὡς νομίζω (<i>hōs nomízō</i>) ὡς φαίνεται (<i>hōs pháinetai</i>) ὡς δοκεῖ (<i>hōs dokeĩ</i>)	As it seems, in my opinion, etc.
ὁ μαθητής <i>ho mathētēs</i>	The student (masculine singular)
οἱ μαθηταί <i>hoi mathtaí</i>	The students (masculine plural)
ὦ μαθητά <i>ō mathētá</i>	(Hey, there,) student! (masculine singular, to grab attention)

ὦ μαθηταί <i>ō mathētai</i>	(Hey, there,) students! (masculine plural, to grab attention)
ἡ μαθητρίς <i>hē mathētrís</i>	The student (feminine singular)
αἱ μαθητρίδες <i>hai mathētrídes</i>	The students (feminine plural)
ὦ μαθητρί <i>ō mathētrí</i>	(Hey, there,) student! (feminine singular, to grab attention)
ὦ μαθητρίδες <i>ō mathētrídes</i>	(Hey, there,) students! (feminine plural, to grab attention)
ὁ / ἡ διδάσκαλος <i>ho/hē didāskalos</i>	the teacher (masculine / feminine)
ὦ διδάσκαλε <i>ō didáskale</i>	(Hey, there,) teacher! (masc or fem sing, to grab attention)
εἰπέ <i>eipé</i>	Say! (command, singular, to one person)
εἴπετε <i>eípete</i>	Say! (plural command, to two or more people)
εἰπέ / εἴπετε “χαῖρε” <i>eipe / eípete “khaĩre”</i>	Say (sing / plur) “khaĩre”!
αὔθις <i>aũthis</i>	Again
αὔθις εἰπέ / εἴπετε <i>aũthis eipe / eípete</i>	Say (sing / plur) it again!
εὖ γε <i>eũ ge</i>	Well done!
ἄριστα <i>árista</i>	Super job!
κακῶς <i>kakōs</i>	Badly
κάκιστα <i>kákista</i>	Really badly

ἀντιβολῶ σε / ὑμᾶς ἀντιβολῶ <i>antibolō se / humās antibolō</i>	Please! (lit., “I beseech you, sing / plur)
χάριν σοι ἔχω / χάριν ὑμῖν ἔχω <i>kharin soi ékhō / kharin humīn ékhō</i>	Thank you! (sing / plur “you”)
ἀσμένως <i>asménōs</i>	You’re welcome (literally, “gladly,” but ancient Greek doesn’t actually seem to have had a way to say “you’re welcome”)
ἐπαινῶ <i>erainō</i>	No thank you (lit, “I praise,” as in, “great suggestion, but no thanks”)
πῶς λέγεται _____ ἐλληνιστί; <i>pōs légetai _____ hellēnistí?</i>	How do you say _____ in Greek?
πῶς βούλεται _____ ἀγγλιστί; <i>pōs bouletai _____ anglistí?</i>	What does _____ mean in English?
συγγνώμην ἔχε / ἔχετε <i>sungnómēn ékhe / ékhetē</i>	Sorry! (sing / plur)
οὐκ οἶδα <i>ouk oída</i>	I don’t know

3. προσρήματα, λαλιά. *prosrhēmata, laliá.* Greetings, Small Talk



διδάσκαλος <i>didaskalos</i> (instructor, teacher)	χαίρετε, ὦ μαθηταί τε καὶ μαθητρίδες <i>khaírete, ō mathētaí te kai mathētrídes</i>	Greetings, students! (Lit., “Rejoice, students male and students female!”)
μαθηταί / μαθητρίδες <i>mathētaí / mathētrídes</i> (students)	χαῖρε, ὦ διδάσκαλε <i>khaíre, ō didáskale</i>	Greetings, teacher! (Lit., “Rejoice, teacher!”)
Δ(ιδάσκαλος)	ὦ μαθητά / ὦ μαθητρί <i>ō mathētá / ō mathētrí</i>	Student! (masc / fem)

Δ	τί ἐστι τὸ ὄνομά σοι; <i>tí esti to ónomá soi?</i>	What is your name?
M(αθητής / μαθητρίς)	τὸ ὄνομά μοί ἐστι(ν) _____ <i>to ónomá moi esti(n) _____</i>	My name is _____
Δ	τί ἐστι τὸ ὄνομα αὐτῷ / αὐτῇ; <i>tí esti to ónoma autōi / autāi?</i>	What is his / her name?
M	τὸ ὄνομά αὐτῷ/αὐτῇ ἐστι(ν) _____ <i>to ónomá autōi/autāi esti(n) _____</i>	His / her name is _____.
M	καὶ σύ, ὦ διδάσκαλε· τί ἐστι τὸ ὄνομά σοι; <i>kai sú, didáskale; tí esti to ónomá soi?</i>	And you, teacher, what is your name?
Δ	ὦ _____· πῶς ἔχεις τήμερον; <i>ō _____; pōs ékheis témeron?</i>	_____! How are you (sing) today?
M	ὦ διδάσκαλε· καλῶς / κακῶς / μετρίως ἔχω τήμερον <i>ō didáskale; kalōs / kakōs / metriōs ékhō témeron.</i>	I'm well / poorly / so-so today.
M	χάριν σοι ἔχω. <i>kharin soi ékhō.</i>	Thank you (sing)!
M	καὶ σύ, ὦ διδάσκαλε· πῶς ἔχεις τήμερον; <i>kai sú, ō didáskale; pōs ékheis témeron?</i>	And you, teacher, how are you today?
Δ	καλῶς / κακῶς / μετρίως ἔχω τήμερον. <i>kalōs / kakōs / metriōs ékhō témeron.</i>	I'm well / poorly / so-so today!
Δ	χάριν σοι ἔχω <i>kharin soi ékhō.</i>	Thank you (sing)!

Δ	ή Μέλιττα / ό Φίλιππος πώς έχει τήμερον; <i>hē Mélitta / ho Phílirpos pōs ékhei tēmeron?</i>	How is Melissa / Philip today?
Μ	ή Μέλιττα / ό Φίλιππος καλώς / κακώς / μετρίως έχει τήμερον. <i>hē Mélitta / ho Phílirpos kalōs / kakōs / metríōs ékhei tēmeron.</i>	Melissa / Philip is well / poorly / so- so today.
Δ	ἔρρωσθε, ὦ μαθηταί τε καί μαθητρίδες, <i>érrhosthe, ō mathētaí te kai mathētrídes</i>	Goodbye, students!
Μ	ἔρρωσο, ὦ διδάσκαλε. <i>érrhōso, ō didáskale.</i>	Goodbye, teacher!

4. πλείων λαλιά. More Small Talk



Δ	ὦ _____· πώς ἔχεις;	Hey _____! How are you?
Μ	ὦ διδάσκαλε· ἔχω κακώς.	Hey teacher, I'm not feeling well.
Δ	λυποῦμαι. Τί πάσχεις; πότερον κάμνεις, ἢ λυπεῖ σε ἡ κεφαλή, ἢ λυπεῖ σε ἡ γαστήρ;	I'm sorry to hear that! What the matter? Are you feeling (generally) ill/tired, or do you have a head ache, or do you have a stomach ache?
Μ	ὦ διδάσκαλε· _____.	Hey, teacher, _____.

Δ	ὦ _____· τί πράττεις;	_____! How are you doing? (How are things going for you?)
μαθητής / μαθητρίς	ὦ διδάσκαλε· εὖ πράττω. οὐκ εὖ πράττω. κακῶς πράττω.	Teacher! I'm doing well. Things aren't going well. Things are going badly.
Δ	ὦ _____, πηλίκος εἶ;	_____! How old are you?
Μ	16. ἑκκαίδεκα ἐτῶν εἰμί. 17. ἑπτακαίδεκα ἐτῶν εἰμί 18. ὀκτωκαίδεκα ἐτῶν εἰμί 19. ἔννεακαίδεκα ἐτῶν εἰμί 20. εἴκοσιν ἐτῶν εἰμί 21. ἑνὸς καὶ εἴκοσιν ἐτῶν εἰμί 22. δυοῖν καὶ εἴκοσιν ἐτῶν εἰμί 23. τριῶν καὶ εἴκοσιν ἐτῶν εἰμί 24. τεττάρων καὶ εἴκοσιν ἐτῶν εἰμί 25. πέντε καὶ εἴκοσιν ἐτῶν εἰμί 26. ἕξ καὶ εἴκοσιν ἐτῶν εἰμί 27. ἑπτὰ καὶ εἴκοσιν ἐτῶν εἰμί 28. ὀκτῶ καὶ εἴκοσιν ἐτῶν εἰμί 29. ἔννεα καὶ εἴκοσιν ἐτῶν εἰμί 30. τριάκοντα ἐτῶν εἰμί	I am x years old.
Μ	καὶ σύ, ὦ διδάσκαλε· πηλίκος εἶ;	And you, teacher, how old are you?
Δ	γέγονα ἔτη περὶ τετταράκοντα.	I'm about forty. ☺

5. οἴκησις, ἐργασία. Home, Occupation



διδάσκαλος	ὦ _____, ἐν τίνι πόλει οἰκεῖς;	_____! In what city do you live?
μαθητής / μαθητρίς	ὦ διδάσκαλε· ἐν τῷ Νέῳ Ἐβροράκῳ οἰκῶ. ἐν τῇ Μακρῇ Νήσῳ οἰκῶ. ἐν τῇ Binghamton πόλει οἰκῶ. ἐν _____ οἰκῶ.	Teacher! I live in New York. I live on Long Island. I live in Binghamton. I live in _____.

M	ὦ διδάσκαλε, και σύ· ἐν τίνι πόλει οἰκεῖς;	And you, teacher, where do you live?
Δ	ὦ _____· ἐν τῇ Binghamton πόλει οἰκῶ.	_____! I live in Binghamton.
Δ	ὦ _____, τίνα ἐργασίαν ποιεῖ;	_____! What work do you do? (What is your occupation?)
Δ	πότερον πονεῖς... ἐν τοῖς ἀγροῖς, ἢ ἐν οἴνοπωλίῳ τινι, ἢ σπουδάζεις ἐν τῷ πανεπιστημίῳ;	Do you work... in the fields (= on a farm), or in a bar, or do you study at university?
M	ὦ διδάσκαλε· ἐν τοῖς ἀγροῖς πονῶ. ἐν οἴνοπωλίῳ πονῶ. σπουδάζω ἐν τῷ πανεπιστημίῳ.	Teacher! I work in the fields. I work in a bar. I study at university.
M	καὶ σύ, ὦ διδάσκαλε, τίνα ἐργασίαν ποιεῖ;	And you, teacher! What work do you do? (What is your occupation?)
Δ	ὦ δαιμόνιε / δαιμονία· ἔνδηλος διδάσκων εἶμι.	Why, you strange person; I obviously teach.

6. ὁ οὐρανός. σχολή. Weather. Pastimes

Zeus, weather god



Δ	τίνι οὐρανῷ χρώμεθα τήμερον;	What's the weather today?
M	τήμερον... εὐδία χρώμεθα. ἐκλάμπει ὁ ἥλιος. συννεφές ἐστιν. καῦμά ἐστιν. ὔει. νειφει.	Today... It's fine weather. The sun is shining. It's cloudy. It's really hot. It's raining. It's showing.

Δ	<p>σχολῆς οὔσης, τί μάλιστα σοι ἀρέσκει; πότερον...</p> <p>σφαίρα παίζειν, ἢ κυβεύειν, ἢ ὑπολογιστικὰς παιδιὰς παίζειν, ἢ φωτογραφεῖν, ἢ ταινίας θεᾶσθαι, ἢ ἀναγιγνώσκειν, ἢ οἶνον πίνειν;</p>	<p>In your free time, what do you especially like to do?...</p> <p>To play ball, or To play at dice (gamble), or To play computer/video games, or To take photographs, or To watch films, or To read, or To drink wine?</p>
Μ	σχολῆς οὔσης, ἀρέσκει μοι μάλιστα _____.	In my free time, I especially like to _____.
Μ	καὶ σύ, ὦ διδάσκαλε· σχολῆς οὔσης, τί μάλιστα σοι ἀρέσκει;	And you, teacher, when you have free time, what do you especially like to do?
Δ	ὦ _____· πότερον χαίρεις ἢ λυπεῖ τὴν τηλεόρασιν θεωμένη(F)/θεώμενος(M);	O _____! Are you glad (χαίρεις) or do you regret (ἢ λυπεῖ) watching television?
Δ	ὦ _____· ἄρα οὐ βούλει τὴν τηλεόρασιν θεωμένη(F)/θεώμενος(M) παύεσθαι;	O _____! Don't you want to stop watching television?
Δ	ὦ _____· ἄρα οὐ ὀρᾷς τὰς παῖδας τὰς τὴν τηλεόρασιν θεωμένας;	O _____! Don't you see the girls watching television?