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Βασικοί κανόνες προφοράς

(Basic pronunciation rules)

In Greek (as in English) there is often no direct correspondence between the sounds (the phonemes) and the letters of the alphabet (the graphemes). There are cases where a single sound is represented by two or more letters, or two or more letters represent the same sound.



A. One sound → more letters

$$[i] \rightarrow \eta, I, U, \epsilon I, OI$$

[lipi] λείπει, λύπη, λίπη, (υπό)λοιποι

[e] $\rightarrow \epsilon$, as

[erhete] έοχεται

 $[o] \rightarrow o, \omega$

[horos] χώρος

[b] $\rightarrow \mu\pi$

[boro] μποοώ

[d] → VT

[dino] ντύνω

 $[q] \rightarrow \gamma K$

[agatha] Αγκάθα

 $[dz] \rightarrow \tau \zeta$

[dzami] τζάμι

 $[ts] \to \tau\sigma$

[etsi] έτσι

B. One letter ← two sounds

$$\xi \leftarrow [ks]$$



Double letters representing consonants, except for yy, are pronounced as one consonant.

The combinations $\alpha \upsilon$ / $\varepsilon \upsilon$ are pronounced [av], [ev] when followed by a vowel or β , γ , δ , μ , ν , λ , ϱ . Otherwise they are pronounced [af], [ef].

The phonemes $/\varkappa$ /, $/\gamma$ /, $/\chi$ / have slightly different pronunciation depending on the vowel that follows.

Το Σάββατο το ποωί στις εννιά, εγώ πήγα στην εκκλησία αλλά οι συμμαθητές μου πήγαν στη θάλασσα

$$/\varkappa/< rac{[\mathring{\varkappa}]}{[\varkappa]}$$
 \varkappa ερί, \varkappa ήπος \varkappa άνω, \varkappa όρη, \varkappa ούνια

$$|\gamma|<rac{[\hat{\gamma}]}{[\gamma]}$$
 γ έ ϱ ος, γ ύ ϱ ος γ άμος, Γ ω γ ώ, γ ούνα

$$/\chi/< rac{[\hat{\chi}]}{[\chi]} \qquad \chi$$
έ ϱ ι, χ ύμα χ άνω, χ ο ϱ ό ς , χ ουζου ϱ εύω

C. Phonological processes

 σ is pronounced [z] when followed by β , γ , δ , μ , ν , λ , ϱ , $\mu\pi$, $\nu\tau$. This happens either within a word or across word boundaries.

Final v followed by initial κ , π , τ makes them [b], [d], [g].

Within a word there is a tendency to pronounce [i] followed by a vowel as a semivowel [j], [ç].



διάβα**σμ**α, **σβ**ού*ρ*α, τις ντομάτες, τους μπαμπάδες

τον κήπο, την πόλη, τον τοίχο, τον ψαρά, τον ξένο

μάτ**ια**, **ποιο**ς [matça], [pços] β**ιά**ζομαι, παιδ**ιά** [vjazome], [peðja]

Stress marks

In Greek, every word that has more than one syllable takes a stress mark.

No stress is placed before the third syllable counting from the end of the word.

σκου λη κο μερ μη γκο του πα 3 2 1

The stress may sometimes differentiate the meaning of the words.

Πότε θα σε ξαναδώ; -Ποτέ πια Η Αγκάθα άλλα έλεγε, αλλά ο Σαχίνης άλλα καταλάβαινε Ο παππούς, αν και τόσο γερος, δείχνει γερός και δυνατός

Monosyllabic words do not take a stress mark:

η γη, να, για, μια, ποιος

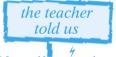
The question words $\pi\omega\varsigma$ and $\pi\omega\acute$ are stressed in order to be differentiated from the homophonous $\pi\omega$ and $\pi\omega\varsigma$:

Πώς ήρθες; Με ρώτησε πώς ήρθες Πού πας; Με ρώτησε πού πας Υποσχέθηκε πως θα έρθει Το βιβλίο που θέλω δεν υπάρχει

The disjunctive $\hat{\eta}$ is stressed while the article η is not.

Η Μαρία ή η Ελένη τηλεφώνησε;

• Stress is also placed on the weak pronouns ($\mu o \nu$, $\sigma o \nu$, $\tau o \nu$, $\tau \eta \varsigma$, $\mu \alpha \varsigma$, $\sigma \alpha \varsigma$, $\tau o \nu \varsigma$) to prevent confusion with their corresponding possessive pronouns. This occurs whenever there is a verb which takes an object in the genitive.



Η δασκάλα μας είπε να διαβάσουμε γοαμματική

our teacher said

Η δασκάλα μας είπε να διαβάσουμε γοαμματική

A word that is stressed on the antepenultimate syllable that is, the third from the end, is marked with a secondary stress mark on its last syllable when it is followed by a weak pronoun.

ο δασκαλός μας χαρισέ μου ένα φιλί

ACTIVITIES

Complete the names of the places on the map of Greece and circle the places you have visited or you want to visit

A	α	άλφα	Αθήνα
В	β	βήτα	Βόλος
Γ	γ	γάμα	Γιάννενα
Δ	δ	δέλτα	Δήλος
Е	ε	έψιλον	Έδεσσα
Z	ζ	ζήτα	Ζάκυνθος
Н	η	ήτα	Ηράκλειο
Θ	θ	θήτα	Θεσσαλονίκη
I	l	γιώτα	Ικαρία
K	н	κάπα	Καλαμάτα
Λ	λ	λάμδα	Λήμνος
M	μ	μι	Μήλος
N	ν	νι	Νάξος
Ξ	ξ	દ ા	Ξάνθη
O	О	όμικοον	Ολυμπία
П	π	πι	Πάτοα
P	Q	бо	Ρέθυμνο
Σ	σ (-ς)	σίγμα	Σύοος
Т	τ	ταυ	Τήνος
Y	υ	ύψιλον	Ύδοα
Φ	φ	φι	Φλώοινα
X	χ	χι	Χίος
Ψ	ψ	ψι	Ψαρά
Ω	ω	ωμέγα	Ωρωπός
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