

Survival Phrases - Greek (Part 1) Lessons 1-30



Survival Phrases - Greek (Part 1) Lessons 1-30

Stop! Before you go on...

Learn more Greek at InnovativeLanguage.com!

Learn twice as much, twice as fast with Survival
Phrases - Greek and InnovativeLanguage.com together!

In fact, most people who learn with Survival

Phrases - Greek visit InnovativeLanguage.com and learn even FASTER.

It's FREE to join, and you'll get a special gift just for visiting.

So what are you waiting for?

Click here to visit InnovativeLanguage.com!

Dear Valued Customer,

Start speaking Greek in minutes, and grasp the language, culture and customs in just minutes more with Survival Phrases - Greek, a completely new way to master the basics of Greek! Survival Phrases - Greek will have you speaking with proper pronunciation from the very first lesson and arm you with cultural insight and other information to utterly shock and amaze your friends travel companions and people you meet along the way.

In Survival Phrases - Greek you will master Greek and protocol for the following situations:

Part 1 (Greek 1-30)

Basic Greetings, etiquette and manners

- ★ Basic survival communication for every situation
- ★ Ordering the food you want at restaurants

- ★ Table manners that will impress!
- ★ Basic Counting
- ★ Internet Cafe, not as easy as you think!
- ★ Finding your way in the local market and SHOPPING
- ★ Money exchange and tips on money usage
- ★ Taking the subway, long distance trains, and buses with confidence

Be sure to read the lesson notes for additional tips and information that will make learning basic Greek and Greek culture even easier.

Best regards,

Maria Papadopoulou Survival Phrases - Greek - Linguist and Cultural Guide

P.S. Don't miss your opportunity to get something for nothing!

Go to InnovativeLanguage.com.

P.P.S. Continue on with Survival Phrases - Greek (Part 2) Lessons 31-60 also available for purchase.

In Part 2 the following are just a few of the topics you'll master:

- ★ Taking a taxi without being taken advantage of
- ★ Getting around and asking directions and actually understanding the answer!
- ★ Learning Greek using Greek, and making lots of friends in the process
- ★ Making the most of a hotel stay, and exploring alternatives to the beaten path
- ★ Visiting the Post office and mailing thing home
- ★ Phone rentals and phone cards, don't travel without one!
- ★ Critical phrases for vegetarians and allergy sufferers!
- ★ Talking to the doctor and explaining symptoms correctly
- ★ Getting the right medicine
- ★ Expressing yourself with adjectives and being understood
- ★ Home visits and proper protocol that will wow hosts
- ★ Getting help, this may be the most useful phrase you ever learn



SurvivalPhrases.com

A Little Bit of Language Can Go a Long Way!



Lesson 1: Thank You!

Ευχαριστώ

LESSON NOTES

Wherever your destination maybe, manners are a must! And in this respect, Greece is no different. So in our very first lesson, we'll be teaching you a simple phrase that is bound to come in handy throughout your trip to Greece. I can't stress this enough, a little a bit of language can go such a long way!

In Greek "Thank you." is "Efharisto". Let's break it down by syllable "Ef-ha-ri-sto".

You can emphasize "Efharisto" by adding "para poli" which means literally "very much".

You could say "Efharisto para poli", which would be equivalent to "Thank you very much" or "Thanks a lot".

Let's break it down by syllable "Ef-ha-ri-sto pa-ra po-li".

In Greek there are other ways to express one's gratitude, but they are all variations using "Efharisto," which is a noun, and the subject "Sas", which is a more formal "thank you very much".

There will be occasions where you will really want to show your appreciation and politeness. During occasions such as these, you can use the subject "Sas".

"I thank you" is in Greek "Sas Efharisto para poli".

Let's break it down by syllable "Sas Ef-ha-ri-sto pa-ra po-li". The first word "Sas", "you", is used to make the phrase both formal, and plural. This is followed by "Efharisto" "para poli", which means "very much".

Let's break it down by syllable "pa-ra po-li".

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Ευχαριστώ.	Efharisto.	Thank you.
Ευχαριστώ Πάρα πολύ.	Sas Efharisto para poli.	I thank you (formal).
Ευχαριστώ Πάρα πολύ.	Sas Efharisto para poli.	I thank you (plural).

QUICK TIP

By far, “Efharisto” is the most common way to say “Thank you”. Remember, when in doubt, keeping it simple is always your safest bet. You don’t have to worry about formal or informal situations; “Efharisto” can be used with just about anyone, anywhere and anytime. You say “Efharisto” when the waiter brings your food or drinks; when the clerk in the hotel takes your luggage to your room (of course, throwing in a tip won’t hurt either!); when somebody welcomes you, or congratulates you. It doesn’t matter his/her profession or age; “Efharisto” or “Efharisto para poli” will always be an appropriate response.



Lesson 2: You're Welcome!

Παρακαλώ

LESSON NOTES

In today's lesson, we'll continue to learn more phrases that will help you with basic etiquette. Greeks are exceptionally hospitable. They use phrases of gratitude and those related quite often. Even though you may not get the chance to use "Parakalo" (the phrase for "You're welcome") during your trip in Greece, there's a very good chance you'll hear it. So let's have a closer look at it!

In Greek, "You're welcome" is "Parakalo". Let's break it down by syllable. "Pa-ra-ka-lo." The word "Parakalo" means, "You're welcome."

You can also respond to someone that has thanked you by using two very similar expressions. They are "Den kani tipota", which literally means, "it's nothing," and "Kalosorisate," which means, "welcome."

"Den kani tipota," let's break it down by syllable. "De-n ka-ni ti-po-ta."

"Kalosorisate," let's break it down by syllable. "Ka-lo-so-ri-sa-te".

Remember, "Den kani tipota" means, "it's nothing," and "Kalosorisate" means, "welcome."

Of the expressions we have seen, please keep in mind that we can use "Parakalo, Den kani tipota," and "Kalosorisate" in any situation, formal or informal.

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Παρακαλώ.	Parakalo.	You're Welcome.
Δεν κάνει τίποτα.	Den kani tipota.	It's nothing.
Καλώς ορίσατε.	Kalosorisate.	Welcome.

QUICK TIP

The word "parakalo" has two uses. We had a look at one of them today. When you want to say "you're welcome", "parakalo" can be used as a set phrase after an "efharisto." The second meaning of "parakalo" is "please", which we will explain further in the next chapter!

QUICK TIP 2

When having guests over in Greece, one always greets their guests with “kalosorisate”. Note that “kalosorisate” is the plural form of “kalosorises”. Here, just as “sas ”can be both formal and plural, “kalosorisate” can refer to both a formal situation and times when you have many people over for coffee.



Lesson 3: Please Παρακαλώ



LESSON NOTES

Today's phrase will help you take matters into your own hands! In today's lesson we'll take a look at the word "Please", which will be very important when you need to ask for something.

In Greek "Please" is "Parakalo". Let's break it down by syllable "Pa-ra-ka-lo".

The easiest way of using "Please" is to point at something while saying "Parakalo", but let's try and build this up a bit, shall we? Let's start with the expression, "This please." which in Greek is "Afto" "Parakalo". In English, "This" comes before "please" in Greek the order is the same. So we have "Afto" "Parakalo."

Let's take a look at the word for "This". In Greek "This" is "Afto." Let's break it down by syllable "Af-to".

Looking at the word for "This", warrants a look at the word for "That" which is "Ekino". The phrase "That please." is "Ekino parakalo". Let's break it down by syllable "E-ki-no-pa-ra-ka-lo".

Please remember that it's also a little rude to point at things and especially at people in Greece. If it is necessary to point to something in order to better explain what one wants then it is accepted, however pointing at the direction of someone and especially to a person's face is a very aggressive stance. Furthermore when pointing it is better to have one's arm, hand and finger pointing in a relaxed way. Pointing with a stiff finger may seem intimidating.

Just as when thanking someone more formally in Greek, the subject "Sas" is used. "Sas parakalo" which literally means I beg you. Let's break it down by syllable "Sas pa-ra-ka-lo."

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Παρακαλώ.	Parakalo	Please.
Σας παρακαλώ.	Sas Parakalo.	Please. (Formal or plural)
Αυτό παρακαλώ.	Afto Parakalo.	This please.
Εκείνο παρακαλώ.	Ekino parakalo.	That please.

QUICK TIP

A final use for the word “parakalo,” is when you answer your phone. Answering the phone with “parakalo” is one of the most common ways. In English, one would answer the phone with a simple “hello.” However, in Greece we would not use the word for “hello,” “gia sou.”

QUICK TIP 2

In some cases, the word “parakalo” can be used as “excuse me.” For example, if you go to a shop and no clerks are around, you can say “parakalo” in hope that someone will come out and serve you.



Lesson 4: Basic Greetings

Για σου!

LESSON NOTES

Today, we'll cover basic greetings for the appropriate time of the day. As there are quite a few to cover, let's jump right in to it.

In Greek, we can use the phrase "Gia sou" as a universal greeting. We use it both when greeting and when parting.

In Greek, "Good Morning" is "Kali mera." Let's break it down by syllable. "Ka-li-me-ra". The first word, "Kali" means "good." Let's say the words slowly now. Kali and "Kali." "Mera," which in Greek is "day," follows this.

In Greek, "Good afternoon" is "Kalo apogevma." Let's break it down by syllable. "Ka-lo a-po-gev-ma". Now let's hear it once again. "Kalo apogevma". The second word "apogevma" means, "afternoon." Let's breakdown this word "a-po-ge-vma". Kalo precedes this, which in Greek is "good." "Kalo apogevma."

Finally, we have two evening greetings in Greek, one when you come and one when you go. When you come, you should say "Kalispera." Let's break it down by syllable. "Ka-li-spe-ra." What you say when you leave is "Kalo Vradi." "Ka-lo vra-di."

The first word "Kalo "means, "good." "Vradi" follows this, which in Greek is "evening."

At the workplace, it is common to greet your colleagues with a simple "Gia". With your superiors or someone older than you, you might say "Gia sas." Let's break it down by syllable. "Gia-sas".

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Για σου!	Gia sou!	"Hello" and "Goodbye."
Καλό απόγευμα.	Kali mera.	Good morning.
Καλησπέρα.	Kalo apogevma.	Good afternoon.
Καλό βραδι.	Kalispera.	Good evening. (coming)
Καλό βραδι.	Kalo vradi.	Good evening. (leaving)
Για σας.	Gia sas.	"Hello" and "Goodbye" (formal or plural).

QUICK TIP

If you want to be on the safe side when using greetings in Greek, “gia sou” would be your obvious choice. However, learning the various greetings in a language can have very pleasant results. For example, when I was walking down the streets in a small village in Greece, the simple greeting “kali mera” always put a smile on people’s faces. So go ahead and try!



Lesson 5: Parting Greetings

Ανδίο

LESSON NOTES

Today, we'll introduce parting greetings.

As we learned in the previous lesson, "Gia sou" can mean both "hello" and "goodbye." However, this is not the only way of saying goodbye in Greek!

A parting expression that we can use for all occasions is "Andio," which literally means "goodbye." Let's break it down by syllable. "An-dio."

Let's look at another expression. The word "Gia sou" as seen in the previous lesson also means "goodbye."

As we learned in the last lesson, when parting or saying goodbye at night, the greeting "Kalo vradi" is the appropriate choice." Let's break it down by syllable. "Ka-lo vra-di."

Let's look at the components. The first word "Kalo" means, "good." Let's breakdown this word "Ka-lo. Vradi," which in Greek is "evening," follows "Kalo".

There are also several phrases for saying, "See you later." A more casual way of saying, "See you later" or "See you soon" in Greek is "Ta leme," which literally means, "we talk." Let's break it down by syllable. "Ta-le-me."

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Ανδίο.	Andio.	Goodbye.
Καλό βραδι.	Kalo vradi.	Good evening.
Τα λέμε.	Ta leme.	See you soon.
Τα λέμε.	Ta leme.	See you later.

QUICK TIP

The easiest way of saying your goodbyes in Greek is by using "gia!" This word means both "bye" and "see you." Give a slight wave and a loud "GIA!" and you'll be just like one of the locals!

QUICK TIP 2

Here is some trivia for you! Let's say you are on one of the Greek islands and you have just said your hellos to an old woman sitting under a tree. You realize someone has painted the tree trunk white! Tree trunks are often painted white with lime wash primarily to fight ants. Besides, it looks nice and fits in with Greek scenery perfectly!



Lesson 6: Where's The Bathroom?

Που είναι η τουαλέτα;

LESSON NOTES

In today's lesson, we'll cover an extremely important phrase, "Where is the bathroom?"

In Greek, "Where is the bathroom?" is "Pou ine i toualeta?" Let's break it down by syllable. "Pou i-ne i tou-a-le-ta?"

Let's look at the components. The first two words "Pou ine" mean, "where is." Let's break them down. "Pou ine". This is followed by "i", which in Greek is one of the ways to say "the." Finally, the last word "toualeta" follows, which means "toilet." Let's break this word down as well. "Tou-a-leta."

There is a more formal way to ask "Where is the bathroom?" It is "Pou ine to banio?" This means, "Where is the bathroom?" Let us break it down by syllable. "Pou i ne-to ba-nio?" The words "Pou ine" mean, "where are." "Pou i-ne". This is followed by "to," which is another way to say "the" in Greek. "Banio" follows last.

Now, when you finally get to the bathroom there may be one last hurdle. In some instances, only Greek words are written on the door! What to do, what to do? Well you can stop by the website and find the words for man and woman there, find them inside the PDF, or if you have an iPod, click the center button and you can find them there.

The word for "men" is "Andres." The word for "women" is "Ginekes."

When travelling, there may not be so many public bathrooms for tourists to use. This means your best option is to stop at either a café or a restaurant to use their bathrooms. Understandably, café owners aren't too keen on having people stop in just to use their bathroom. So to be polite, you might buy a bottle of water or order a coffee before asking "Boro na danisto tin toualeta sas?" This last phrase means, "May I borrow the bathroom?"

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Που είναι η τουαλέτα;	Pou ine i toualeta?	Where is the bathroom?
Που είναι το μπάνιο;	Pou ine to banio?	Where is the bathroom?
Μπορώ να δανειστώ το μπάνιο σας;	Boro na danisto tin toualeta sas?	May I use the bathroom?

QUICK TIP

One can wonder and one can be disgusted at the standard of the Greek toilets. Part of the explanation might be that the Greek himself never uses a public toilet. A Greek will do almost whatever it takes to use his own toilet! So you see...it's mainly a problem for the tourist!

QUICK TIP 2

The word "banio" doesn't only mean "bathroom," it can also mean "bath." So for example, you can use it when you want to say, "I would like to take a bath," "thelo na kano banio."

"Now you can keep yourself clean all throughout your Greek travels!



Lesson 7: Can You Speak English?

Μιλάτε Αγγλικά;

LESSON NOTES

In today's lesson, we'll cover another extremely important phrase, "Can you speak English?" Using this phrase as opposed to speaking English at someone is important for many reasons. For one, if the party you're speaking to doesn't understand English, at least they'll be able to understand what you're asking. Furthermore, it shows a lot of respect on your part that you've made an effort to learn even a little bit of the language. For these reasons and many more, we're going to cover this very important phrase.

In Greek, "Can you speak English?" is "Milate Anglika?" Let's break it down by syllable. "Mi-la-te An-gli-ka?" The first word "Milate" means, "do you speak" and comes from the verb "milao" "to speak." Let's breakdown this word. "Mi-la-te. Anglika", which means, "English" in Greek follows this.

The phrase that we just learned is in the formal tense. Which means you should always use the above phrase in situations with people you don't know or elders.

When speaking to younger people, it's acceptable to use the informal tense. In which case, you will say in Greek "Milas Anglika?" While the difference is minimal, the significance is very important. Let's break it down by syllable. "Mi-las-An-gli-ka?"

Before we move on, please remember that "Milate" followed by a word for a language is the formal way to ask if somebody speaks that language, while "Milas", again followed by a word for a language is the informal way to ask "do you speak" that language. "Milas" is more direct. Do not use it with people you don't know or with elders.

Now for a change, let's try a different language. Let's try Spanish. "Can you speak Spanish?" is "Milas Ispanika?" The word for "Spanish" is "Ispanika". Let's breakdown this word. "I-spa-ni-ka". Here, just the word for the language changes, the rest is the same.

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Μιλάτε Αγγλικά;	Milate Anglika?	Do you speak English? (formal)
Μιλάς Αγγλικά;	Milas Anglika?	Do you speak English?

QUICK TIP

Nowadays, those who speak English have increased in Greece, especially after the 2004 Olympic Games. Most tourist places and young people speak English, so you don't have to worry too much. However, you can never go wrong by knowing the local language, so keep studying the survival phrases!

QUICK TIP 2

Sometimes when Greeks speak English, they can come off as a bit rude. This is mainly due to the intonation of their speech, which they rarely adapt to foreign languages. Don't worry, they aren't being rude to you, they're just Greek!



Lesson 8: I don't Understand

Δεν καταλαβαίνω.

LESSON NOTES

Today, we shall see a very useful phrase meaning, "I don't understand." It is very useful because many times you won't immediately understand what people are saying.

In Greek, "I don't understand" is "Den katalaveno." Let's break it down by syllable. "Den ka-ta-la-ve-no". The first word "Den" means, "don't." Let's breakdown this word slowly now. "Den".

"Katalaveno", which in Greek is "(I) understand," follows this.

To recap, we have "Den katalaveno". Literally, this means, "I don't understand."

Now let's look at another phrase, "Den gnorizo," which means, "I don't know. The word "gnorizo" literally means, "recognize" but in this case it translates as "know."

Another way to express that you don't understand is asking someone "What does it mean?" This phrase in Greek is "Ti simeni?" Let's break it down by syllable. "Ti si-me-ni?"

The first word "Ti" means, "what." Let's breakdown this word. "Ti". This is followed by "simeni", which in English is "it means." To recap here, we have "Ti simeni?" Literally, this means "What does it mean?"

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Δεν καταλαβαίνω.	Den katalaveno.	I don't understand.
Δεν γνωρίζω.	Den gnorizo.	I don't know.
Τι σημαίνει;	Ti simeni;	What does it mean?
Δεν καταλαβαίνω.	Den katalaveno.	I don't understand.
Δεν γνωρίζω.	Den gnorizo.	I don't know.
Τι σημαίνει;	Ti simeni;	What does it mean?

QUICK TIP

When engaged in a conversation with Greeks, you're more than likely not to understand everything they're saying to you. This could be for a number of reasons: the accent, how fast the person is speaking, or the vocabulary that the person is using. If this happens, don't be afraid to

say, "Den katalaveno." Greeks will be more than happy to try offer an explanation for what they have just said. Or maybe you've understood the general sense of a phrase but there was a word someone used that you have never heard before. To find the meaning of this new word, simply ask the person "Ti simeni? "In English this means," "What does it mean?"

QUICK TIP 2

If you have managed to understand what a Greek has told you, they might ask you "katalaves," meaning, "did you understand?" You can now answer this with "Yes, I understood," which is "Ne, katalava."



SurvivalPhrases.com

A Little Bit of Language Can Go a Long Way!



Lesson 9: Say It Again, Please

Μπορείτε να το επαναλάβετε;

LESSON NOTES

There will be many times when the Greek around you or coming at you is fast and furious and you may not catch any or all of it. In instances such as this, asking the speaker to say it again can prove the difference between understanding a crucial piece of information and spending the rest of the day trying to figure out what they just said. The following phrase will not only give you a better sense of the language, but it will also help you tune your ear as well!

In Greek, "Can you repeat that please?" is "Borite na to epanalavete?" Let's break it down by syllable. "Bo-ri-te na to e-pa-na-la-ve-te?" The first word "Borite" means, "can you," followed by "na to," which literally means "to it." This is followed by "epanalavete", which in English is "repeat." "e-pa-na-la-ve-te".

Let's look at the next expression, which is more polite. The phrase "Sas parakalo", a repetition from previous lessons, means "please." "Sas pa-ra-ka-lo"

All together we have "Sas parakalo" "borite na to epanalavete?" Literally, this means "Can you repeat please?"

At times, even repeating the words isn't enough to understand the speaker. This is often due to how fast the person is speaking. For instances such as this, you can use the phrase "Slowly please." In Greek, "Slowly please" is "Pio arga." Let's break it down by syllable. "Pio a-rga".

The first word "pio" means, "more." Let's breakdown this word. "pio".

"Arga", which in English means "slowly," follows next.

We can use the phrases we have seen together. "Can you repeat slowly please?" "Parakalo, milate pio arga?" Here we have "parakalo," which means, "please" in English. The polite or plural form of the verb "to speak," which is "milao," follows next. Let's break it down.

"mi-la-te", Following this we just add "slowly please," "pio arga."

Another option is "Can you repeat again?" which in Greek is "Borite na to epanalavete pali?" Let's break it down by syllable "Bo-ri-te na to e-pa-na-la-ve-te pa-li?"

We can use this together with "Slowly please." "Can you repeat again, slowly please?" is "Borite na to epanalavete pali pio arga?"

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Μπορείτε να το επαναλάβετε;	Borite na to epanalavete?	Can you repeat that please?
Πιο αργά.	Pio arga.	Slowly please.
Παρακαλώ μίλα πιο αργά.	Parakalo mila pio arga.	Can you repeat slowly please?
Μπορείτε να το επαναλάβετε πάλι;	Borite na to epanalavete pali	Can you repeat again?

QUICK TIP

Asking someone to repeat what they've just said is especially important when given directions to get you where you're going. If you happen to be lost, instead of stopping someone on the street for directions, it's always best to stop in a store or a café and ask the people that work there. This is because chances are they are much more familiar with the neighborhood than the average passerby on the street is. When giving directions, Greeks tend to speak very fast, especially if they assume you already speak the language. So, if there's something that you didn't understand or if you missed part of the sentence, you can say, "Borite na to epanalavete?" As you've just learned, this means, "Can you repeat that please?"

QUICK TIP 2

If everything else fails, body language is your best friend. Greeks have very extreme body language and wave their hands all over the place when they talk. This can be quite distracting, especially when they talk fast. However, a good way of showing that you don't understand is the simple and universal "I don't know" pose.



SurvivalPhrases.com

A Little Bit of Language Can Go a Long Way!

Lesson 10: Apologies

Με συγχωρείτε.



LESSON NOTES

In today's lesson, we'll cover phrases used for apologizing. Now, as you haven't quite mastered Greek, it's probably very prudent to go over the phrases for apologizing as they just might come in handy.

We'll start with "I'm sorry," which in Greek is "Me sinhorite." Let's break it down by syllable. "Me sin-ho-ri-te".

Please note that we use "Me sinhorite" in the formal level of speech.

Talking to a friend, thus changing to the informal level of speech, you will use "signomi". Let's break it down by syllable. "si-gno-mi."

We use "me sinhorite" and "signomi" when you might have said or done something offensive, wrong, or embarrassing.

Note that we can use "me sinhorite" ALSO as "excuse me."

Use this when you are trying to work your way through a crowd, at the subway station for instance, or when you are trying to get someone's attention in a store, or asking for directions.

Now, what if someone says "me sinhorite" or "signomi" to you, after having done something wrong and you want to respond "No problem" or "It doesn't matter." In this case, the proper response should be "Den pirazi," which literally means, "It's nothing." Let's break it down by syllable. "Den pi-ra-zi."

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Με συγχωρείτε.	Me sinhorite.	I'm sorry. - Excuse me.
Συγγνώμη.	Signomi.	I'm sorry. Excuse me.
Δεν πειράζει.	Den pirazi.	No problem. - It doesn't matter.

QUICK TIP

If someone bumps into you on the streets in Greece, don't expect an excuse me, especially in the big cities. Greeks are usually a very friendly people, but Greeks just do not consider excusing yourself for bumping into someone as time well spent. Unless someone pushes you over so hard you fall on the ground, keep walking.

QUICK TIP 2

On a different note, but fun for trivia, is some of the scenery you'll become familiar with in Greece. You will likely notice the iron bars sticking out from the rooftops of houses in Greece. These are exclusively there for the purpose of a later extension of the house. They have **NOTHING** to do with exemptions from taxpaying, as long as the house isn't finished.



SurvivalPhrases.com

A Little Bit of Language Can Go a Long Way!



Lesson 11: Business Greetings

Πόσα άτομα είσαστε;

LESSON NOTES

There is a wide variety of Greek dishes and your job as a visitor is to try as many different foods as possible! However, before you start eating, you have to get to the table! In today's lesson, we'll cover getting to the table in a restaurant.

When entering a restaurant in Greece, they will greet you with "Kali mera," which means "Good morning," or "Good day," or "Kalispera," which is "Good evening."

In Greece when entering a restaurant, or what would be more commonly known as a "taverna" in Greek, one rarely gets seated by the waiter or waitress. The customers often have to find their own table. However, there are occasions where you will be asked the question "How many people in your party?" so practicing it will come in handy at some point.

"How many people are you?" in Greek is "Posa atoma isaste?" The first word "Posa" means, "How many." Let's breakdown this word. "Po-sa". "Atoma" follows this", which in Greek means "people." "a-to-ma". Finally, we have "isaste", which in Greek is "are you." "i-sa-ste".

"Posa atoma isaste?"

Now let's go over how to answer.

In Greek, you would respond by telling the waiter or waitress "Imaste tris," which in English means, "We are three."

Let's breakdown these words. "I-ma-ste tris". Now we're going to review some numbers in Greek in case your party happens to be bigger. The numbers one through five are: "ena, dio, tria, tesera, pende."

You could also say, "We are four people," which in Greek is "Imaste tesera atoma". Let's break it down by syllable. "I-ma-ste te-se-ra a-to-ma". The first word "Imaste" means, "we are." We follow this with "tesera atoma", which in Greek is "four people." "Tesera atoma."

If you are just one person, the proper answer to the question is "Ime monos" if you are a man or "Ime moni" for a woman. In English, they both mean, "I am alone."

Let's breakdown these words "I-me mo-ni." "I-me mo-nos." The first word "I-me" means, "I am." Let's breakdown this word. "I-me". The second word "moni/monos" means, "alone." "Moni" is the feminine singular form and "monos" is the masculine. Let's breakdown these words. "mo-ni. mo-nos."

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Πόσα άτομα είσαστε;	Posa atoma isaste	How many people are you?
Είμαστε τρεις.	Imaste tris.	We're three.
Είμαστε τέσσερα άτομα.	Imaste tesera atoma.	We're four people.
Είμαι μόνος/μόνη.	I-me monos (masculine) / moni (feminine).	Only one.

QUICK TIP

Eating out is one of the greatest pleasures of Greek traveling. The warm atmosphere and the happy people will make it an unforgettable experience. Now, if you go to a "taverna", taking a seat at an empty table is the most common way. Of course, as you learned very useful survival phrases today, you should try to use them.

QUICK TIP 2

Knowing which restaurant to go to can be very difficult because Greece has about five restaurants on every corner! This is your chance to ask the locals for their recommendations. You do this by saying "Pia taverna protiminete?" This literally means, "which "taverna" do you prefer?" Going with the local favorites is always your best bet!



Lesson 12: Non Smoking? Smoking?

Παρακαλώ μπορώ να κλείσω ένα τραπέζι για το βράδυ;

LESSON NOTES

In the last lesson, we learned how to get a table at a restaurant, but my dear listeners, please know that because of the popularity of Greek food, it can be difficult to get a seat especially on the weekends. The best thing to do without a doubt is to make a reservation for the time you want to go and eat.

In today's lesson, we'll cover making a reservation in a restaurant.

Normally, if you make a phone call in order to make a reservation for the evening you would say, "Parakalo boro na kliso ena trapeze gia to vradi?" Literally, "parakalo" means, "please." We follow this with "boro", which in English means, "Can I." Let's break it down by syllable. "bo-ro."

"Na kliso" is the infinitive form of the verb "to book" and literally means, "to close." Let's break it down by syllable. "na kli-so." We follow it with "ena trapezi," meaning, "a table." Let's break down these two words by syllable. "ena tra-pe-zi." Finally, we have "gia to vradi," which is the equivalent of "for the evening." "Gia to vradi."

Let's recap the phrase one more time.

"Parakalo boro na kliso ena trapezi gia to vradi?"

Normally, they'll ask you how many people are in your party and the time of the reservation.

"How many people are you?" "Gia posa atoma?" Let's break it down by syllable." Gia po-sa a-to-ma?"

Now let's imagine you are a party of two. In Greek, you would use "Dio atoma," which in English means, "two people."

Finally, let's see how they will ask you the time of your reservation. "Gia pia ora?" "At what time do you want to make a reservation?" "Gia pia ora" literally means, "At what time." Let's breakdown these words. "Gia pia ora?"

"Now let's answer the question! Let's imagine you want to reserve a table at eight o'clock.

"Gia tis okto i ora, parakalo." "At eight o'clock, please." "Gia tis okto" means, "At eight." Let's break down these words. "Gia tis o-cto." We follow this with "i ora," which would literally translate as "the time." "I ora."

“Parakalo”, means (as we know by now), "please."

Let's see the whole phrase one more time.

“Gia tis okto i ora, parakalo.”

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Παρακαλώ μπορώ να κλείσω ένα τραπέζι για το βράδυ;	Parakalo boro na kliso ena trapezi gia to vradi?	Can I make a reservation for this evening?
Για πόσα άτομα;	Gia posa atoma?	How many people are you?
Δύο άτομα.	Dio atoma.	For two.
Για πια ώρα;	Gia pia ora?	At what time do you want to reserve?
Για της οκτώ η ώρα, παρακαλώ.	Gia tis okto i ora, parakalo.	At eight o'clock, please.

QUICK TIP

Greeks like eating late at night. Eating before 8:00 PM is not so common. The biggest meal of the day is dinner, and you will be eating and drinking a lot. Make sure you have lots of room in your belly so you can fully enjoy the Greek cuisine!

QUICK TIP 2

Restaurants, cafés, and bars are usually open until early morning, and restaurants tend to close between certain hours of the day especially during summer. The hottest time of day is between 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM in Greece, so many shops and restaurants close for “siesta”. If you are outside during this time, I recommend a high factor sunscreen.



SurvivalPhrases.com

A Little Bit of Language Can Go a Long Way!



Lesson 13: At The Table

Επιτρέπεται το κάπνισμα;

LESSON NOTES

In the last lesson, we learned how to make a reservation in a restaurant. Now that you know how to get a table, you have another big issue to tackle. If you want to enjoy your meal, the smoking issue is very important. If you are a smoker and you enter a non-smoking establishment, or if you are a non-smoker and enter a smoking establishment, this could ruin your meal.

In today's lesson, we'll cover how to ask for a smoking or non-smoking table.

Let's imagine first that you are a smoker. Before entering a restaurant, you need to ask, "Excuse me, is smoking allowed here?" "Signomi, epitrepete to kapnisma?"

"Signomi", as we have seen, is the translation of "Excuse me." We follow this with "epitrepete to kapnisma". "Epitrepete" means, "allowed" and is followed by "to" "kapnisma," which in English means, "smoking." Let's breakdown these words. "Si-gno-mi, e-pi-tre-pe-te to ka-pni-sma."

Another way of asking is "Signomi, epitrepete to tsigaro?" This literally means, "Excuse me, is the cigarette allowed?" "To tsigaro" literally means, "the cigarette" in English. Let's breakdown these words." Si-gno-mi, e-pi-tre-pe-te to tsi-ga-ro?"

Now let's go and see the possible answers.

"Yes, you may smoke." "Ne, epitrepete to kapnisma."

As you might have figured out, in this sentence we have only added the Greek word for "yes" ("ne") before "epitrepete to kapnisma." This is an easy answer to a question!

Let's breakdown these words.

"Ne, e-pi-tre-pe-te to ka-pni-sma."

What do we then say if smoking isn't allowed? We take the same pattern as before, and instead of "ne," we just add the Greek word for "no" ("ohi"). Let's see the full sentence one more time.

"Ohi, den epitrepete."

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Επιτρέπετε το κάπνισμα;	Epitrepete to kapnisma?	Excuse me, is smoking allowed here?
Ναι, επιτρέπετε το κάπνισμα.	Ne,epitrepete to kapnisma.	Yes, smoking is allowed.
Όχι, δεν επιτρέπετε.	Ohi,den epitrepete.	No, I am sorry, it's forbidden.

QUICK TIP

As Europe's largest smoking nation, smoking is generally allowed anywhere in Greece. However, an enforcement of European Union guidelines to ban smoking in public places will be stipulated in July 2009.

QUICK TIP 2

Greece has few, if any smoking rooms. Greeks are in fact known to ignore any public smoking bans, so even though it will be legally prohibited, it doesn't necessarily mean that people will stop smoking in public places. So knowing how to ask if they allow smoking will always come in handy.



SurvivalPhrases.com

A Little Bit of Language Can Go a Long Way!



Lesson 14: Table Etiquette

Παρακαλώ το μενού.

LESSON NOTES

Finally, you're at the table and at your seat. Now it's time to order!

In today's lesson, we'll cover how to ask for a menu and then order your food and drinks.

Normally, to get the waiter's attention you can just raise your hand and simply say "Signomi!" ("Excuse me"), and then ask for a menu by saying, "parakalo" "to menou" ("A menu, please").

"Parakalo" means, "please." "Pa-ra-ka-lo." This is finally followed by "to menou," which in English means, "the menu." "To" is neutral for "the."

Once you have looked at the menu, you can finally call the waiter for the order.

A typical Greek menu is composed of "orektika" ("appetizers," which can be a large variety of dishes from salads to small fishes), "kirio piato" ("second dish," which can be fish or meat), and "epidorpio" ("dessert").

Firstly, in 99% of cases they will ask you what you would like to drink first. "Ti thelete na pgite?"

"Ti" means, "what," "thelete" ("you want"), "na" ("to"), and finally "pgite" ("drink"). Let's break it down. "Ti the-le-te na pgi-te?"

Now let's see some typical beverages the Greeks have with dinner.

"Bira" – "Beer"

"Ouzo"

"Retsina" – "Greek white wine"

Let's break down these words.

"Bira" "Bi-ra"

"Ouzo" "Ou-zo"

"Retsina" "Re-tsi-na"

In Greece, the waiter rarely asks the customer what they want. However, you can always ask for recommendations and the house specials!

“Ti protini to katastima?”

This literally means, “What does the establishment prefer?” Let’s have a quick look at the bits and pieces of this phrase.

In Greek the word “ti ”means, “what” in English. We follow this with the word for “prefer,” which is “protini.” “The establishment” is “to katastima”. “Ti protini to katastima.” This would be the equivalent for “What are the recommendations” in English.

When you order in Greece, you usually just say the name of the dish you want. However, there is a polite way of saying “I would like” followed by the name of the things you want to eat. This is “tha ithela.”

Let’s break down these word. “tha i-the-la”

Now let’s go and see some good dishes you can find on a typical Greek menu.

“Horiatiki salata” – The traditional Greek salad

“Souvlaki” - Small pieces of meat and sometimes vegetables grilled on a skewer.

“Mousaka” – A baked aubergine based dish with minced meat and white sauce.

“Kalamaraki” – Battered fried squid

“Tzatziki” –Yogurt based dressing with garlic and cucumber.

Let’s break down these words and hear them one more time.

“Horiatiki salata” “Ho-ria-ti-ki sa-la-ta”

“Souvlaki” “Sou-vla-ki”

“Mousaka” “Mou-sa-ka”

“Kalamaraki” “Ka-la-ma-ra-ki”

“Tzatziki” “Tza-tzi-ki”

Let’s imagine you would like to order “Souvlaki ”and “Tzatziki.” You should say to the waiter, “Tha ithela ena souvlaki ke ena tzatziki.” “I would like a “souvlaki” and some “tzatziki”.

“Tha ithela,” as we have seen means, “would like.” You simply follow it with the name of the food you are ordering. Please note that before “souvlaki” and “tzatziki,” you find the indefinite male article “ena” (“a”), which is very important to separate from female articles in Greek.

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Παρακαλώ το μενού.	Parakalo to menou.	A menu, please.
Τι θέλετε να πιείτε;	Ti thelete na pigte?	What would you like to drink?
Θα ήθελα ένα σουβλάκι και ένα τζατζίκι.	Tha ithela ena souvlaki ke ena tzatziki.	I would like a Souvlaki and Tzaziki.

QUICK TIP

A traditional Greek meal consists of many small dishes; we call this "meze". This is a common way of eating around the Mediterranean countries, but they all have different dishes. If you go out for a meal and you're not quite sure what to eat, order a little bit of everything and I assure you, you won't be disappointed!

QUICK TIP 2

If a Greek invites you out for dinner or a drink, don't EVER try to make him "split the bill in half." The Greek way is to have a small argument over who should pay the bill, and then if you are the guest, it is proper that you eventually give in and let him pay.



Lesson 15: Getting the Check

Θέλετε τίποτε άλλο;

LESSON NOTES

In the last lesson, we saw how to order at the restaurant, how to get the waiter's attention, and then how to order your meal and beverages.

Once you have the beverages and you finally have all the entrées you have ordered, you can start to enjoy the mouth-watering meal.

Normally, if the waiter sees that you have finished he will come to your table and kindly ask, "Thelete tipote allo?" "Would you like anything else?" Let's break these words down. "The-le-te ti-po-te allo?"

"Thelete" is the verb for "you want." You will hear it for sure in the restaurants or in the cafés from waiters or barmen in the formal level of speech.

"Tipote" literally means, "something, anything," but in this specific case we use it to translate "anything." Finally, we have the word "allo," which you might have guessed already means "else."

Let's recap. "Thelete tipote allo?"

If you are pleased with your meal and are ready to leave, you should reply, "Ohi ,efharisto. Boroume na ehoume ton logariasmo?" "I'm fine thanks, the check please." A long sentence, but let's break it down. First, we have "ohi efharisto," which means, "no thanks." We follow this with "boroume," which is "can we" in Greek. Next, is a plural form of the verb "to have," in other words "we have." "Na ehoume." Finally, we need to say WHAT we want, the bill of course! "Ton logariasmo."

All together it is: "Ohi, efharisto. Boroume na ehoume ton logariasmo"

And there you have it!

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Θέλετε τίποτε άλλο;	Thelete tipote allo?	Would you like anything else?
Όχι ευχαριστώ, μπορούμε να έχουμε τον λογαριασμό.	Ohi, efharisto. Boroume na ehoume ton logariasmo.	I'm fine thanks, the check please.

QUICK TIP

When Greeks go out for dinner, they always pay cash. NO checks and credit cards! They have always got money enough to pay the bill for their company, too. Not being able to pay would be humiliating beyond belief.

QUICK TIP 2

Even if it says everywhere that tips are included in the price, in Greece tipping is quite important. I know a tip can seem preposterous on top the service charge; however, it is courtesy and good manner to give tips in restaurants, bars, and even at some cafés. About 10% would be appropriate. Remember, restaurants offer all you can eat bread. Greeks can't live without our bread!



SurvivalPhrases.com

A Little Bit of Language Can Go a Long Way!

Lesson 16: Counting Counting



LESSON NOTES

This lesson is very straightforward as we're going to cover counting zero through ten. Let's jump right in.

0 "miden" "μηδέν"

1 "ena" "ένα"

2 "dio" "δύο"

3 "tria" "τρία"

4 "tessera" "τέσσερα"

5 "pende" "πέντε"

6 "eksi" "έξι"

7 "efta" "εφτά"

8 "okto" "οχτώ"

9 "enia" "εννιά"

10 "deka" "δέκα"

Counting things in Greek can be a bit tricky as objects in Greek have gender.

However, only a few numbers have gender: "one," "three," and "four." When we attach these numbers to a feminine object, they sound as such: "mia, tris, tesseris"

Let's break down these words and hear them one more time.

"mia" "μία"

"tris" "τρεις"

"tesseris" "τέσσερις"

Furthermore, we also use “one” or “ena” as the indefinite article “a”/“an” before nouns, so it can be “ena” (“ένα”) or “enas” (ένας) (before masculine nouns). However, in the case of feminine nouns, it’s always “mia.”

For example, “one person” is “enas anthropos”. Let’s break down these two words.

“e-nas an-htro-pos”

The number comes first, followed by the thing. To say “two people” you will say, “dio anthropi”. In this case, “anthropi” is the plural of “anthropos”. In Greek as you have seen, nouns have singular and plural forms and they can be feminine, masculine, or neutral.

If there are “five people,” you have “pende anthropi.”

Numbers can be very useful especially when shopping in Greece.

Let’s imagine you are buying some presents to bring back to your country. For example, imagine you would like to buy two bottles of “Ouzo” in a nice shop.

“I would like to buy two bottles of “Ouzo.” “Tha ithela dio boukalia ouzo.”

Let’s break down these words. “Tha i-the-la dio bou-ka-lia ou-zo.”

“Tha ithela” is the Greek word for “I would like,” and then you have the number “dio” (“two”), followed by “boukalia,” which is the plural for the object “bottle.”

What do you say when you want to buy nice, traditional, worry beads? “I would like to buy some worry beads.” “Tha ithela na agoraso ena komboloi. Agoraso” is the verb for “to buy.” Let’s break it down and hear it again.

“Agoraso a-go-ra-so agoraso.”

In this case, we use “ena”, since we are referring to “komboloi” (“worry beads”) in the singular form.

“Komboloi” is a neutral singular noun. Let’s break down this word.

“Kom-bo-lo-i”

Let’s hear the entire sentence now. “Tha ithela na agoraso ena komboloi.”

Eventually, you change your mind, and decide to buy a “blouza”, or a “jumper” in English. You would say, “Tha ithela na agoraso mia blouza.” “I would like to buy a jumper.” Please note that “blouza” is a feminine noun, so for this reason we have changed the indefinite article “ena” to “mia”.

Let’s break down this word. “Blou-za”

“Tha ithela na agoraso mia blouza.”

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
One person.	Enas anthropos.	One person.
Πέντε άνθρωποι.	Pende anthropi.	Five people.
Θα ήθελα δύο μπουκάλια ούζο.	Tha ithela dio boukalia ouzo.	I would like to buy two bottles of ouzo.
Θα ήθελα να αγοράσω ένα κομπολόι.	Tha ithela na agoraso ena komboloi.	I would like to buy worry beads.
Θα ήθελα να αγοράσω μια μπλούζα.	Tha ithela na agoraso mia blouza.	I would like to buy a jumper.

VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English
μηδέν	miden	zero
ένα	ena	one
δύο	dio	two
τρία	tria	three
τέσσερα	tessera	four
πέντε	pende	five
έξι	eksi	six
εφτά	efta	seven
οχτώ	okto	eight
εννιά	enia	nine
δέκα	deka	ten

QUICK TIP

“Komboloi,” or worry beads, resemble prayer beads but unlike prayer beads, they bear no religious significance. They are merely an instrument of relaxation and stress management. You will not go a day in Greece without seeing some elderly men sitting outside a “kafenio” (a café), sipping on coffee, and playing with their “komboloi.”

QUICK TIP 2

Good Greek souvenirs would include olive oil, “komboloi”, “ouzo,” and “the evil eye” jewelry. The “evil eye” is related to superstition and is the belief that some people can bestow a curse on victims by the malevolent gaze of their magical eye. The most common form however, attributes the cause to envy with the envious person casting the evil eye unintentionally.



SurvivalPhrases.com

A Little Bit of Language Can Go a Long Way!



Lesson 17: Counting to 100

Counting to 100

LESSON NOTES

Today we're going to continue with counting as we cover numbers 11-100.

Let's just quickly review 0 to 10.

0 "miden" "μηδέν"

1 "ena" "ένα"

2 "dio" "δύο"

3 "tria" "τρία"

4 "tessera" "τέσσερα"

5 "pende" "πέντε"

6 "eksi" "έξι"

7 "efta" "εφτά"

8 "okto" "οχτώ"

9 "enia" "εννιά"

10 "deka" "δέκα"

In Greek, counting from 11-20 is also quite straightforward, so let's jump right in.

11 "endeke" "ένδεκα"

12 "dodeke" "δώδεκα"

13 "dekatria" "δεκατρία"

14 "dekatessera" "δεκατέσσερα"

15 "dekapende" "δεκαπέντε"

16 "dekaeksi" "δεκαέξι"

17 “dekaepta” “δεκαεπτά”

18 “dekaokto” “δεκαοκτώ”

19 “dekaenia” “δεκαεννέα”

20 “ikosi” “είκοσι”

As you may have noticed, from numbers 13-19 you just add 10 to the number you want to say. Therefore, in English it would be “ten five.”

We form numbers from 21 to 99 just like the 10s, only you swap “deka” with the word for twenty (“ikosi”).

Now that we know how to do the complicated bit, let’s move on to the simpler one.

30 “trianda” “τριάντα”

40 “saranda” “σαράντα ”

50 “peninda” “πενήντα”

60 “eksinda” “εξήντα”

70 “evdominda” “εβδομήντα”

80 “ogdonda” “ογδόντα”

90 “eneninda” “ενενήντα”

Note that from 30 onward, you only need to add a plain number. There’s no changing, it’s just straightforward.

Let’s try with “fifty–three.” “Fifty” is “peninda” and “tria” is “three.” Putting them together, we have “peninda tria” or “fifty-three.”

Let’s break down this word. “pe-nin-da tr-ia”

Let’s try now with double lucky number “seventy–seven.”

“Seventy” is “evdominda” and “seven” is “epta”. Put them together and you have “evdominda epta.”

Let’s break down this word. “ev-do-min-da e-fta”

Finally, we have “ekato.”

100 “ekato” “εκατό”

To count from “ekato” onwards, you just need to add “n” after “ekato”, thus making “ekaton,” and then add the units and the tens you have just learned.

Let’s try with some examples:

110 “ekaton deka” “εκατόν δέκα”

198 “ekaton enininda okto” “εκατόν ενενήντα οκτώ”

VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English
ένδεκα	endeka	eleven
δώδεκα	dodeka	twelve
δεκατρία	dekatria	thirteen
δεκατέσσερα	dekatessera	fourteen
δεκαπέντε	dekapende	fifteen
δεκαέξι	dekaeksi	sixteen
δεκαεπτά	dekaepta	seventeen
δεκαοκτώ	dekaokto	eighteen
δεκαεννέα	dekaenia	nineteen
είκοσι	ikosi	twenty
τριάντα	trianda	thirty
σαράντα	saranda	forty
πενήντα	peninda	fifty
εξήντα	eksinda	sixty
ογδόντα	evdominda	seventy
ογδόντα	ogdonda	eighty
ενενήντα	eneninda	ninety
εκατό	ekato	one hundred

QUICK TIP

Shopping in Greece can be a great experience, and one can enhance that experience by learning how to say numbers. For example, if you want to shop for clothes but have no idea how to tell the clerks your size, studying today’s lesson will have helped you buy that lovely jumper you saw in the window.

QUICK TIP 2

It might sound strange but if you want to save money don't buy your groceries in a supermarket. Bread is cheaper in a bakery and meat is cheaper when you go to a butcher. Even in a supermarket the fresh meat, cheese, and olives are cheaper at the counter than the boxed stuff in the fridges.

Greek supermarkets are expensive. Foreign chains such as LIDL are a lot cheaper than the local ones. The cheapest and most pleasant option is eating out.



Lesson 18: How Much?

Πόσο κοστίζει αυτό;

LESSON NOTES

You should remember that "Signomi" or "Excuse me" is almost always the first thing to say when you're talking to a shop clerk. After saying "Signomi", you should say,

"Poso kostizi afto?" "How much is this?"

"Poso" means, "How much" and we follow it with "kotsizi", which is the verb for "to cost." When using "afto", note that if the object is feminine you should always use the neutral noun "afto."

Let's break down these words by syllable.

"Po-so"

"Kos-ti-zi"

"Af-to"

However, dear listeners you know perfectly well how the Greek language can be varied and wide-ranging, so you won't be surprised to hear that there are some more interesting ways to ask, "How much is this?"

The Greeks love markets and most villages have local markets once a week. There are of course also big markets in the larger cities where the people go to find their bargains.

Let's imagine that you are by a stand of clothes in a local market and you want to buy a shirt. After saying "Signomi" to get the stand-keeper's attention, you can say "Poso kani to poukamiso?" "How much is this shirt?" As you can see, we use "kani," which means "do" in place of "kostizi." We follow this with "to poukamiso," which is a singular noun and means, "the shirt."

Let's break down these words by syllable.

"Po-so ka-ni to poukamiso?"

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Πόσο κοστίζει αυτό;	Poso kostizi afto?	How much is this?

Greek	Romanization	English
Πόσο κανί το πουκάμισο;	Poso kani to poukamiso?	How much is this shirt?

QUICK TIP

Let's have a look at some possible purchases that might interest you and how to say them in Greek.

“Pandeloni” “Trousers”

“Papoutsia” “Shoes”

“Kapeló” “Hat”

“Tsanda” “Bag”

“Boufan” “Jacket”

Now get out there and enjoy your shopping!

QUICK TIP 2

A popular place to shop would be Hania on Crete. In the old town there, you'll find a large number of specialized shops. Pottery is often in blue and white, the national colors of Greece. If you consider buying silver and gold jewelry, it's a good idea to check prices beforehand. Many places sell jewelry so take your time and look around.



SurvivalPhrases.com

A Little Bit of Language Can Go a Long Way!



Lesson 19: Lower the Price, Please

Σύννομη, πόσο κοστίζει αυτό;

LESSON NOTES

In Greece, haggling at the markets is very common. These little markets are temporary street markets where you can find everything, from food and clothes to antiquities. In these places, you will be able to use the Survival Phrases you will learn in this lesson. Don't be afraid to use your Greek when speaking to the merchants because they are very funny and they can be very friendly and kind to potential customers. Are you ready to have fun at the "pazari" ("market")?

Upon entering a "pazari," you will be struck by the variety of colorful stalls and you will be immediately attracted by something that interests you.

Normally, if you are interested in buying something you say, "Excuse me, how much is this?" "Signomi, poso kostizi afto?" As soon as they tell you the price, you can start the bargaining to lower the price. Please note that this is very common at Greek markets so don't be shy, try to say, "Boris na kopsis ligo?" "Can you cut the price?" This literally translates as "can you cut it a little?"

At this point, the merchant will start haggling and the final result is in your hands!

Another way to express the feeling that something is too expensive and you want to start haggling is with, "Ine poli akrivo," which literally means, "it is too expensive." "Ine" means, "it is," "poli" is "a lot or much," and finally we have "akrivo," which is the adjective for "expensive."

Let's break down these words. "I-ne po-li a-kri-vo."

"Ine poli akrivo" is actually enough to get your point across when haggling, but to make sure the seller knows you mean business it's best to add "boris na to kopsis ligo." In other words, "Ine poli akrivo, boris na to kopsis ligo."

Let's imagine that you are at a "pazari", you want to buy a bag, and you want to suggest your price to the merchant straightforward, in other words, you want to establish your own price as the one you will bargain for. The merchant has just told you that the bag costs fifteen Euros. You desperately want that bag but it's too expensive and you want to try to suggest eight Euros.

After "Ine poli akrivo," you should say, "okto evro!" "eight euros!" When haggling, this is all you need to say to get your point across. If the merchant still refuses you, slowly walk away and in most cases they will give in.

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Σύννομη, πόσο κοστίζει αυτό;	Signomi, poso kostizi afto?	Excuse me, how much is this?
Είναι πολύ ακριβό, μπορείς να το κόψεις λίγο;	Ine poli akrivo, boris na to kopsis ligo.	It's too expensive; can you give me a discount?
Είναι πολύ ακριβό!	Ine poli akrivo!	It costs too much!
Οκτώ ευρώ!	Okto evro!	I'll give you eight Euros!

QUICK TIP

A common way of haggling in Greece is to suggest a much lower price that you are willing to pay. For example, that bag we talked about earlier cost fifteen Euros, but you want it for eight. In this case, starting your bid at six Euros and working your way up is the most efficient way. Sometimes you'll even get it cheaper than you expected!

QUICK TIP 2

The "Laiki" ("popular market") is a large Greek street market. When the traditional weekly village market came to town, it became a street market. Today, no village, town, or city in Greece is without its street market held at least once a week. In the larger towns, the market is set up in a different neighborhood every day to cater to the inhabitants without them having to travel far.

Market traders include both intermediaries who sell products bought from farmers, and the farmers themselves who sell their goods directly to increase their profits. If you get the chance to visit one, Survival Phrases will be perfect for your day of Greek haggling.



Lesson 20: Currency

Είκοσι οκτώ ευρώ και πενήντα δυο λεπτά.

LESSON NOTES

In Greece, the currency is the Euro. At the time of writing this, the exchange rate is roughly 0.75 Euros to the US dollar and 1.34 US dollars to 1 Euro. While it is 1.10 Euros to the British Pound, and 0.90 British Pounds to 1 Euro. The currency includes 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, and 500 Euro bills, and 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, and 50 cent and 1 and 2 Euro coins. There are one hundred cents in one Euro.

Let's try to say prices in Greek. Let's start with € 28,52

The long way is "Ikosi okto evro ke peninda dio lepta". This is very straightforward. First, we say the number of Euros, then "Euro". Secondly, note that the two numbers are separated by the conjunction "ke" which means "and." So before the "ke" you always have the "Euros," and after the "ke," you have the cents. Finally, we say the number of cents and finally, the word "lepta". "Ikosi okto evro ke peninda dio lepta".

"Lepto" is the singular word for "cent" and "lepta" is its plural.

Saying Euro and "lepta" is not so common in Greece, so let's learn the easiest and local way of saying your riches. The short way is "Ikosi okto peninda dio".

In this case, it might not be immediately clear which number is "Euros" and which is cents but remember that there is a pause after the "Euros". So "Ikosi okto peninda dio" is the equivalent of saying "twenty-eight fifty-two."

Let's have one more example:

€ 4,99 "Tessera enininda enia" or the long version "Tessera evro ke enininda enia lepta."

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Είκοσι οκτώ ευρώ και πενήντα δυο λεπτά.	Ikosi okto evro ke peninda dio lepta.	Twenty-eight Euros and fifty-two cents.
Είκοσι οκτώ πενήντα δυο.	Ikosi okto peninda dio.	Twenty-eight fifty-two.
Τέσσερα ευρώ και ενενήντα εννέα λεπτά.	Tessera evro ke eneninda enia lepta.	Four Euros and ninety-nine cents.
Τέσσερα ενενήντα εννέα.	Tessera eneninda enia.	Four ninety-nine.

Greek	Romanization	English
--------------	---------------------	----------------

QUICK TIP

Greece joined the Euro-train in 2001 after initially failing to enter in 1999. Before switching to the Euro, Greece would use Drachma as their currency. Some places in Greece still accept the Greek Drachma, however, prices may be doubled.

QUICK TIP 2

Greece issued some commemorative coins (€2) for the 2004 Summer Olympics.



SurvivalPhrases.com

A Little Bit of Language Can Go a Long Way!



Lesson 21: Internet Cafe

Σύννομη, πόσο κοστίζει η ώρα;

LESSON NOTES

In this lesson, we'll learn about a place crucial to your travels in this modern age: the Internet café! Normally, you find Internet cafes in the big main cities. However, if you are in a very small town, there is a possibility the town isn't connected to the World Wide Web. Don't be scared to try to go back and get used to the old standards of communication.

Let's imagine you're at the reception and you need to ask how much the connection is and for how long.

"Signomi, poso kostizi i ora?" This literally means, "Excuse me, how much is the hour?" Let's break it down by syllable. "Sig-no-mi, po-so kos-ti-zi i o-ra?" This sentence is made up of "Signomi" and then "poso kostizi," which we have already seen in previous lessons, followed by "i ora". In this case, the word "ora," which in Greek means, "hour," is feminine and thus needs the feminine articulated preposition "i". Another way of asking this is to replace "i" with the Greek word for "one," "mia. Signomi, poso kostizi mia ora?"

They will probably answer you with something such as the price of the connection per hour" and then "...tin ora".

Alternatively, you may hear, "Kani..." which is the Greek word for "do," followed by the price. Both sentences mean, "Per hour is...." "Kani dio evro

"

These two sentences are very easy to understand and both have the same meaning. In addition, the price (a number plus the word "Euro") will always follow them. Let's imagine for example that the clerk says, "Per hour is two Euros." "Dio evro tin ora." Let's break these words down. "Dio e-vro tin ora."

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Σύννομη, πόσο κοστίζει η ώρα;	Signomi, poso kostizi i ora?	Excuse me, how much is per hour?
Δυο ευρώ την ώρα.	Dio evro tin ora.	Two Euros per hour.
Κάνει δυο ευρώ.	Kani dio evro.	It is two Euros per hour.

QUICK TIP

In Greece, we call Internet cafés by the same name, “Internet café”. In Greece, young people often go to Internet cafes to play online games. Many households still don't have the Internet, and online gaming is mainly what people use Internet cafes for. If you are a regular, you can get a membership card that gives you discounts at most cafes. If you only come for a one-time visit, the clerk usually sets your computer up for you from the counter and just gives you the seat number.

QUICK TIP 2

Greece has still not become fully connected to Broadband so connections are still quite slow. However, it is very easy to connect to the Internet through your phone by buying a special code card that allows you to log on.



Lesson 22: Riding the Bus 1

Συγγνώμη, ένα εισιτήριο λεωφορείου τον/την---

LESSON NOTES

A dense network of bus services connects the capitals of most prefectures in Greece to each other. The intercity coach service (KTEL) operates vehicles that meet all modern technical specifications for the safe and pleasant transport of passengers. Check www.ktel.org for more information.

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Συγγνώμη, ένα εισιτήριο λεωφορείου τον/την---	Signomi, ena isitirio l leoforiou gia ton/tin---	Excuse me, a bus ticket to....
Πόσο κοστίζει το εισιτήριο του λεωφορείου;	Poso kostizi to isitirio tou leoforiou?	How much is a bus ticket?

QUICK TIP

Buses and trolleys have frequent schedules starting from 05:00 AM until 12:00 midnight for all places in Athens and the suburbs. Please remember that local buses are different from the long distance ones. Normally, if you buy a bus ticket it is valid to ride on the subway, too. Once you get off the bus, you will have to buy a new ticket for the return journey. However, don't throw your ticket away because you can keep riding on it for 1.5 hours!

QUICK TIP 2

These days, the buses in Greece have the destinations written on them in both Greek and English. But, to be on the safe side, in case they forgot to add the destinations in a small town bus, you can always ask the bus driver.



Lesson 23: Riding the Bus 2

Συγγνώμη, πηγαίνετε για---;

LESSON NOTES

The bus is an important means of transportation. In many Greek cities, even in big cities, we use buses more than we use the subway. Usually, we use buses to cover both long and short distances. However, before starting your trip, you probably need to buy a ticket. Regarding local commuting in Greece, the fare is (€1). You may purchase a ticket at most newspapers kiosks named “Periptero” that are often located next to the bus stop. Upon entering the bus, you must validate your ticket at one of the validation machines that stamp your ticket.

Let’s imagine you are in Athens and you want to go from Central Station (“Kendrikos stathmos”) to “Pereus”, the great port of Athens where all ferries set off. How can you get your bus ticket then? “Signomi, ena isitirio leoforiou gia ton/tin...” “Excuse me, a bus ticket to...”

First, you have “signomi” (“Excuse me”), and then “ena isitirio” (“a ticket”) and finally you have “leoforiou,” which is the equivalent to “of the bus.” Adding “ou” makes it “of the __,” and works with trains and planes, too. “Gia ton / tin” means, “to the”. Finally you have the name of where you want to go, “Pereus.” Let’s break down these words. “Sig-no-mi, ena i-si-ti-ri-o le-o-fo-ri-ou gia ton/tin...”

What if you want to know how much the ticket is? You could simply use this sentence: “Poso kostizi to isitirio tou leoforiou?” “How much is a bus ticket?” “Poso” is a preposition and you can often find it in “Poso kostizi” or “poso kani,” which means, “How much is it?” We have already seen this in some previous lessons when we went shopping around the stalls. So “poso kostizi,” means, “How much is....” Now let’s break down the phrase. “Poso kostizi to isitirio tou leoforiou?”

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Συγγνώμη, πηγαίνετε για---;	Signomi, pigenete gia--- ?	Excuse me, (does this bus) go to...?
Συγγνώμη, περνάτε από τον Λευκό Πύργο;	Signomi, pernate apo ton Lefko Pirgo?	Excuse me, (does this bus) go to The White Tower?
Συγγνώμη, σταματάτε στον Λευκό Πύργο;	Signomi, stamatate ston Lefko Pirgo?	Excuse me, (does this bus) stop at The White Tower?”
Πόση ώρα κάνη για---;	Posi ora kani gia--- ?	How long does it take to get to...?

QUICK TIP

Buses and trolleys have frequent schedules starting from 05:00 AM until 12:00 midnight for all places in Athens and the suburbs. Please remember that local buses are different from the long distance ones. Normally, if you buy a bus ticket it is valid to ride on the subway, too. Once you get off the bus, you will have to buy a new ticket for the return journey. However, don't throw your ticket away because you can keep riding on it for 1.5 hours!

QUICK TIP 2

A ticket valid for one month that you can use on the entire public transport network, costs thirty-five Euros. The price of a monthly pass for buses and trolley buses costs fifteen Euros. For a monthly card that includes the metro, the cost is thirty-five Euros. Buses and trolleys run every ten to thirty minutes and you can stop them by waving your hand.



Lesson 24: Riding the Bus 3

Πια είναι η επομένη στάση;

LESSON NOTES

Tickets:

1h 30min reduced fare ticket for trips via Buses, Trolley Buses, Lines 1, 2, 3 of the subway, Tramway, and Suburban Railway Fare: 1.00€

1h 30min flat fare ticket for trips via Buses, Trolley Buses, Lines 1, 2, 3 of the subway, Tramway, and Suburban Railway Fare: 0.50€

24-hour flat fare ticket for trips via Buses, Trolley Buses, Lines 1, 2, 3 of the subway, Tramway, and Suburban Railway Fare: 3.00€

7-day flat fare ticket for trips via Buses, Trolley Buses, Lines 1, 2, 3 of the subway, Tramway, and Suburban Railway Fare: 10.00€

For more information visit: <http://www.amel.gr/>

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Πια είναι η επομένη στάση;	Pia ine I epomeni stasi?	What is the next stop?
Είναι η Πλατεία Αριστοτέλους η επομένη στάση;	Ine I Platia Aristotelous I epomeni stasi?	Is Platia Aristotelous the next stop?

QUICK TIP

You can buy tickets using the Automatic Ticket Issuing Machines (ATIMs) in all METRO Stations and from Ticket Offices. ATIMs, having the option to accept banknotes (5€, 10€, and 20€) and give change, are installed in all stations and nowadays have English as an option.



Lesson 25: Riding the Rails 1

Συγγνώμη, ένα εισιτήριο του μετρό.

LESSON NOTES

In the previous lesson, we learned how to ask the bus driver if the bus covers your destination.

Once on the bus, you'll hear announcements informing the passengers about where the bus will stop next. In Greece, it will be normal that most of the announcements you hear are in both Greek and English. In the case that there is no English announcement, you may not catch the location they announce. The phrase "What is the next stop?" may be indispensable. "Pia ine I epomeni stasi?"

The first word is "Pia," which is a pronoun in Greek meaning, "which." It is followed by "ine", which we learned in previous lessons means, "is," and then "I epomeni" means, "the next." Finally, you have the word "stasi," which as you might have figured means, "(bus/train) stop." Let's now break down these words. "Pia i-ne I e-po-me-ni sta-si?"

Another way of inquiring could be to ask if your desired destination is the next stop. For this phrase, we'll use "Platia Aristotelous," the most famous square in "Thessaloniki", as the destination. In Greek, the phrase is "Ine I Platia Aristotelous I epomeni stasi?" "Is "Platia Aristotelous" the next stop."

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Συγγνώμη, ένα εισιτήριο του μετρό.	Signomi, ena isitirio tou metro.	Excuse me, a subway ticket please.
Συγγνώμη, πια γραμμή για Ακρόπολις;	Signomi, pia grami pai gia Akropolis?	What line do I need to take for Akropolis?
Πρέπει να πάρετε την κόκκινη γραμμή.	Prepi na parete tin kokkini grami.	Prepi na parete tin kokkini grami.

QUICK TIP

You can buy tickets using the Automatic Ticket Issuing Machines (ATIMs) in all METRO Stations and from Ticket Offices. ATIMs, having the option to accept banknotes (5€, 10€, and 20€) and give change, are installed in all stations and nowadays have English as an option.

QUICK TIP 2

“Thessaloniki” has some great sightseeing spots that you can reach by bus. To mention some of them:

“Waterfront / Nikis Avenue”:

The city's waterfront has long been one of its main attractions, with “Nikis Avenue” being a particularly famous promenade here, stretching along the waterfront, and heading in an east-west direction between the port and “Lefkos Pyrgos”. “Nikis Avenue” is lined with an enormous selection of eateries and bars, and is close to the city's main square of “Plateia Eleftherias”, which is near to the port itself.

“Aristotelous Square”:

This seaside plaza is the centre of “Thessaloniki” shopping and dining. Local families own many of the cafés and ice cream parlours, so while you grab a bite to eat you can strike up a conversation and learn more about the city. Try to find some street musicians playing “rebetiko,” “Thessaloniki's” original genre of music that combines voice, dancing, and instrumental accompaniment.

“Modiano Marketplace”:

The “Modiano” is an authentically restored meat market. Housed in a building large enough to keep you entertained for an afternoon, the marketplace boasts rows of stalls of the finest cuts of meat. Live like a true Byzantine and take one home with you for a feast!



Lesson 26: Riding the Rails 2

Ένα εισιτήριο για Θεσσαλονίκη.

LESSON NOTES

If you want to ask for your ticket politely, you can add “tha ithela”. This means, “I would like.” This is how the phrase would sound: “Parakalo tha ithela ena isitirio epistrofis gia Patra.”

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Ένα εισιτήριο για Θεσσαλονίκη.	Ena isitirio gia Thessaloniki.	One ticket to Thessaloniki please.
Πόσο κοστίζει ένα εισιτήριο για την Θεσσαλονίκη;	Poso kostizi ena isitirio gia tin Thessaloniki?	How much is a ticket to Thessaloniki?
Δυο εισιτήρια για Θεσσαλονίκη.	Dio isitiria gia Thessaloniki.	Two tickets to Thessaloniki.

QUICK TIP

Tickets:

1h 30min reduced fare ticket for trips via Buses, Trolley Buses, Lines 1, 2, 3 of the subway, Tramway, and Suburban Railway Fare: 1.00€

1h 30min flat fare ticket for trips via Buses, Trolley Buses, Lines 1, 2, 3 of the subway, Tramway, and Suburban Railway Fare: 0.50€

24-hour flat fare ticket for trips via Buses, Trolley Buses, Lines 1, 2, 3 of the subway, Tramway, and Suburban Railway Fare: 3.00€

7-day flat fare ticket for trips via Buses, Trolley Buses, Lines 1, 2, 3 of the subway, Tramway, and Suburban Railway Fare: 10.00€

For more information visit: <http://www.amel.gr/>

QUICK TIP 2

In Athens, riding the rails is one of the best choices you can make to get around and reach all the most important parts of a city. Today, we are going to cover how to get on the subway.

As you have learned in the previous lessons, in Greece you can buy tickets at tobacco shops. However, for the subway you buy the tickets from the machines located at the station. Just in case you get too confused and have to ask the station attendant, we have prepared this lesson for you!

Now let's go and see how to get our subway ticket. As you can remember from the previous lessons covering how to get a bus ticket, we can accomplish this by asking, "Excuse me, a subway ticket please." "Signomi, ena isitirio tou metro."

As you can see, the sentence doesn't change from the one we covered in lesson 22, apart from the word "metro" ("subway"), which substitutes the word "leoforiou" ("bus").

Therefore, you have "signomi" ("excuse me"), then "ena isitirio" ("a ticket"), then "tou metro," which literally means, "of the subway." "Metro" is a masculine singular noun. So let's break down these words. "Sig-no-mi, e-na i-si-ti-ri-o tou me-tro."

Our location for today's lesson will be Athens. Let's imagine you need to go from "Stathmos Larissis" to "Akropolis" and you need to ask what line you have to take to get there.

You can accomplish this by asking, "Excuse me, what line do I need to take for "Akropolis"?" "Signomi, pia grammi pai gia Akropolis?"

Let's see this sentence word by word. First, you have the usual "signomi" followed by "pia grammi," which is Greek for "what line." This is made up by "pia" ("what"), followed by the word "grammi" ("line"). Let's break down these words. "Pia gra-mi?"

Then you have "pai gia" made up of "pai," which is the second singular person of the present tense of the verb "pao" ("to go"). This is followed by "gia," which as we know means, "to." Let's break down these words. "Pai gia." Finally, you have the place name, which in this case is "Akropolis".

A possible answer to your question could be, "Prepi na parete tin kokkini grammi." "You need to take the red line."

This sentence is structured very similar to English. "Prepi" is the word for "must, have to." "Pre-pi." After this, we have "na parete," which means, "you take" and is the third person present plural tense of the verb "perno" (formal). "Pa-re-te." Finally, we have "tin kokkini grammi," which you may have figured out means, "the red line." "Tin ko-kki-ni gra-mi."



Lesson 27: Riding the Rails 3

Παρακαλώ ένα εισιτήριο πρώτη θέση για Πάτρα.

LESSON NOTES

In the previous lesson, we covered how to ask and buy a train ticket. Once you have established the destination, it is time to select the type of seat you want. Normally in Greece, you can choose between “proti thesi” (“first class”) and “defter thesi” (“second class”). Let's break them down by syllable. “pro-ti the-si.”

The first word “proti” means, “first” and it is a numeral adjective we use in concordance with the feminine noun that refers to “thesi” (“seat”).

Then, we have “defter thesi”. Let's break it down by syllable. “def-te-ri the-si. defter thesi”. Before “thesi” this time, you have “defteri” in place of “proti”, a feminine numeral adjective.

Let's now imagine you want to buy a first class ticket. This time the destination will be Patra. "A first class ticket to Patra, please," in Greek is “(Parakalo) ena isitirio, proti thesi, gia Patra.”

The structure is the same as you have just seen in the previous lesson. We just add “proti thesi” (“first class”). Let's break down these words. “(Pa-ra-ka-lo) e-na i-si-ti-ri-o, pro-ti the-si, gia Pa-tra.”

In your trips to Greece, it could happen that you will take the train and then you will go back to the city in which you're staying. If you wish to buy a round trip ticket, how could you accomplish this in Greek? “I would like a round-trip ticket to Patra, please.” “Parakalo ena isitirio epistrosis gia Patra” Let's break it down by syllable. “Pa-ra-ka-lo e-na i-si-ti-ri-o e-pi-stro-fis gia Pat-ra.”

This structure is similar to the previous one. We have only changed “proti thesi” (“first class”) with the word “epistrosis” (“return”), or in this case, “a round trip ticket.”

To convey the English definition “round trip” in Greek, we say “epistrosis”. This is made up of the feminine singular noun “epistrosi,” which comes from the verb “epistrefo” meaning, “to go.” Let's break down these words. “e-pi-stro-fis”

Finally if you just need a simple one way ticket, you can accomplish it by asking, “I would like a one-way ticket to Patra, please.” In Greek, this is “Parakalo ena aplo isitirio gia Patra.”

As you can see, we use the exact same structure of the previous phrase but add “aplo” in place of “epistrosis”. “Aplo” means, “simple” and in this case, it means “single.” Let's break down these words. A-plo.

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Παρακαλώ ένα εισιτήριο πρώτη θέση για Πάτρα.	Parakalo ena isitirio,proti thesi, gia Patra.	A first class ticket to Patra, please.
Παρακαλώ, ένα εισιτήριο επιστροφής για Πάτρα.	I would like a round-trip ticket to Patra, please.	I would like a round-trip ticket to Patra, please.
Παρακαλώ, ένα απλό εισιτήριο για Πάτρα.	Parakalo ena aplo isitirio gia Patra.	I would like a one-way ticket to Patra, please.

QUICK TIP

In Athens, riding the rails is one of the best choices you can make to get around and reach all the most important parts of a city. Today, we are going to cover how to get on the subway.

As you have learned in the previous lessons, in Greece you can buy tickets at tobacco shops. However, for the subway you buy the tickets from the machines located at the station. Just in case you get too confused and have to ask the station attendant, we have prepared this lesson for you!

Now let's go and see how to get our subway ticket. As you can remember from the previous lessons covering how to get a bus ticket, we can accomplish this by asking, "Excuse me, a subway ticket please." "Signomi, ena isitirio tou metro."

As you can see, the sentence doesn't change from the one we covered in lesson 22, apart from the word "metro" ("subway"), which substitutes the word "leoforiou" ("bus").

Therefore, you have "signomi" ("excuse me"), then "ena isitirio" ("a ticket"), then "tou metro," which literally means, "of the subway." "Metropo" is a masculine singular noun. So let's break down these words. "Sig-no-mi, e-na i-si-ti-ri-o tou me-tro."

Our location for today's lesson will be Athens. Let's imagine you need to go from "Stathmos Larissis" to "Akropolis" and you need to ask what line you have to take to get there.

You can accomplish this by asking, "Excuse me, what line do I need to take for "Akropolis"?" "Signomi, pia grammi pai gia Akropolis?"

Let's see this sentence word by word. First, you have the usual "signomi" followed by "pia grammi," which is Greek for "what line." This is made up by "pia" ("what"), followed by the word "grami" ("line"). Let's break down these words. "Pia gra-mi?"

Then you have "pai gia" made up of "pai," which is the second singular person of the present tense of the verb "pao" ("to go"). This is followed by "gia," which as we know means, "to." Let's break down these words. "Pai gia." Finally, you have the place name, which in this case is "Akropolis".

A possible answer to your question could be, "Prepi na parete tin kokkini grammi." "You need to take the red line."

This sentence is structured very similar to English. “Prepi” is the word for “must, have to.” “Pre-pi.” After this, we have “na parete,” which means, “you take” and is the third person present plural tense of the verb “perno” (formal). “Pa-re-te.” Finally, we have “tin kokkini grami,” which you may have figured out means, “the red line.” “Tin ko-kki-ni gra-mi.”

QUICK TIP 2

In the previous lesson, we covered how to get on the subway. In Greece, riding the rails is one of the best ways to enjoy your trip and visit as many places as possible, not only at the local level, but also for the long distance destinations! In fact, traveling by train can be one more way to see all the wonderful things Greece can offer!

You have to ask for tickets for the “treno”, the “train”, at the ticket office and we can accomplish this by asking, “Ena isitirio gia...” and then your destination. Now of course, we need a destination. So let’s use the wonderful city of Thessaloniki.” So how do you ask for a ticket to Thessaloniki?

“One ticket to Thessaloniki” in Greek “is Ena isitirio gia Thessaloniki.” Let’s break it down by syllable. “Ena i-si-ti-ri-o gia The-ssa-lo-niki.”

This sentence is made up of “ena isitirio” (“a ticket”), followed by “gia,” the preposition “for,” and then the name of the destination, “Thessaloniki”. Let’s break down these words. “Ena i-si-ti-ri-o gia Thes-sa-lo-niki.”

Now, what if you wanted to know how much the ticket was before buying it? “How much is a ticket to Thessaloniki,” in Greek is “Poso kostizi ena isitirio gia tin Thessaloniki?”

This sentence is so easy and you know the structure thanks to the previous lessons. In fact, we have “poso kostizi” (“how much”), followed by “ena isitirio gia tin Thessaloniki” (“a ticket to Thessaloniki”). Let’s break down the words. “Po-so kos-ti-zi ena i-si-ti-ri-o gia tin Thes-sa-lo-ni-ki”

Let’s now imagine that you are not traveling on your own but with someone else, so you need to ask for two or more tickets.

“Two tickets to Thessaloniki please,” in Greek is “Dio isitiria gia Thessaloniki.” As you can see, it’s very easy to understand. In place of “ena isitirio” (“one ticket”), you have the number “dio” (“two”), and then the plural noun “isitiria” (“tickets”). Let’s break down the words and hear the whole sentence. “Di-o i-si-ti-ria gia Thes-sa-lo-ni-ki”



SurvivalPhrases.com

A Little Bit of Language Can Go a Long Way!



Lesson 28: Taking a Taxi

Για σταθμό Λαρίσης.

LESSON NOTES

In this lesson, we'll cover a phrase we use to get you to your destination when riding a taxi. We'll look at the most basic way to express this, which is the word "to" followed by a destination. In today's lesson, we'll use "Stathmo Larissis," which is the central station of Athens. Let's go over what to say to the taxi driver to get there.

In Greek, "To Larissa Station" is "Gia Stathmo Larissis." Let's break it down by syllable. "Gia Stathmo La-ri-ssis". The word for "to" in Greek is "gia."

This is the most basic way of expressing where you would like to go and actually even the easiest one. However, speaking the local language is one of the most fun things you can do on your travels. So challenge yourself by using a different option!

You can also say, "I would like to go to Larissa Station," which in Greek is "Tha ithela na pao Stathmo Larissis". Let's break it down by syllable. "Tha i-the-la na pao ston Sta-thmo La-ri-ssi-s".

Let's look at the components. The first words, "tha ithela" means, "I would like." This is the conjugated form of the verb "thelo" ("to want"), used in this case in the conditional form. Let's breakdown this word. "I-the-la." This is followed by "na pao", which in Greek is "to go."

To recap here, we have "tha ithela na pao" ("I would like to go"). This is followed by "ston," which is a masculine genitive article and translates as "at" or "in." Finally, you add the destination and you're done! All together, we have "Tha ithela na pao ston stathmo Larissis".

One more helpful phrase when taking a taxi is, "Here is fine." "Boris na stamatisis edo". This phrase will allow you to get out of the taxi whenever and wherever you want. Let's break it down by syllable: "Bo-ris na sta-ma-ti-sis e-do. Boris" is, as we know, "could you" in Greek. However, in this case it means, "you can." Note that there is no question mark after this sentence. After this, we have "na stmatisis," which is from the verb "to stop." To finish the sentence off, we need to say where we want to stop, which in this case is "here" "edo."

Another useful phrase you could practice when riding a taxi is "Boris na halasis penindariko?" This means, "do you have change for fifty Euros?" The bigger notes such as 50, 100, and 200 Euros might not be changed so easily. If you have bigger notes, try to ask, "Boris na halasis penindariko?" before you jump into the taxi. Let's break it down by syllable. "Bo-ris na ha-la-sis pe-nin-da-ri-ko?"

We have the same structure as in the previous sentence, “boris na.” (“can you”). After this, we added the same word we used in chapter 20, “to exchange, change,” “halasis.” At the end, we add the amount, which in this case is fifty Euros, “penindariko. Pe-nin-da-ri-ko.” In the case of bills, Greeks add –“riko” to the end of the number. So if it is ten Euros, it would be “dekariko,” or “a tenner” in English. Try it!

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Για σταθμό Λαρίσης.	Gia stathmo Larissis.	To Larissa Station.
Θα ήθελα να πάω στον σταθμό Λαρίσης.	Tha ithela na pao ston stathmo Larissis.	I would like to go to Larissa Station.
Μπορείς να σταματήσεις αιδώ.	Boris na stamatisis edo.	Here is fine.
Μπορείς να χαλάσεις πενηντάρικο;	Boris na halasis penintariko?	Do you have change for fifty Euros?

QUICK TIP

Taxicabs in Athens are yellow with an illuminated sign marked “TAXI” on top. One can stop a cab by simply raising a hand or go to Taxi stands, which are located everywhere in Athens. It may occur that the taxi already has passengers inside or they take other people during the ride, as it is common to share taxis.

QUICK TIP 2

The fares in Greece are cheaper than anywhere else in Europe. For a 5km ride, the fare is (EURO 6). For a 10km ride, it’s about (EURO 11), depending on traffic. The amount of the fare paid for a taxi ride is the amount written on the meter. Extra charges apply after 12:00 midnight and for each piece of luggage carried. Pre-booked taxis are also available upon request at an extra charge. You may call them in advance from the reception of your hotel or directly to their central. They will come and pick you up from almost everywhere.



SurvivalPhrases.com

A Little Bit of Language Can Go a Long Way!



Lesson 29: Where Can I Buy This?

Που μπορώ να βρω...;

LESSON NOTES

Have you ever been in a city you don't know at all, and you are desperately looking for something you need and cannot find it? It happened so many times to me! I wandered around without knowing where to go to reach for example a bar, a phone, or a restroom! Don't worry! Thanks to our survival phrases, if you go to Greece you will always be able how to ask for information and help.

Today, we would like to introduce you to a phrase that will help you track down that specific something you're looking for. "Where can I find...," in Greek is "Pou boro na vro...?" Then, you add the name of the specific thing you are looking for."

"In this sentence, you can use a basic structure in any situation in which you will need to get something. This structure is made up of the adverb "pou" ("where"), followed by the verb "boro" ("can"), and then the infinitive of the verb "na vro" ("to find"). Let's break it down by syllable. "Pou bo-ro na vro..." ?

Now let's see what kinds of things you might need if you're traveling abroad. Let's imagine you're walking around one of Greece's many beautiful islands, it's very hot, and you need to get something to drink. Let's go and ask where you can find a bar! "Where can I find a bar?" in Greek is "Pou boro na vro ena bar?"

As you can easily note, you have the structure you have just seen, "pou boro na vro", followed by the thing you are looking for, "ena bar" ("a bar"). "Bar" is a very easy noun, the same in Greek and English. In this case, "bar" is preceded by the neutral singular indefinite article "ena," or in English "a." Let's break down this sentence. "Pou bo-ro na vro ena bar?"

With this form, you can go anywhere you need and ask for anything you are looking for. You could use another form if you wanted to be more polite and wanted to use a different expression. Let's imagine you are looking for a phone this time. "Excuse me, could you tell me where I can find a phone?" "Signomi, borite na mou pite pou boro na vro ena telefono?" "Don't you think this is more formal? Of course it is! So what do we have here? We have "signomi" ("excuse me"), then the verb "borite," which we know by now means, "can." This is followed by "na mou pite", which means, "tell me" in English. After we have said "signomi, borite na mou pite" ("excuse me, can you tell me"), "we have to add what we want to be told! In this case, we want to find a phone, which is "pou boro na vro ena telefono?" Let's look at the different parts. "Pou," as we

have previously seen means, “where.” Then we have “boro” again, which is the first person singular of “can.” This is followed by the verb “na vro” (“to find”), and finally what we want to find, “ena telefono” (“a phone”). There you have it!

To ask for any other item, we can just replace “ena bar” or “ena telefono” with any other word and the phrase works brilliantly! Let's try it with "tobacco shop," which in Greek is “periptero”. Let's break this word down. “pe-ri-pte-ro.” "Excuse me, could you tell me where I can find a tobacco shop," in Greek is “Signomi, borite na mou pite pou boro na vro ena periptero?”

These phrases will come in handy before leaving the hotel and when talking with taxi drivers or other people trying to help you locate a desired item.

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Που μπορώ να βρω...;	Pou boro na vro...?	Where can I find...?
Που μπορώ να βρω ένα μπαρ;	Pou boro na vro ena bar?	Where can I find a bar?
Συγγνώμη, μπορείτε να μου πείτε που μπορώ να βρω ένα τηλέφωνο;	Signomo, borite na mou pite pou boro na vro ena telefono?	Excuse me, could you tell me where I can find a phone?
Συγγνώμη, μπορείτε να μου πείτε που μπορώ να βρω ένα περίπτερο;	Signomi, borite na mou pite pou boro na vro ena periptero?	Excuse me, could you tell me where I can find a tobacco shop?

QUICK TIP

Here are some other things you might be looking for:

“Cinema” – “kinematografos”

”Supermarket” – “souper market”

“Post office” – “tahidromio

“Hospital” – “Nosokomio”

“Pharmacy” - “Farmakio”

QUICK TIP 2

There is a wide range of bars, cafes, and clubs all over Greece. Athens has some of the most popular clubs in the country. Whatever type of bar or club you are looking for, you will find it in Greece. You can enjoy a quiet drink overlooking the sea and watching the sunset. Alternatively, you can head to a music club, and enjoy anything from rock, techno, and hip-hop, to good old traditional Greek “bouzouki”.



Lesson 30: Is There a Store Near Here?

Υπάρχει ένα φαρμακείο αιδώ κοντά;

LESSON NOTES

In the previous lesson, we covered how to ask to get something. In today's lesson, we'll introduce you to another useful phrase for asking the place where you can find what you are looking for. Today's phrase is, "Is there a (place) near here?" First, we need a place. Let's use the word "farmakio," which means "pharmacy," but we can also translate as "chemist" or "drug store." Let's break it down by syllable. "far-ma-kio".

In Greek, "Is there a pharmacy near here?" is "Iparhi ena farmakio edo konta"?

Let's break it down by syllable. "I-pa-rhi ena fa-rma-ki-o e-do ko-nta?"

The first word "iparhi" means, "there is." Let's break it down. "I-pa-rhi". This is followed by the object "ena farmakio", which means, "a pharmacy" in English. Next, we have "edo", which is "here," and lastly, "konda" ("near"). Let's hear it one more time! "Iparhi ena farmakio edo konta?" This literally means, "is there a pharmacy near here?"

To ask for a different place, we can just replace the word "farmakio" with any other word and the phrase works just fine. Let's imagine you need to withdraw some money from your bank account. In Greek, "Is there an ATM near here?" is "Iparhi ena ATM edo konta?" The only thing that changes is the thing you are looking for, in this case "ATM."

PHRASES

Greek	Romanization	English
Υπάρχει ένα φαρμακείο αιδώ κοντά;	Iparhi ena farmakio edo konta?	Is there a pharmacy near here?
Υπάρχει ένα αυτόματο αιδώ κοντά;	Iparhi ena aftomato edo konta?	Is there an ATM near here?

QUICK TIP

You can spot Greek pharmacies by their green equal-armed cross, lit up either in neon or against a white background. Pharmacists are usually very decent diagnosticians and they speak English. They can help you with many medical problems and can be your first line of defense if you're feeling sick in Greece.

QUICK TIP 2

Getting cash from ATMs in Greece is more popular than any other method of exchanging money. In most cases, you pay only your usual bank fee rather than a commission, though this may vary depending on your bank's policy. Generally, you will get the best available exchange rate as well.

Survival Phrases - Greek (Part 1 end)



Hold on! You may be missing out!

Learn more Greek at InnovativeLanguage.com!

Learn twice as much, twice as fast with Survival
Phrases - Greek and InnovativeLanguage.com together!

In fact, most people who learn with Survival

Phrases - Greek visit InnovativeLanguage.com and learn even FASTER.

It's FREE to join, and you'll get a special gift just for visiting.

So what are you waiting for?

Click here to visit InnovativeLanguage.com!

More Survival Phrases - Greek!

Continue on with Survival Phrases - Greek (Part 2) Lessons 31-60 available now.

In Part 2 the following are just a few of the topics you'll master:

- ★ Taking a taxi without being taken advantage of
- ★ Getting around and asking directions and actually understanding the answer!
- ★ Learning Greek using Greek, and making lots of friends in the process
- ★ Making the most of a hotel stay, and exploring alternatives to the beaten path
- ★ Visiting the Post office and mailing thing home
- ★ Phone rentals and phone cards, don't travel without one!
- ★ Critical phrases for vegetarians and allergy sufferers!
- ★ Talking to the doctor and explaining symptoms correctly

- ★ Getting the right medicine
- ★ Expressing yourself with adjectives and being understood
- ★ Home visits and proper protocol that will wow hosts
- ★ Getting help, this may be the most useful phrase you ever learn

Finally, thank you again!

If you have a story to share about how Survival Phrases - Greek helped you with your travels, business, or personal relationships, we would love to hear about it!

Please e-mail us contactus@survivalphrases.com