

# 3

## Study Guide ANSWER KEY Sight and Sounds of Greek Words (Module A) Phonology (Part 3)

Exercise One: Short Answer. Briefly answer the following questions.

1. What constitutes a consonant letter sound?

Consonants are made with the breath totally or partly blocked. This hindering of sound is done by the tongue, teeth or lips. Seventeen letters in the Greek alphabet are consonants.

2. Which ten Greek consonants are phonetically equivalent to ten English consonants? Fill in the spaces below with the appropriate Greek or English small letter.

Greek letters	β	γ	δ	κ	λ	μ	ν	π	σ/ς	τ
English letters	b	g	d	k	l	m	n	p	s	t

3. Define what constitutes a vowel letter sound.

A vowel letter is an open and freely breathed sound. There are seven vowels in Greek.

4. List the seven Greek vowels, giving both their small and capital forms together.

A α, E ε, H η, I ι, O ο, Y υ, and Ω ω.

5. Which two Greek vowels are always considered short? E ε and O ο

6. Which two Greek vowels are always considered long? H η and Ω ω

7. Which three Greek vowels may be either long or short? A α, I ι, and Y υ

8. Fill in the chart below with the appropriate long or short vowel. Be sure to include both the capital and small letters.

Always long:	Η η, Ω ω
Always short:	Ε ε, Ο ο
May be long or short:	Α α, Ι ι, Υ υ

9. Circle the short vowel corresponding to Η η.

Α α, Ε ε, Ι ι, Ο ο, Υ υ, Ω ω

10. Circle the short vowel corresponding to Ω ω.

Α α, Ε ε, Η η, Ι ι, Ο ο, Υ υ

11. Which Greek vowels are open and close? What constitutes an open and a close vowel?

Open: Α α, Ε ε, Ο ο, Η η, and Ω ω. Close: Ι ι and Υ υ. An open vowel is pronounced with the mouth open; close vowels with the mouth almost closed.

12. What constitutes a proper Greek diphthong?

A proper diphthong is a combination of an open and close Greek vowel.

13. Circle all the Greek proper diphthongs below.

αε, αι, αο, εα, ει, εο, ιε, οα, οι, οο, υι, αυ, ευ, ηυ, ου

14. What constitutes an improper Greek diphthong?

A long vowel with a small iota subscript.

15. What are the three improper Greek diphthongs?

Αι α̣, Ηι η̣, Ωι ω̣

16. What is a dieresis and when is it used?

When two vowels that usually form a diphthong, but are pronounced separate, a dieresis is employed. The diaeresis is two dots that always appear above the second vowel.

17. Which two Greek diphthongs are pronounced identical to the long vowel Η η?

The proper diphthong εἰ and the improper diphthong ῆ.

18. Which Greek diphthong is pronounced identical to the long vowel Α α?

The improper diphthong Αἰ or ᾱ

19. Which Greek long vowel sound is identical to the improper diphthong ω?

Ω ω

20. What constitutes a Greek compound consonant? What are the three Greek compound consonants? Be sure to include their compound phonetic equivalents.

Compound consonants are those that are a compound of a consonant and sigma.

Ζ ζ = δσ    Ξ ξ = κσ    Ψ ψ = πσ

21. What constitutes a Greek aspirated consonant? Which four Greek letters are aspirated? What is their common denominator when spelling these letters in English?

An aspirated consonant has air accompanying or following when these letters are pronounced: Θ θ, Π π, Φ φ, and Χ χ. Only these Greek letters are spelled with an "h" in their names.

Exercise Two: True or False Questions.

1. *Lambda* is equivalent in sound to the English “l”. **True**
2. *Sigma* is always equivalent in sound to the English “z”. **False**
3. Every Greek letter’s phonetic value is derived from the opening sound of its alphabetical name. **True**
4. The two Greek vowels, *epsilon* and *iota* are always pronounced short. **False**
5. The two Greek vowels, *eta* and *omega* are always pronounced long. **True**
6. *Omikron* is the long form for *omega*. **False**
7. *Alpha* is the long form for *eta*. **False**
8. The three variable vowels are *alpha*, *iota*, and *omikron*. **False**
9. At least six Greek vowels are classified as “open”. **False**
10. A proper diphthong is a combination of two “open” vowels. **False**
11. *Ei* is considered a proper diphthong. **True**
12. *Hi* is considered a proper diphthong. **False**
13. The vowel combination, *ee*, is a proper diphthong. **False**
14. The vowel combination, *oo*, is a proper diphthong. **False**
15. There are three improper diphthongs in Greek. **True**
16. The reduction of a diphthong to a single vowel is called monophthongization. **True**
17. The *iota* subscript may be associated with *omikron*. **False**

18. The *iōta* adscript is associated with the Greek capitals. **True**
19. Improper diphthongs may or may not be long in pronunciation. **False**
20. The *iōta* subscript does not affect the pronunciation of  $\eta$  or  $\omega$ . **True**
21. The *iōta* subscript and the *iōta* adscript are useful for distinguishing between the written form, but not pronunciation. **True**
22. The pronunciations suggested for  $\eta$  and  $\epsilon\iota$  are identical. **True**
23. A compound consonant is one that is a consonant + *sigma*. **True**
24. A Greek aspirated consonant is pronounced with air accompanying or following the consonant. **True**
25. Aspiration is usually signaled by the letter “h” in English. **True**
26. The four aspirated Greek consonants are  $\Theta \theta$ ,  $\Phi \phi$ , and  $\chi$ . **True**
27. The earliest forms of the Greek letters were the capital letters. **True**
28. Minuscule letters came before uncial letters. **False**
29. There are no inscriptions of John’s Gospel written with the uncial script. **False**
30. Majuscule letters came before the uncial letters. **True**
31. The uncial style extended over one thousand years. **True**

Exercise Three: Multiple Choice. Choose the best answer.

1. Which letter below is pronounced identically to  $\omega$ ?
  - a.  $\eta$
  - b.  $\omicron$
  - c.  $\omega$
  - d.  $\alpha$

2. What sounds are the independent and indispensable sounds in speech?

- |               |                    |
|---------------|--------------------|
| a. consonants | c. accents marks   |
| b. vowels     | d. breathing marks |

3. Examples of Greek epichorical alphabets are:

- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| a. Argos and Corinth | c. Modern and Ionia |
| b. Koiné and Gothic  | d. boustrophedon    |

4. Which alphabet is the first known phonetic alphabet?

- |               |             |
|---------------|-------------|
| a. Phoenician | c. Cyrillic |
| b. Greek      | d. Hebrew   |

5. Modern Greek contains how many alphabetical letters?

- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| a. twenty-four  | c. twenty-seven |
| b. twenty-eight | d. twenty-one   |

6. Which one of the following Greek letters sounds like the “p” in “**p**arty”?

- |      |      |
|------|------|
| a. φ | c. P |
| b. Π | d. θ |

7. Which one of the following Greek letters sounds like the “k” in “**k**in”?

- |      |      |
|------|------|
| a. χ | c. Θ |
| b. Δ | d. κ |

8. Which one of the following letters is an aspirate consonant?

- |      |      |
|------|------|
| a. δ | c. ξ |
| b. P | d. Z |

9. Which one of the following letters is a compound consonant?

- a. δ
- b. Ρ
- c. ξ
- d. β

10. Which example is an illustration of monophthongization?

- a. αυ
- b. α̣
- c. αι
- d. α

11. Which example is an illustration of an improper diphthong?

- a. αυ
- b. α̣
- c. αι
- d. α

12. Which example is an illustration of an *iōta* adscript?

- a. τω̣ = ΤΩΙ
- b. τιμα̣ = ΤΙΜΑ
- c. Αχαι̣α
- d. η̣ = ει

13. Which example is an illustration of a proper diphthong?

- a. οα
- b. αε
- c. υι
- d. οο

14. When α̣, η̣ and ω̣ are written as capitals (Α, Η, Ω) the *iota* subscript is written where in respect to the letter?

- a. on the line
- b. under the capital letter
- c. before the capital letter
- d. none of these

15. An example of diaeresis is found in which word?

- a. κύριος
- b. ημεῖς
- c. ΑΧΑΪΑ
- d. εαυτω̣

Exercise Four: Write the Greek alphabetical letters from **memory**. Write both the capital and small Greek letters in their alphabetical order. Write the capital letters on the left side of the column and the small letters on the right side.

	Capital	Small		Capital	Small		Capital	Small
1.	Α	α	9.	Ι	ι	17.	Ρ	ρ
2.	Β	β	10.	Κ	κ	18.	Σ	σ, ς
3.	Γ	γ	11.	Λ	λ	19.	Τ	τ
4.	Δ	δ	12.	Μ	μ	20.	Υ	υ
5.	Ε	ε	13.	Ν	ν	21.	Φ	φ
6.	Ζ	ζ	14.	Ξ	ξ	22.	Χ	χ
7.	Η	η	15.	Ο	ο	23.	Ψ	ψ
8.	Θ	θ	16.	Π	π	24.	Ω	ω

Exercise Five: Transposition of capital letters. Transpose all the following Greek capital letters into their corresponding small letters.

- |          |       |            |         |
|----------|-------|------------|---------|
| 1. ΚΑΛΩΝ | καλων | 8. ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ | χριστος |
| 2. ΓΑΜΜΑ | γαμμα | 9. ΝΕΚΡΟΙ  | νεκροι  |
| 3. ΑΛΦΑ  | αλφα  | 10. ΓΡΑΦΑΣ | γραφας  |
| 4. ΔΕΛΤΑ | δελτα | 11. ΗΙΔΕΙ  | ηδει    |
| 5. ΩΜΕΓΑ | ωμεγα | 12. ΤΗΙ    | τηι     |
| 6. ΖΗΤΑ  | ζητα  | 13. ΔΟΞΑ   | δοξα    |
| 7. ΠΑΣΙΝ | πασιν | 14. ΔΑΥΙΔ  | δαυιδ   |



**Exercise Six: Transposition of small letters.** Transpose all the following Greek small letters into their corresponding capital letters.

1. τη **ΤΗΙ**
2. τῷ λογῷ **ΤΩΙ ΛΟΓΩΙ**
3. νυνὶ δε χριστος **ΝΥΝΙ ΔΕ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ**
4. κρινόμενοι δε ὑπο κυρίου **ΚΡΙΝΟΜΕΝΟΙ ΔΕ ΥΠΟ ΚΥΡΙΟΥ**
5. παλιν οὖν ἐπηρώτησεν **ΠΑΛΙΝ ΟΥΝ ΕΠΗΡΩΤΗΣΕΝ**
6. ἀδης **ΑΙΔΗΣ**
7. λέγει αὐτῷ σιμων πετρος **ΛΕΓΕΙ ΑΥΤΩΙ ΣΙΜΩΝ ΠΕΤΡΟΣ**
8. ἡ τοῖς πτωχοῖς **Η ΤΟΙΣ ΠΤΩΧΟΙΣ**
9. ὁ λογος ἦν πρὸς τὸν θεον **Ο ΛΟΓΟΣ ΗΝ ΠΡΟΣ ΤΟΝ ΘΕΟΝ**
10. καὶ τὸ φῶς ἐν τῇ σκοτίᾳ **ΚΑΙ ΤΟ ΦΩΣ ΕΝ ΤΗ ΣΚΟΤΙΑΙ**
11. ἐν αὐτῷ ζῶη ἦν **ΕΝ ΑΥΤΩΙ ΖΩΗ ΗΝ**
12. ἐξ αἱμάτων οὐδὲ ἐκ θελήματος **ΕΞ ΑΙΜΑΤΩΝ ΟΥΔΕ ΕΚ ΘΕΛΗΜΑΤΟΣ**
13. γὰρ εὐχαριστίαν **ΓΑΡ ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΙΑΝ**
14. νυκτος καὶ ἡμέρας **ΝΥΚΤΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΗΜΕΡΑΣ**
15. ἡμεῖς δε ἀδελφοὶ **ΗΜΕΙΣ ΔΕ ΑΔΕΛΦΟΙ**
16. διὸ μήκετι στεγόντες **ΔΙΟ ΜΗΚΕΤΙ ΣΤΕΓΟΝΤΕΣ**
17. διὰ τοῦ χριστοῦ **ΔΙΑ ΤΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ**
18. τῶν δεξιῶν **ΤΩΝ ΔΕΞΙΩΝ**

## **A Word to the Wise**

After checking your answers to Lesson Three Study Guide, work through the study aids provided for this lesson. It is essential to be fluent as quickly as possible in reading the Greek letters, and correctly pronouncing words.

Unlike in English, the Erasmic pronunciation system is largely phonemic. Except for a few exceptions, each letter has only one sound, and each sound is represented by only one letter or diphthong. This means that, in general, if you can pronounce a Greek word correctly, you can spell it.

Whenever you see a Greek word, pronounce it aloud. However, take great care about pronouncing every word correctly. An incorrect pronunciation will easily mislead you into an incorrect spelling and possible confusion about words and forms. On the other hand, if your eye and ear work together so that they operate in conjunction, each will aid and reinforce the other in the learning process. Consequently, you will learn NTGreek more quickly and more effectively.

Some of the study aids will be more difficult than other aids. It may be a temptation to skip these. Be methodical in your approach to NTGreek. Try to study Greek at the same time each day and in your own space. Interruptions are sometimes unavoidable, but the important thing is to be consistent. Study each lesson carefully and unhurriedly. Work through every study guide. If you do not understand something, go back and restudy it again in the lesson. Follow up with the study aids associated with each lesson. Above all, do not give up!

You will find that you will forget material you have already studied. Do not become discouraged. This is normal. Restudy the material again. It may be that you have overlooked a comment or explanation. After studying the lesson again, you may understand the key to the point that was unclear. However, never feel obligated that you must master everything before progressing forward. The problem which has temporarily defeated you will invariably solve itself as the range of your exposure to Greek material increases.

If you are using this grammar with others in a class, discuss the problem with other members of the class. Two or three students working together can often help each other out. What one may not understand, the other one will.