

Lesson One: The Greek Alphabet
Sight and Sounds of the Greek Letters (Module A)
Study Aid Level One: Similarities and Differences

English Alphabet	NTGreek Alphabet
1. English is read and written from left to right.	1. NTGreek is read and written from left to right
2. In the English alphabet, there are twenty-six letters. Five letters are vowels (and sometimes “w” and “y”), and twenty-one letters are consonants.	2. The NTGreek alphabet has twenty-four letters. Seven letters are vowels and seventeen letters are consonants.
3. The English alphabet has both capital and small letters. Almost all of the capitals look like their “printed” small letters.	3. The NTGreek alphabet has both capital and small letters. Many Greek capitals do not look like their “printed” small letters.
4. English capitals are used for proper names and new sentences.	4. Greek capitals are used for proper names, first letter of a new paragraph, and to mark the beginning of a direct quote.
5. English letters are not written differently when they appear at the end of a word.	5. One letter (σ , ς) in NTGreek has a different form when it appears at the end of a word.
6. It is impossible to learn to read English without knowing the meaning of words, because letters and letter combinations can be pronounced in so many different ways. For example, the “c” in “cat”, “cube” and “circle”.	6. NTGreek consonants and vowels are nearly always pronounced the same. Therefore, it is possible to learn to read NTGreek without knowing the meaning of words.
7. English is pronounced differently in various places, such as Canada, Australia, and the United States.	7. NTGreek also has various pronunciations. You will learn the phonetic pronunciation that is used in many colleges, universities and seminaries.

A Look Ahead

Understanding some of the similarities and differences between the English and Greek alphabets is just the beginning of learning New Testament Greek. This NTGreek course will equip anyone to read and understand New Testament Greek (NTGreek). Over one hundred lessons are planned to take you from your first steps in New Testament Greek to a thorough knowledge of the language that will rival any Bible college, university, or seminary study.

Lesson one introduced the sight and sounds of the twenty-four Greek alphabetical characters. These same characters are further developed in Lesson two by examining how they sound together in simple vowel—consonant and consonant-vowel combinations so that the student will have confidence they are pronouncing Greek words properly. In addition, a phonetic pronunciation system is integrated in these lessons by means of MP3 audio files, as well as later lessons.

Several special features to look forward to in all Greek lessons are:

1. A large Greek point size is purposefully employed to aid the beginning student. Greek words contained within paragraphs are 14 point, and the font point size for illustrations is 16 point.
2. Many MP3 audio files accompany every lesson. If you wish to hear the audio portion of the lesson, simply click on the link.
3. A study guide is included at the end of every lesson that tests the student over the material studied in the lesson to advance more rapidly the learning curve.
4. Many study aids are associated with each lesson. These study aids give the student further opportunities to learn more by the added instructional materials, exercises, and quizzes. Answer keys are provided when applicable. The study aids are divided into three levels. The different levels represent an escalating level of difficulty. It is recommended to begin with the least difficult exercises in Level One and proceed through Level Three to receive the maximum benefit. The study aid pages are paginated sequentially. The abbreviation "SA" represents "Study Aids", followed by the lesson number, and then the sequential study aid pagination.