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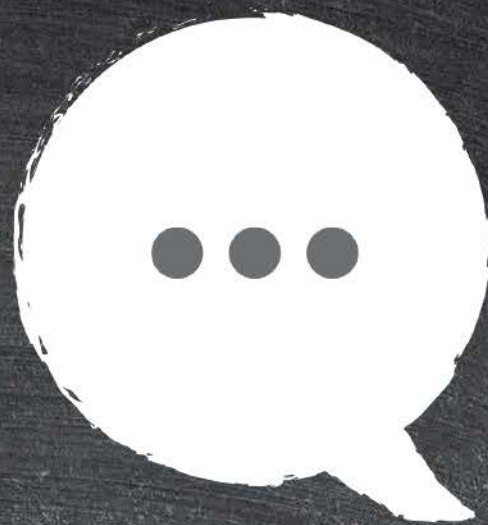


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## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #1 National Holidays

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- 2 Romanization
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- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Cultural Insight

# 1

# GREEK

1. What are the five most important national holidays in Greece?
2. 1. η 25η Μαρτίου.
3. 2. η 28η Οκτωβρίου.
4. 3. τα Θεοφάνεια.
5. 4. η Καθαρά Δευτέρα.
6. 5. Το Πάσχα.

# ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most important national holidays in Greece?
2. 1. η 25η Μαρτίου.
3. 2. η 28η Οκτωβρίου.
4. 3. τα Θεοφάνεια.
5. 4. η Καθαρά Δευτέρα.
6. 5. Το Πάσχα.

# ENGLISH

1. What are the five most important national holidays in Greece?

CONT'D OVER



2. 1. The twenty-fifth of March.
3. 2. The twenty-eighth of October.
4. 3. Epiphany.
5. 4. Clean Monday.
6. 5. Easter.

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Gender
η 25η Μαρτίου	I ikostí pémpiti Martíou	the twenty fifth of March	feminine
η 28η Οκτωβρίου	I ikostí ogdói Oktovríu	the twenty-eighth of October	feminine
τα Θεοφάνεια	ta Theofánia	Epiphany	neuter
η Καθαρά Δευτέρα	Kathará Deftéra	Clean Monday	feminine
Το Πάσχα	to Páskha	Easter	neuter

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

**Στην 25η Μαρτίου οι μαθητές παρελαύνουν.**

*Stin 25i (ikostí pémpiti) Martíu i mathités parelávnun.*

On the 25th of March, students parade.

**Την 28η Οκτωβρίου πολλά κτίρια και σπίτια είναι διακοσμημένα με ελληνικές σημαίες.**

*Tin 28i (ikostí ogdói) Oktovríu polá ktíria ke spítia íne diakosmiména me elinikés simées.*

On the 28th of October, many buildings and houses are decorated with Greek flags.

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**Την ημέρα των Θεοφανείων τα παιδιά τραγουδάνε τα κάλαντα.**

*Tin iméra ton Theofaníon ta pediá tragudáne ta kálanda.*

On the Theophany day, children sing carols.

**Την Καθαρά Δευτέρα μικροί και μεγάλοι πετούν χαρταετούς.**

*Tin Kathará Deftéra mikrí ke megáli petún hartaetús.*

On Clean Monday young and old fly kites.

---

**Αυτό το Πάσχα θα ψήσω το αρνί στο χωριό της μητέρας μου.**

*Aftó to Páskha tha psíso to arní sto horió tis mitéras mu.*

This Easter, I will roast a lamb at my mother's village.

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## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. March 25th

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The 25th of March is the commemoration of the Greek Revolution known as *I Elinikí Epanástasi*. The Greek Revolution was a successful war of independence waged by the Greek revolutionaries between 1821 and 1832, against the Ottoman Empire.

### 2. October 28th

---

On the 28th of October, Greeks celebrate the historical decision of the Greek Prime Minister Ioannis Metaxas, to reject the ultimatum made by the Italian dictator Benito Mussolini in 1940. This ultimatum demanded that Greece allow Axis forces to enter the Greek territory, or otherwise face war.

### 3. Epiphany (Theophany)

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Epiphany, or Theophany, is a large annual Christian Orthodox celebration that falls on January 6th and commemorates the Baptism of Jesus Christ in the Jordan River by John the Baptist.

### 4. Clean Monday

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Clean Monday is the first day of the Christian Orthodox Lent. It is celebrated with outdoor excursions, the widespread custom of flying kites, and the consumption of a special kind of unleavened bread named *lagana*, baked only on that day.

## 5. Easter

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Easter in Greece is the fundamental and most important feast of the Orthodox Church, which celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ three days after his crucifixion. On Easter Sunday, families gather together and eat roast lamb while listening to traditional music.

## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #2 Foods

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# 2



# GREEK

1. What are the five most popular foods in Greece?
2. 1. φέτα.
3. 2. χωριάτικη σαλάτα.
4. 3. τζατζίκι
5. 4. παραμοσαλάτα
6. 5. σουβλάκι

# ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most popular foods in Greece?
2. 1. féta.
3. 2. horiátiki saláta.
4. 3. jajíki
5. 4. taramosaláta
6. 5. suvláki

# ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular foods in Greece?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. Feta cheese.
3. 2. Greek salad.
4. 3. Tzatziki.
5. 4. Cod roe dip.
6. 5. Souvlaki.

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
χωριάτικη σαλάτα	horiátiki saláta	Greek salad		feminine
φέτα	féta	feta cheese		
τζατζίκι	jajíki	tzatziki	noun	neutral
σουβλάκι	suvláki	souvlaki	noun	neutral
ταραμοσαλάτα	taramosaláta	cod roe dip	cod roe dip	feminine

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Η χωριάτικη σαλάτα σερβίρεται πάντα στις ελληνικές ταβέρνες.</b>  <i>I horiátiki saláta servírete pánda stis elinikés tavérnes.</i></p> <p>Greek salad is always served in Greek taverns.</p>	<p><b>Στη σπανακόπιτα βάζουμε και λίγη φέτα για να νοστιμίσει.</b>  <i>Sti spanakópita vázume ke lígi féta ya na nostimísi.</i></p> <p>In the spinach pie we put a little bit of feta cheese to make it more tasty.</p>
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<p><b>Όταν ζητάς ένα σουβλάκι με «απ' όλα», σου βάζουν και τζατζίκι.</b>  <i>Όταν zitás éna suvláki me "ap' óla", su vázun ke jajíki.</i></p> <p>When you ask for a souvlaki with "everything in it", they also put some tzatziki.</p>	<p><b>Το τζατζίκι έχει πολύ σκόρδο.</b>  <i>To jajíki éhi polí skórdo.</i></p> <p>Tzaziki contains a lot of garlic.</p>
<p><b>Απόψε θα παραγγείλω σουβλάκι και μπύρες για να απολαύσω τον ποδοσφαιρικό αγώνα.</b>  <i>Απόψε tha parangílo suvláki ke bíres ya na apoláfsó ton podosferikó agóna.</i></p> <p>Tonight I will order souvlaki and beers to enjoy the soccer game.</p>	<p><b>Το σουβλάκι είναι το αγαπημένο μου ελληνικό φαγητό!</b>  <i>To suvláki íne to agapiméno mu elinikó fayitó!</i></p> <p>Souvlaki is my favorite Greek food!</p>

**Η ταραμοσαλάτα σερβίρεται συχνά την Καθαρά Δευτέρα.**

*I tamosaláta servírete sihná tin Kathará Deftéra.*

Taramosalata is served often on Clean Monday.

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Feta cheese

Feta is the most popular type of cheese in Greece. It is a crumbly, aged cheese made from sheep milk or from a mixture of sheep and goats' milk. Feta is used as a table cheese, served with some olive oil and sprinkled with aromatic herbs, such as oregano.

### 2. Greek salad

The name *horiatiki salata* means "rustic salad" in Greek, but worldwide it is known as a "Greek salad." It is made with pieces of tomatoes, sliced cucumbers, green bell peppers, red onion, sliced or cubed feta cheese, and olives.

### 3. Tzatziki

Tzatziki is a Greek appetizer usually served as an accompaniment or as a sauce for souvlaki. Tzatziki is made of strained yogurt from sheep or goat milk, mixed with shredded cucumber, garlic, salt, olive oil, lemon juice or white vinegar, and dill or mint or parsley.

#### 4. Cod roe dip

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Taramosalata is traditionally made from *taramas*, the salted and cured roe of cod fish or carp. The roe is mixed with either bread crumbs or mashed potato, lemon juice, vinegar and olive oil, and then eaten as a dip.

#### 5. Souvlaki

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Souvlaki is a popular Greek fast food consisting of small pieces of grilled pork meat or chicken. It may be served on a skewer with a slice of lemon and some bread, or inside an oily pita bread with onion, tomatoes, tzatziki sauce and sometimes French fries.

## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #3 Beverages

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# 3

## GREEK

1. What are the five most popular beverages in Greece?
2. 1. Μεταξά
3. 2. ούζο
4. 3. ρετσίνα
5. 4. λικέρ μαστίχας
6. 5. τσίπουρο

## ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most popular beverages in Greece?
2. 1. Metaxá
3. 2. úzo
4. 3. retsína
5. 4. likér mastíhas
6. 5. tsípuro

## ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular beverages in Greece?

CONT'D OVER



2. 1. Metaxa
3. 2. ouzo
4. 3. retsina
5. 4. mastiha liqueur
6. 5. tsipouro

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
ούζο	úzo	ouzo	noun	neutral
Μεταξά	Metaxá	Metaxa		neuter
ρετσίνα	retsína	retsina		feminine
τσίπουρο	tsípuro	tsipouro		neuter
λικέρ μαστίχας	likér mastíhas	mastiha liqueur		neuter

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Αυτή η ουζερί στην Πλάκα έχει λαχταριστούς μεζέδες και εξαιρετικό ούζο.</b>  <i>Aftí i uzerí stin Pláka éhi lahtaristús mezédes ke exeretikó úzo.</i></p> <p>This ouzerie in Plaka has delicious appetizers and excellent ouzo.</p>	<p><b>Πάντα πίνω ούζο με πάγο.</b>  <i>Pánda píno úzo me págo.</i></p> <p>I always drink ouzo with ice.</p>
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<p><b>Όποτε έχω κρύωμα, η γιαγιά μου δίνει χαμομήλι με Μεταξά και μέλι.</b>  <i>Ópote ého kríoma, i yayá mu díni hamomíli me Metaxá ke méli.</i></p> <p>Whenever I have a cold, my grandmother gives me chamomile tea with Metaxa and honey.</p>	<p><b>Η ρετσίνα «Κουρτάκη» είναι η πιο γνωστή.</b>  <i>I retsína "Kurtáki" íne i pió gností.</i></p> <p>The "Kourtaki" retsina is the most well-known one.</p>
<p><b>Οι παλιές γενιές χρησιμοποιούσαν τσίπουρο με μέλι για το κρυολόγημα.</b>  <i>I paliés yeniés hrisimopiúsan tsípuro me méli ya to kriolóyima.</i></p> <p>The older generations used tsipouro with honey for common colds.</p>	<p><b>Ο ιδιοκτήτης της ταβέρνας μας προσφέρει πάντα λικέρ μαστίχας στο τέλος του γεύματος.</b>  <i>O idioktítis tis tavérnas mas proféri pánda likér mastíhas sto télos tu gévmatos.</i></p> <p>The owner of a tavern always offers us some mastiha liqueur at the end of the meal.</p>

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Metaxa

Metaxa is a Greek distilled spirit invented by Spyros Metaxas in 1888. It is a blend of brandy, spices, and wine, with wine not being present in some of the more expensive versions of the product to allow for a drier taste. It is exported to over sixty countries and today many people in Greece use it not only as a drink but also as an ingredient in many dishes. Greek moms also use it to cure cold symptoms by adding it to chamomile herbal tea with some honey.

### 2. Ouzo

Ouzo is an anise-flavored aperitif, originating from the island of Lesbos, which remains a major producer. In Greece, café-like establishments called *ouzerie* serve ouzo with appetizers called *mezedes* such as octopus, salad, sardines, calamari, fried zucchini, and clams, among others. It is slowly sipped, usually mixed with water or ice, becoming cloudy, shared with others over a period of several hours and that is because in Greece, it is generally considered poor form to drink alcohol *ξεροσφύρι* (*xerosfíri*). This idiomatic expression translates as "dry hammer" and means "drinking alcohol without eating anything."

### 3. Retsina

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Retsina is a Greek white or rosé resinated wine, which has been made for at least 2000 years. Its unique flavor is said to have originated from the practice of sealing wine vessels with Aleppo Pine resin in ancient times. Before the invention of glass bottles, oxygen caused many wines to spoil within the year, so pine resin helped to keep the air out, while at the same time infused the wine with resin aroma.

### 4. Mastiha liqueur

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Mastiha liqueur is a brandy-based liqueur, seasoned with mastic, a resin gathered from the small evergreen mastic tree, native to the Greek island of Chios. It has a sweet smell and flavor similar to licorice. It is served as a digestif cold or at room temperature but usually with ice. When mixed with ice or water, it turns white. Mastiha often accompanies desserts made with almonds and is served at wedding feasts.

### 5. Tsipouro

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Tsipouro is a strong distilled spirit and is produced from pomace, the residue of the wine press. The people in Crete call it *tsikoudia*. According to the tradition, the first production of tsipouro was the work of some Greek Orthodox monks during the 14th century. Tsipouro is used either as a refreshment or as a hot beverage and as with all alcoholic beverages in Greece, drinking always seem to coincide with various social gatherings, and its consumption has a festive quality.

## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #4 Homecooked Meals

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# 4

# GREEK

1. What are the five most popular home cooked meals in Greece?
2. 1. τυρόπιτα.
3. 2. παστίσιο.
4. 3. σπανακόπιτα.
5. 4. μουσακάς.
6. 5. φασολάδα.

# ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most popular home cooked meals in Greece?
2. 1. tirópita.
3. 2. pastítsio.
4. 3. spanakópita.
5. 4. musakás.
6. 5. fasoláda.

# ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular home cooked meals in Greece?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. Cheese pie.
3. 2. Greek style lasagna.
4. 3. Spinach pie.
5. 4. Mousaka.
6. 5. Bean soup.

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
παστίτσιο	pastítsio	Greek style lasagna	noun	neuter
τυρόπιτα	tirópita	cheese pie	noun	feminine
σπανακόπιτα	spanakópita	spinach pie	noun	feminine
φασολάδα	fasoláda	bean soup	noun	feminine
μουσακάς	moysakás	mousaka	noun	masculine

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Στο σουπερμάρκετ μπορεί να βρει κανείς και κατεψυγμένο παστίτσιο.</b>  <i>Sto supermárket borí na vri kanís ke katepsigméno pastítsio.</i></p> <p>"In the supermarket, you can find even frozen pastitsio."</p>	<p><b>Ναι, τρελαίνομαι για παστίτσιο.</b>  <i>Ne, trelénome ya pastítsio.</i></p> <p>"Yes, I love pastitsio."</p>
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<p><b>Τα πρωινά συνήθως τρώω μια τυρόπιτα πριν πάω στη δουλειά.</b>  <i>Ta proiná siníthos tróo mia tirópita prin páo sti duliá.</i></p> <p>"In the mornings I usually eat a cheese pie before going to work."</p>	<p><b>Η μάνα μου θα φτιάξει σπανακόπιτα για το πάρτυ γενεθλίων μου.</b>  <i>I mána mu tha ftiáxi spanakópita ya to párti genethlíon mu.</i></p> <p>"My mom will make spinach pie for my birthday party."</p>
<p><b>Η φασολάδα μερικές φορές ονομάζεται το «εθνικό φαγητό» των Ελλήνων.</b>  <i>I fasoláda merikés forés onomázete to "ethnikó fagitó" ton Elínon.</i></p> <p>"Fasolada is sometimes called the "national dish" of the Greeks."</p>	<p><b>Ο μουσακάς είναι πολύ δημοφιλής στους τουρίστες.</b>  <i>O musakás íne polí dimofilís stus turístes.</i></p> <p>"Mousaka is very popular among tourists."</p>
<p><b>Φάγαμε μουσακά στην επιστροφή.</b>  <i>Fágame mousaká stin epistrofí.</i></p> <p>"We ate mousaka on our way back."</p>	

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Cheese pie

*Tyropita* is a type of savoury pie made either with layers of buttered phyllo or puff pastry dough and filled with a cheese and egg mixture. It is usually eaten mid-morning by Greeks, who are not accustomed to having breakfast at home. Specifically, shortly before going to work.

*Tyropita* is a popular snack food sold in bakeries and comes in different types, shapes and sizes. The smaller ones are called *tyropitakia* which is a diminutive of the word *tyropita* and are sold by the kilo.

### 2. Greek style lasagna

*Pastitsio* is a version of the Italian dish "pasticcio di pasta," also known as "lasagne al forno."

The typical Greek version has a bottom layer of bucatini or other tubular pasta, with cheese and egg as a binder; a middle layer of ground beef, veal or lamb with tomato and cinnamon, nutmeg or allspice; another layer of pasta; and a top layer of sauce, varying from an egg-based custard to a flour-based Béchamel sometimes containing cheese. Grated cheese is often sprinkled on top. Pastitsio is a common dish, and is often served as a main course.

### 3. Spinach pie

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*Spanakopita* is a savoury pie similar to *tiropita* made with phyllo or puff pastry, with a filling of chopped spinach, feta cheese, onions or scallions, egg, and seasoning. It is cooked either in a large pan from which individual servings are cut, or as small individual triangular servings called *spanakopitakia*. Many rustic recipes call for a crust made of flour and water to form a crunchier, calzone-like exterior in place of the flaky phyllo dough. It very nutritious and can be eaten as an appetizer, light lunch or even as a snack in Greece.

### 4. Mousaka

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*Mousaka* is an eggplant based dish of the Balkans, Eastern Mediterranean, and the Middle East. But the best known variation is the Greek one. It consists of layers of potatoes; ground beef with onion, garlic, chopped tomatoes, herbs, and spices; sautéed aubergine slices and a top layer of béchamel sauce or egg custard. The composed dish is baked until the top layer is browned. *Mousaka* is served lukewarm.

### 5. Bean soup

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*Fasolada* is a very nutritious soup, made with dry white beans, olive oil, carrots, onions and parsley or celery. Recipes vary considerably, but although they are all easy to make, it takes a long time for the beans to soften, so they need to be soaked in water the night before. Unlike some other popular bean soups of Italy, Spain and Brazil, *fasolada* does not contain any meat.

## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #5 Sweets and Desserts

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# 5

## GREEK

1. What are the five most popular sweets and desserts in Greece?
2. 1. γλυκό του κουταλιού.
3. 2. παστέλι.
4. 3. μαντολάτο.
5. 4. κουραμπιέδες.
6. 5. μελομακάρονα.

## ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most popular sweets and desserts in Greece?
2. 1. glikó tu kutaliú.
3. 2. pastéli.
4. 3. mandoláto.
5. 4. kurabiédes.
6. 5. melomakárona.

## ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular sweets and desserts in Greece?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. Spoon sweet
3. 2. Sesame seed candy
4. 3. Nougat
5. 4. Greek almond biscuits
6. 5. Greek honey biscuits

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
γλυκό του κουταλιού	glikó tu kutaliú	spoon sweet	noun	neuter
παστέλι	pastéli	sesame seed candy	noun	neuter
μαντολάτο	mandoláto	nougat	noun	neuter
κουραμπιέδες	kurambiédes	Greek almond biscuits	noun	masculine
μελομακάρονα	melomakárona	Greek honey biscuits	noun	neuter

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Η κυρά Σούλα φτιάχνει το καλύτερο σπιτικό γλυκό του κουταλιού από κεράσι.</b>  <i>I kirá Súla ftiáchni to kalítero spitikó glikó tu kutaliú apó kerási.</i></p> <p>"Mrs Soula makes the best homemade cherry spoon sweet."</p>	<p><b>Το παστέλι είναι ένα νόστιμο και υγιεινό σνακ για το σχολείο.</b>  <i>To pastéli íne éna nóstimo ke igiinó snak ya to sholío.</i></p> <p>"Pasteli is a tasty and healthy snack for school."</p>
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**Το όνομα «μαντολάτο» προέρχεται από την ιταλική λέξη «mandorla», που σημαίνει αμύγδαλο.**

*To ónoma "mandoláto" proérhete apó tin italikí léxi "mandorla", pu siméni amígdalo.*

"The name "mandolato" comes from the italian word "mandorla", which means almond."

**Τα Χριστούγεννα πάντα αγοράζω κουραμπιέδες για τους συνάδελφους στο γραφείο.**

*Ta Hristúyena pánda agorázo kurambiédes ya tus sinádefus sto grafío.*

"On Christmas I always buy Greek almond biscuits for the colleagues in the office."

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**Θέλει χρόνο για να φτιάξεις μελομακάρονα, για αυτό εγώ τα αγοράζω έτοιμα από τον φούρνο.**

*Théli hróno ya na ftiáxis melomakárona, ya aftó egó ta agorázo étima apó ton fúrno.*

"It takes time to make Greek honey biscuits, that's why I buy them ready from the bakery."

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## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Spoon sweet

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Spoon sweets are sweet preserves, served in a spoon on a small china or crystal dish, with coffee or tea and cold water, as a gesture of hospitality in Greece. They can be made from almost any fruit, though there are also spoon sweets produced without fruits, such as the white, thick and intensely aromatic "vanília," which is made from mastic, a resin from the island of Chios. This one is served on a tablespoon dropped into a tall glass of ice-cold water and is then called "βανίλια υποβρύχιο," which means "vanilla submarine." Although usually homemade, nowadays they can be found in supermarkets and can be also used as ice cream or yogurt topping.

### 2. Sesame seed candy

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In Greece, sesame seed candy is called *pasteli* and it is a confection of sesame seeds or other nuts with sugar or honey, pressed into a flat bar. The texture may vary from chewy to crisp. Though the modern name *pasteli* is of Italian origin, a very similar confection is documented in ancient Greek cuisine.



### 3. Nougat

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*Mandolato* is a variety of traditional confectioneries called nougat in English, which are made with sugar and/or honey, roasted nuts such as almonds, walnuts, pistachios, and hazelnuts, whipped egg whites, and sometimes chopped candied fruit. This is often sandwiched between two thin sheets of wafer. The consistency of *mandolato* can range from soft and chewy to hard and crunchy depending on its composition.

### 4. Greek almond biscuits

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*Kourambiedes* is a shortbread-type biscuit usually made with ground almonds. Metaxa brandy, vanilla, mastiha resin or rose water are also used for flavoring. They come in a crescent or ball shape and after baking, when they cool down, are rolled in icing sugar. *Kourabiedes* are especially popular around Christmas time or baptisms. In some regions of Greece, they are adorned with a single whole spice clove embedded in each biscuit.

### 5. Greek honey biscuits

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*Melomakarona* are egg-shaped soft sticky cookies. Along with the *kourambiedes*, it is traditionally prepared during the Christmas season. Typical ingredients of the *melomakarono* are flour or semolina, honey, orange zest, cognac, cinnamon and olive oil. During rolling they are often filled with ground walnuts. After baking they are immersed for a while in hot syrup made of honey and sugar dissolved in water. Finally, they are decorated with ground, as well as bigger, pieces of walnut. Dark chocolate-covered *melomakarona* are also a more recent variation of the traditional recipe.

LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #6 Fruits

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CONTENTS

- 2 Greek
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Cultural Insight

# 6

## GREEK

1. What are the five most common fruits in Greece?
2. 1. σταφύλι.
3. 2. καρπούζι.
4. 3. πεπόνι.
5. 4. σύκο.
6. 5. ρόδι.

## ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most common fruits in Greece?
2. 1. stafili.
3. 2. karpúzi.
4. 3. pepóni.
5. 4. síko.
6. 5. ródi

## ENGLISH

1. What are the five most common fruits in Greece?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. Grape.
3. 2. Watermelon.
4. 3. Melon.
5. 4. Fig.
6. 5. Pomegranate.

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
πεπόνι	pepóni	melon	noun	neutral
σύκο	síko	fig	noun	neutral
ρόδι	ródi	pomegranate	noun	neuter
καρπούζι	karpóuzi	watermelon	noun	neutral
σταφύλι	stafýli	grape	noun	neutral

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Μου αρέσει να τρώω πεπόνι στην παραλία.</b>  <i>Mu arési na tróo pepóni stin paralía.</i></p> <p>"I like to eat melon at the beach."</p>	<p><b>Η συκιά μας έκανε πολλά σύκα αυτό το καλοκαίρι.</b>  <i>I sikiá mas ékane polá síka aftó to kalokéri.</i></p> <p>"Our fig tree produced many figs this summer."</p>
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<p><b>Την Πρωτοχρονιά «σπάσαμε» το ρόδι στην αυλή.</b>  <i>Tin Protohroniá "spásame" to ródi stin avlí.</i></p> <p>"On New Year's Day we "broke" the pomegranate in the yard."</p>	<p><b>Στην Ελλάδα το καρπούζι το τρώμε το καλοκαίρι</b>  <i>Stin Eláda to karpúzi to tróme to kalokéri.</i></p> <p>"In Greece we eat watermelon during the summer."</p>
<p><b>Οι νυχτερίδες κρέμονται από ένα κλαδί τρώγοντας καρπούζι.</b>  <i>Oi nychterídes krémontai apó éna kladí trógontas karpóuzi.</i></p> <p>"The bats are hanging from a branch eating watermelon."</p>	<p><b>Η Σαντορίνη βγάζει πολύ γλυκά σταφύλια.</b>  <i>I Sandoríni vgázi polí gliká stafíli.</i></p> <p>"Santorini produces very sweet grapes."</p>
<p><b>Το ποντίκι τρώει μία ρώγα από σταφύλι.</b>  <i>To pontíki tróei mía róga apó stafýli.</i></p> <p>"The mouse is eating a grape."</p>	

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Grape

Grapes are very popular fruits in Greece and are produced massively. In fact Greece is one of the oldest wine-producing regions in the world. The earliest evidence dates 6,500 years ago! The Greek grapes are in season during autumn. They are rich in juice and have a very thin skin comparing to the grapes of southern Europe. They are used to make a great variety of raisins, wines and spirits. Some of the most popular grapes are, Assyrtiko, Athyri, Savatiano, and Moschofilero. One of the most important wine regions of Greece is Nemea in the Peloponnese.

### 2. Watermelon

Watermelons are extremely popular during the summer months in Greece as it is one of the largest producers of watermelons in Europe. It is often served in restaurants as a dessert alternative. Once cut or sliced, it is often served in a bowl of ice to keep it cool and refreshing. Watermelon and feta cheese can also be combined in delicious summer salads.

### 3. Melon

---

In Greece melon is a very popular summer fruit mainly used inside fruit salads or eaten by itself. The largest areas where melons are produced, are the Peloponnese and the island of Crete. Just like with watermelons, eating feta cheese with melon is very popular.

### 4. Fig

---

Fig is one of the oldest cultivated fruits in Greece, which is today one of the largest producers in Europe. Greek people often have a fig tree inside their garden or close by their homes. The ancient Greeks believed that figs, brought pleasant dreams and should be eaten before dinner. Today they are consumed fresh, dried or as ingredient in salads and desserts. They are also used to make fruit preserves and liqueurs.

### 5. Pomegranate

---

The pomegranate is native to the Mediterranean, where it has been cultivated widely for several millennia. In Greece it is a symbol of abundance, fertility and good luck. When one buys a new home, it is usual for a house guest to bring a pomegranate decoration, made of glass or silver, as a first gift. These are sold in most stores with home goods. Pomegranates are also prominent at Greek weddings and funerals. The custom for New Year's is to smash one right outside the house for good luck. They are also used in many recipes, liqueurs, fruit confectioneries, ice cream toppings or mixed with yogurt.

## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #7 Vegetables

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- 2 Greek
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Cultural Insight

# 7

# GREEK

1. What are the five most common vegetables in Greece?
2. 1. μελιτζάνα.
3. 2. λάχανο.
4. 3. ντομάτα.
5. 4. κολοκυθάκι.
6. 5. ραδίκι.

# ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most common vegetables in Greece?
2. 1. melijána.
3. 2. láchano.
4. 3. domáta.
5. 4. kolokitháki.
6. 5. radíki.

# ENGLISH

1. What are the five most common vegetables in Greece?

CONT'D OVER



2. 1. Eggplant.
3. 2. Cabbage.
4. 3. Tomato.
5. 4. Zucchini.
6. 5. Dandelion.

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
λάχανο	láhano	cabbage	noun	neutral
μελιτζάνα	melijána	eggplant	noun	feminine
ντομάτα	domáta	tomato	noun	feminine
ραδίκι	radíki	dandelion	noun	neutral
κολοκυθάκι	kolokitháki	zucchini	noun	neuter

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

**Χρησιμοποιούμε ρύζι και φύλλα από λάχανο για να φτιάξουμε λαχανοντολμάδες.**

*Hrisimopiúme rízi kai fila apó láhano ya na ftiáksume lahanodolmásdes.*

"We use rice and cabbage leaves to make stuffed cabbage bites."

**Ο μουσακάς έχει μελιτζάνα μέσα.**

*O musakás éhi melijána méssa.*

"Mousaka has eggplant inside."

<p><b>Οι πιπεριές, το μπρόκολο, τα κολοκύθια, τα πράσα, τα καρότα, οι μελιτζάνες και το μαρούλι είναι όλα λαχανικά.</b></p> <p><i>I piperiés, to brókolo, ta kolokíthia, ta prása, ta karóta, i melijánes ke to marúli íne óla lahaniká.</i></p> <p>"Peppers, broccoli, zucchini, leeks, carrots, eggplants, and lettuce are all vegetables."</p>	<p><b>Η ντομάτα είναι το κύριο συστατικό της χωριάτικης σαλάτας.</b></p> <p><i>I domáta íne to kírio sistatikó tis elinikís horiátikis salátas.</i></p> <p>"Tomato is the main ingredient of the Greek salad."</p>
<p><b>Έκοψα μια ντομάτα.</b></p> <p><i>Ekopsa mia domáta.</i></p> <p>"I sliced a tomato."</p>	<p><b>Για να έχει γίνει τόσο υπερμεγέθης αυτή η ντομάτα σίγουρα χρησιμοποίησαν χημικό λίπασμα.</b></p> <p><i>Ya na éhi yíni τόσο ipermeyéthis aftí i domáta sígura hrisimopíisan himikó lípasma.</i></p> <p>"For this tomato to have become that oversized, they definitely used chemical fertilizer."</p>
<p><b>Τα ραδίκια τα μαζεύουν συνήθως στα βουνά.</b></p> <p><i>Ta radíkia ta mazévun siníthos sta vuná.</i></p> <p>"The dandelions are usually picked up in the mountains."</p>	<p><b>Σήμερα θα φάμε κολοκυθάκι τηγανητό.</b></p> <p><i>Símera tha fáme kolokitháki tiganitó.</i></p> <p>"Today we will eat fried zucchini."</p>

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Eggplant

Although eggplant originates in Asia, it is very popular in the mediterranean diet. There are many varieties but in Greece they are usually dark purple, big and pear-shaped. It is the main ingredient of the dish mousaka and of other greek dishes such as *melitzanosalata* (eggplant dip) and *papoutsakia* (baked eggplant) and so on. It can be roasted, fried, boiled, used in salads or even pickled.

### 2.

## Cabbage

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In Greece, green cabbage is more popular than the red one and it is used either raw in salads or cooked in a variety of ways. One popular dish using cabbage is *lahanodolmades*. It is cabbage rolls stuffed with rice, minced meat and herbs. The word for cabbages is also used in the expression *sigta ta lahana* which doesn't make any sense when translated, but in Greek it means "no big deal!"

## 3. Tomato

---

Tomatoes in Greece are stuffed, stewed, fried, marinated, pickled, and prepared in almost every imaginable way. Many Greek cooks make their own tomato pastes from scratch. A very healthy snack is homemade tomato paste spread on fresh rustic bread, dressed with olive oil and seasoned with oregano. It is called "Dakos" and it is very popular in Crete.

## 4. Zucchini

---

In Greece, zucchinis are usually fried or boiled. It is served as an appetizer or as a main dish. They can also be stuffed with minced meat, rice and herbs and be served with an egg-lemon sauce called *avgolemono*. Another popular recipe is zucchini patties, or as we say in Greece, *kolokythokeftedes*.

## 5. Dandelion

---

*Radiki*, known as dandelion in English, is a bitter weed that grows in a star form, low on the ground, near rocks or where the soil is not very rich. The smaller the leaves are, the more bitter the weed is. Dandelions are often blanched to remove bitterness. They are usually used in a common side dish of greens called *horta* which literally means "weeds." Eighty different kinds of greens could be used for *horta*. They are eaten cold, seasoned with olive oil and lemon.

## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #8 Food souvenirs

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- 2 Greek
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
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- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Cultural Insight

# 8

## GREEK

1. What are the five most popular examples of pop or traditional culture in Greece?
2. 1. φυστίκι Αιγίνης
3. 2. σύγκλινο Μάνης
4. 3. φέτα
5. 4. γραβιέρα Κρήτης
6. 5. χαλβάς Δραπετσώνας

## ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most popular examples of pop or traditional culture in Greece?
2. 1. fistíki Egínis
3. 2. sínglino Mánis
4. 3. féta
5. 4. graviéra Kritis
6. 5. halvás Drapetsónas

## ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular examples of pop or traditional culture in Greece?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. Aegina pistachio
3. 2. syglino from Mani
4. 3. feta cheese
5. 4. Cretan graviera cheese
6. 5. halva from Drapetsona

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
χαλβάς Δραπετσώνας	halvás Drapetsónas	halva from Drapetsona		masculine
σύγκλινο Μάνης	sínglino Mánis	syglino from Mani	noun	neuter
φιστίκι Αιγίνης	fistíki Eyínis	Aegina pistachio	noun	neuter
φέτα	féta	feta cheese	noun	feminine
γραβιέρα Κρήτης	graviéra Kritis	Cretan graviera cheese	noun	feminine

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Κάθε φορά που περνάω από τη Δραπετσώνα, αγοράζω τον διάσημο χαλβά.</b></p> <p><i>Káthe forá pu pernáo apó ti Drapetsóna, agorázo ton diásimo halvá.</i></p> <p>"Everytime I through Drapetsona, I buy the famous halva."</p>	<p><b>Το σύγκλινο Μάνης δίνει μια καταπληκτική γεύση στη φασολάδα.</b></p> <p><i>To sínglino Mánis dínι mia katapliktkí yéfsi sti fasoláda.</i></p> <p>"Syglino from Mani gives a great flavor to the bean soup."</p>
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**Το φυστίκι Αιγίνης είναι γνωστό παγκοσμίως για την ποιότητά του.**

*To fistíki Eyínis íne gnostó pangosmíos ya tin piótitá tu.*

"The Aegina pistachio is known worldwide for its quality."

**Ο παππούς μου στο χωριό παρασκευάζει τη δική του φέτα.**

*O papús mu sto horió paraskevázi ti dikí tu féta.*

"My grandfather at the village produces his own feta cheese."

---

**Η γραβιέρα Κρήτης είναι προϊόν προστατευόμενης ονομασίας προέλευσης.**

*I graviéra Kritis íne proión prostatevómenis onomasías proélefsis.*

"Graviera is a product with protected designation of origin."

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## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Aegina pistachio

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Pistachio trees have been cultivated in Aegina since 1860 and later they spread to other parts of Attica and Greece. However, the ideal climate of the island and the unique soil composition help in producing pistachio of exceptional flavour and aroma, distinguishing it from the rest, earning a well-deserved recognition as the finest pistachio in the world. Throughout Aegina, the dominant variety is known by the name *Aeginis*, or *koilarati* meaning "round," a variety considered high-yielding and of a quality lacking in foreign varieties.

### 2. Syglino from Mani (summer)

---

*Syglino* from the village of Mani is a type of smoked pork meat, treated in a very special and traditional way. In the olden days in the village of Mani, before Christmas, the people used to slaughter the pigs and cure the pork meat in order to consume it during the long winter. After curing with salt, they would smoke it with wood and aromatic plants from the area in fireplaces or out in the yards. After that the meat would be boiled in wine, oranges and spices and it would be preserved for the whole year in olive oil or lard inside big pitchers made of clay. The *syglino* from Mani has an excellent and unique taste. It can be eaten as it is, cold or hot, as a side dish with wine or ouzo drinking, in omelettes, bean soups and pasta sauces.

### 3. Feta cheese.

---

Feta cheese is a brined curd cheese traditionally made in Greece. It is a crumbly aged cheese, commonly produced in blocks, with a slightly grainy texture. It is used as a table cheese, as well as in salads, pastries, in the popular phyllo-based dishes of *spanakopita*, "spinach pie" and *tyropita*, "cheese pie," or it can also be served with some olive oil or olives, sprinkled with oregano. It can also be served cooked or grilled, as part of a sandwich, in omelettes, or as a salty alternative to other cheeses in a variety of dishes. Since 2002, feta has been a protected designation of origin product in the European Union.

#### 4. Cretan graviera cheese

---

Graviera cheese is a type of hard, yellow cheese. It is the most popular cheese in Greece after feta cheese. There are different types of graviera produced in Greece, but the most popular is the one from the island of Crete. It is produced using sheep milk and it takes over five months to mature. Its final shape is like a wheel and the marks of the cloth used to drain the cheese are visible on its surface. It has a sweetish taste and a pleasant roasted smell.

#### 5. Halva from Drapetsona

---

Halva is a type of sweet made of sugar and sesame seeds, popular in Greece as well as in Middle East. As it does not contain any animal fat or protein, it is consumed typically during the Lent period. It is especially nutritious, delicious and beneficial for the body. It can be enjoyed both as a snack and as a dessert. The best halva in Greece is produced by the famous Kosmidi-Gavrili Halva Makers in Drapetsona. They still use their old recipe from Asia Minor and outside their store, sometimes the queue is very long!



LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #9 Animals

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- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
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# 9

# GREEK

1. What are the five most common animals in Greece?
2. 1. τζιτζίκι.
3. 2. πελεκάνος.
4. 3. γαϊδούρι.
5. 4. κουκουβάγια.
6. 5. χελώνα.

# ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most common animals in Greece?
2. 1. jiziki.
3. 2. pelekános.
4. 3. gaidúri.
5. 4. kukuváya.
6. 5. helóna.

# ENGLISH

1. What are the five most common animals in Greece?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. Cicada
3. 2. Pelican
4. 3. Donkey
5. 4. Owl
6. 5. Tortoise

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
τζιτζίκι	jijiki	cicada	noun	neuter
πελεκάνος	pelekános	pelican	noun	masculine
γαϊδούρι	gaidúri	donkey	noun	neuter
κουκουβάγια	kukunáya	owl	noun	feminine
χελώνα	helóna	tortoise	noun	feminine

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

**Τα καλοκαιρινά απογεύματα ο ήχος των τζιτζικιών με νανουρίζει.**

*Ta kalokeriná apoyévmata o íhos ton jijikión me nanurízi.*

"On summer afternoons, the sound of the cicadas lulls me."

**Οι τουρίστες της Μυκόνου θέλουν πάντοτε να φωτογραφηθούν με τον Πέτρο τον πελεκάνο.**

*I turístes tis Mikónu thélun pándote na fotografithún me ton Pétro ton pelekáno.*

"The tourists of Mykonos always want to take a picture with Petros the pelican."

<p><b>Τα γαϊδούρια χρησιμοποιούνται ακόμα σε πολλά μέρη της Ελλάδας ως μέσο μετακίνησης.</b>  <i>Ta gaidúria hrisimopiúnde akóma se polá méritis Eládas os méso metakínisis.</i></p> <p>"Donkeys are still being used in many parts of Greece as a transportation means."</p>	<p><b>Στη Σαντορίνη τα γαϊδούρια μεταφέρουν τουρίστες από το λιμάνι στην πόλη των Φηρών.</b>  <i>Sti Santoríni ta gaidúria metaférun turístes apó to limáni stin póli ton Firón.</i></p> <p>"In Santorini, the donkeys transfer tourists from the port to the city of Fira."</p>
<p><b>Η κουκουβάγια είναι το σύμβολο της θεάς Αθηνάς.</b>  <i>I kukuváya íne to símvolο tis theás Athinás.</i></p> <p>"The owl is the symbol of the goddess Athena."</p>	<p><b>Όταν ήμουν μικρή έβλεπα πολλές χελώνες στο πάρκο της γειτονιάς μου.</b>  <i>Ótan ímun mikrí évlepa polés helónes sto párko tis yitoniás mu.</i></p> <p>"When I was little I used to see many tortoises in my neighborhood's park."</p>

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Cicada

In Greece we find the cicadas on trees and plants. Even though it is a quite large insect, it can hardly be distinguished because of its color which is similar to the trees'. Everyone can hear the cicadas during the summer and they get particularly loud on the hottest days from midday to late afternoon.

### 2. Pelican

Pelicans are large water birds. The Great White and Dalmatian pelican are found in Greece. The most famous Greek Pelican was "Petros" who was the official mascot of the island of Mykonos from 1958 on and a great tourist attraction. He died in 1985, but other pelicans took his name and still live on the island.

### 3. Donkey

Greek donkeys tend to be smaller in size than the donkeys we see in other parts of the world.

In Greece they are mainly used to provide "transportation" services to tourists on narrow, steep paths and roads in islands and villages. One very popular place to ride on donkeys is in the island of Santorini, where most towns are situated at an altitude of 400-600 meters.

#### 4. Owl

---

In ancient Greece, owls were often seen as a symbol of good fortune. The idea of the "wise old owl" may have come from Greek mythology and the association of the Greek goddess of wisdom, Athena, with her messenger, a Little Owl (*Athene noctua*). The image of the bird appears also on many ancient Athenian coins.

#### 5. Tortoise

---

The spur-thighed tortoise or Greek tortoise can vary in size, color, and care requirements. They are found in a variety of environments, from seashore dunes to rocky mountain steppes, but usually in very hot, dry and arid regions with high summer temperatures. They inhabit areas of sparse vegetation where they look for grass and plants. Their image appears also on many ancient coins from the island of Aegina.

## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #10 Plants

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- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Cultural Insight

# 10

## GREEK

1. What are the five most popular plants in Greece?
2. 1. ελιά.
3. 2. αμπέλι.
4. 3. κυπαρίσσι.
5. 4. πεύκο.
6. 5. συκιά.

## ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most popular plants in Greece?
2. 1. elía.
3. 2. abéli.
4. 3. kīparísi.
5. 4. péfko.
6. 5. sikiá.

## ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular plants in Greece?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. Olive tree
3. 2. Vine tree
4. 3. Cypress tree
5. 4. Pine tree
6. 5. Fig tree

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
αμπέλι	ambéli	vine tree	noun	neuter
ελιά	eliá	olive tree	noun	feminine
κυπαρίσσι	kiparísi	cypress tree	noun	neuter
πεύκο	péfko	pine tree	noun	neutral
συκιά	sikiá	fig tree	noun	feminine

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Το φθινόπωρο είναι η ώρα που μαζεύουμε τα σταφύλια από τα αμπέλια.</b>  <i>To fthinópωro íne i óra pu mazévume ta stafllia apó ta ambéλια.</i></p> <p>"Autumn is the time that we harvest the grapes from the vine trees."</p>	<p><b>Η ελιά Καλαμών είναι ίσως η καλύτερη ποικιλία.</b>  <i>I eliá Kalamón íne ísos i kalíteri pikilía.</i></p> <p>"The Kalamata olive is perhaps the best variety."</p>
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**«Ψηλός σαν κυπαρίσσι» σημαίνει ότι κάποιος είναι πολύ ψηλός.**

*"Psilós san kiparísi" siméni pos kápios íne polí psilós.*

"'Tall as a cypress tree' means that someone is very tall."

**Τα ελληνικά βουνά είναι γεμάτα πεύκα.**

*Ta eliniká vuná íne gemáta péfka.*

"The Greek mountains are full of pine trees."

---

**Η συκιά ήταν το σημαντικότερο οπωροφόρο δέντρο των αρχαίων Ελλήνων.**

*I sikiá ítan to simantikótero oporofóro déndro ton arhéon Elínon.*

"The fig tree was the most important fruit tree of the ancient Greeks."

---

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Olive tree

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Olive trees are the protagonists of Greek nature and history. Olive oil and olives are a basic part of the Greek diet. Greece is full of olive groves and many plantations we see today are from the 16th century. Its systematic cultivation started in the pre-historic times during the Stone and Bronze Age. The trees can live up to 1500 years, and it takes about 50 years to bear fruit from the time it's planted. In ancient Greek mythology, it is connected with the goddess Athena and the city of Athens.

### 2. Vine tree

---

The vine tree or grapevine is more of a shrub-plant than a tree. It is one of the oldest cultivated plants in the world. Wine making was a regular part of ancient Greek life as it is now. In Greek mythology, Dionysus was the god of the grape harvest, winemaking, and wine.

### 3. Cypress tree

---

The cypress tree is tall and narrow in appearance. Its sturdy branches are a haven for birds. According to mythology, the god Apollo offered to a boy named Cyparissus a deer. One day the boy accidentally killed the deer. He felt great sadness and asked Apollo to let his tears run forever. The god turned him then into a tree that took the boy's name and that is the reason

why today cypresses are often found near graveyards.

#### **4. Pine tree**

---

Pine trees are found almost everywhere around Greece, in mountains or even very close to the sea. When pine trees are located near a beach, people prefer to sit under their shade to protect themselves from the summer sun instead of using a beach umbrella and sitting in the hot sand. Pine trees produce a type of resin that is used in the making of retsina, a type of white wine. This use of the pine tree resin has its roots in antiquity.

#### **5. Fig tree**

---

This is a very common tree in Greece. It grows wild on rocky ground but is often found close to people's homes because Greeks love eating figs in the summer. The tree bears fruits all year round, but they are only tasty between August and September.

## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #11 Geographical features

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- 2 Greek
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Cultural Insight

# 11

## GREEK

1. What are the five most well-known Greek Geographical features?
2. 1. ο Αλιάκμονας ποταμός
3. 2. τα Σπήλαια Διρού
4. 3. η Λιμνοθάλασσα του Μεσολογίου
5. 4. το Φαράγγι του Βίκου
6. 5. το ηφαίστειο της Σαντορίνης

## ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most well-known Greek Geographical features?
2. 1. ο Aliákmonas potamós
3. 2. ta Spílea Dirú
4. 3. i Limnothálasa tu Mesolongíu
5. 4. to Faráangi tu Víku
6. 5. to iféstio tis Sandorínis

## ENGLISH

1. What are the five most well-known Greek Geographical features?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. Haliácmón river
3. 2. the Dirós Caves
4. 3. the Mesolóngi Lagoon
5. 4. Vikos Gorge
6. 5. Santoríni's volcano

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
ο Αλιάκμονας ποταμός	ο Aliákmonas potamós	Haliácmón river	noun	masculine
τα Σπήλαια Διρού	ta Spílea Dirú	the Dirós Caves	noun	neuter
η Λιμνοθάλασσα του Μεσολογγίου	ι Limnothálasa tu Mesolongíu	the Mesolóngi Lagoon	noun	feminine
το Φαράγγι του Βίκου	to Faráangi tu Víku	Vikos Gorge	noun	neuter
το ηφαίστειο της Σαντορίνης	to iféstio tis Sandorínis	Santoríni's volcano	noun	neuter

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Στον Αλιάκμονα βρίσκονται 33 είδη ψαριών.</b>  <i>Ston Aliákmona vrískonde 33 (triánda tría) ídi psarión.</i></p> <p>"Thirty-three species of fish are found in the Haliacmon."</p>	<p><b>Το νερό μέσα στα Σπήλαια του Διρού είναι πολύ κρύο.</b>  <i>To neró méssa sta Spílea tu Dirú íne polí krío.</i></p> <p>"The water inside the Dirós Caves is very cold."</p>
<p><b>Στη Λιμνοθάλασσα του Μεσολογγίου παράγεται το μεγαλύτερο μέρος του ελληνικού αλατιού.</b>  <i>Sti Limnothálassa tu Mesolongíu paráyete to megalítero méros tu elinikú alatiú.</i></p> <p>"Most Greek salt is produced at the Mesolóngi Lagoon."</p>	<p><b>Το φαράγγι του Βίκου έχει μήκος 20 χιλιομέτρων.</b>  <i>To faráangi tu Víku éhi mίκos íkosi hiliométron.</i></p> <p>"The Víkos Gorge has a length of 20 kilometers."</p>

**Οι βράχοι του ηφαιστείου της Σαντορίνης είναι μαύροι λόγω της λάβας.**

*Oi vráhi tu ifestíu tis Sandorínis íne mávri lógo tis lávas.*

"The rocks of Santorini's volcano are black because of the lava."

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Haliacmon river

Haliacmon river is the longest river in Greece up to 297 kilometres long, which runs through Greek territory along its whole length. Rivers in ancient Greece were worshiped as individual deities because people believed that river landscapes were beautiful beyond human standards, so therefore belonged to the world of the gods.

### 2. The Diros

The Diros Caves are located approximately 12 miles south of Areopolis and they are part of an underground river. About 5,000 meters have been exposed and are accessible by small boats through narrow passages. Archaeological research has shown that the caves have served as places of worship in Paleolithic and Neolithic times as they were believed to be the entrance to the underworld.

### 3. The Mesolongi

The Mesolongi Lagoon is an important wetland of Southern Europe. It's a biotope, with rare flora and fauna, centre of fish and salt production and a place of rare natural beauty. The shallow lagoon can only be crossed with special boats. Fishermen used to live in cabins built on stilts in the lagoon. Some of these houses still remain today. There are small hidden islands too that played an important role during the revolution of 1821.

### 4. Vikos

The Vikos Gorge, found in Zagori region, is listed as the deepest gorge in the world by the Guinness Book of Records, with a depth reaching 1600m. The gorge collects the waters from small rivers and leads them into the Voidomatis River. It is also a site of major scientific interest, because of its almost virgin condition and varied ecosystems that include endangered species.

### 5. Santorini's

Santorini's volcano forms a large, deep caldera in the most active part of the South Aegean Volcanic Arc, where the African tectonic plate submerges under the Eurasian one. The island today is essentially what remains after an enormous volcanic explosion that destroyed the earliest settlements at Akrotiri, communities on nearby islands and the Minoan settlements in the coasts of Crete.

## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #12 Cities

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- 4 Cultural Insight

# 12



## GREEK

1. What are the five most well-known Greek Cities?
2. 1. Αθήνα
3. 2. Πειραιάς
4. 3. Θεσσαλονίκη
5. 4. Ηράκλειο
6. 5. Πάτρα

## ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most well-known Greek Cities?
2. 1. Athína
3. 2. Pireás
4. 3. Thesaloníki
5. 4. Iráklío
6. 5. Pátra

## ENGLISH

1. What are the five most well-known Greek Cities?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. Athens
3. 2. Piraeus
4. 3. Thessaloníki
5. 4. Heráklion
6. 5. Pátras

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
Πειραιάς	Pireás	Piraeus	noun	masculine
Αθήνα	Athina	Athens	noun	feminine
Θεσσαλονίκη	Thessaloniki	Thessaloníki	noun	feminine
Πάτρα	Patra	Patras	noun	feminine
Ηράκλειο	Heraklion	Heráklion	noun	neuter

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

**Ο Πειραιάς είναι πολύ κοντά από το κέντρο της Αθήνας.**

*O Pireás íne polí kondá apó to kéndro tis Athínas.*

"Piraeus is very close to the center of Athens."

**Το κέντρο της Αθήνας απέχει περίπου 45 λεπτά από το αεροδρόμιο.**

*To kéndro tis Athínas apéhi περίπου 45 leptá apó to aerodrómio.*

"The center of Athens is about 45 minutes from the airport."

<p><b>Θα είμαι στην Αθήνα τέσσερις μέρες.</b> <i>Tha eimai stin Athina tésseris méres.</i></p> <p>"I'll stay in Athens for four days."</p>	<p><b>Καλωσορίσατε στην Αθήνα.</b> <i>Kalosorisate stin Athina.</i></p> <p>"Welcome to Athens."</p>
<p><b>Τα Λαδάδικα είναι μια ιστορική γειτονιά της Θεσσαλονίκης.</b> <i>Ta Ladádika íne mia istorikí yitoniá tis Thesaloníkis.</i></p> <p>"Ladádika is a historic district of Thessaloníki."</p>	<p><b>Το Καρναβάλι της Πάτρας έχει περισσότερα από 160 χρόνια ιστορίας.</b> <i>To Karnaváli tis Pátras éhi perisótera apó 160 (ekatón exínda) hrónia istorías.</i></p> <p>"The Carnival of Pátras has a history spanning more than 160 years."</p>
<p><b>Μένω στην Πάτρα</b> <i>Meno stin Patra</i></p> <p>"I live in Patras."</p>	<p><b>Στο Ηράκλειο η τοπική λιχουδιά είναι η μπουγάτσα.</b> <i>Sto Iràklio i topiki lihudiá íne i bugàtsa.</i></p> <p>"In Heráklion the local delicacy is bougatsa."</p>

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

Athens is the capital and largest city of Greece. It is one of the world's oldest cities with an age of over 3,400 years. Classical Athens was a powerful city-state, a center for arts, learning and philosophy. It is widely referred to as the cradle of civilization and the birthplace of democracy. The most famous site is the Parthenon but the city also retains a variety of Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman monuments, projecting the city's long

### 2. Piraeus

Piraeus since ancient times has been a port city. Today it is the chief port in Greece, the largest passenger port in Europe and the third largest in the world. It lies in a strategic location along the east coast of the Saronic Gulf, within the Athens urban area. All the ferries that go to the major islands leave from here. So especially in the summer, the city is filled with

### 3.

## Thessaloniki

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Thessaloniki, also known as Thessalonica or Salonica, is the second-largest city in Greece, referred to often as the "co-capital." It is Greece's second major economic, industrial, commercial and political center, and a major transportation hub. Renowned for its festivals, events and vibrant cultural life, it is considered to be Greece's cultural capital and the world's fifth-best party city according to *Lonely Planet*. Numerous Byzantine, Roman, Ottoman and Sephardic Jewish monuments can be found in the city, some of them protected by the UNESCO World Heritage

## 4. Heraklion

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Heraklion is the capital and largest city of the island of Crete and the fourth largest in Greece. The ruins of the ancient Minoan palace of Knossos are nearby. The Heraklion International Airport is named after the famous Cretan author and philosopher Nikos Kazantzakis and it is the second busiest airport of Greece, due to Crete being a major holiday

## 5. Patras

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Patras is the third largest city in Greece, hosting a large number of students. It has a busy port that serves as a point for trade and communication with Italy and the rest of Western Europe. The Rio-Antirio bridge located in the suburban area of Rio, connects the Peloponnese peninsula with mainland Greece. Every year, in February, the city hosts one of Europe's largest carnivals with mammoth-sized satirical floats and extravagant balls and parades.

LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #13 Sports

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# 13

## GREEK

1. What are the five most popular Sports in Greece?
2. 1. καλαθοσφαίριση
3. 2. ποδόσφαιρο
4. 3. πετοσφαίριση
5. 4. στίβος
6. 5. ιστιοπλοΐα

## ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most popular Sports in Greece?
2. 1. kalathosférisi
3. 2. podósfero
4. 3. petosférisi
5. 4. stívos
6. 5. istioploía

## ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular Sports in Greece?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. basketball
3. 2. soccer
4. 3. volleyball
5. 4. track and field
6. 5. sailing

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
ιστιοπλοΐα	istioploía	sailing	noun	feminine
ποδόσφαιρο	podósfairo	soccer	noun	neutral
καλαθοσφαίριση	kalathosférisi	basketball	noun	feminine
πετοσφαίριση	petosférisi	volleyball	noun	feminine
στίβος	stívos	track and field	noun	masculine

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

**Στην Ελλάδα η ιστιοπλοΐα τον Αύγουστο είναι δύσκολη λόγω των ισχυρών ανέμων της εποχής.**

*Stin Eláda i istioploía ton Ávgusto íne dískoli lógo ton ishirón anémou tis ephís.*

"In Greece, sailing in August is difficult due to the strong winds of the season."

**Το ποδόσφαιρο στην Ελλάδα έχει πολλούς φιλάθλους.**

*To podósfero stin Eláda éhi polús filáthlus.*

"Soccer in Greece has many fans."

<p><b>Οι παίκτες παίζουν ποδόσφαιρο.</b>  <i>Oi paiktes paízoyn podósfaíro.</i></p> <p>"The players are playing soccer."</p>	<p><b>Η FIBA είναι η Διεθνής Ομοσπονδία Καλαθοσφαίρισης.</b>  <i>I Fíba íne i Diethnís Omospondía Kalathosférisis.</i></p> <p>"FIBA is the International Basketball Federation."</p>
<p><b>Στο Στάδιο Ειρήνης και Φιλίας στο Φάληρο υπάρχει γήπεδο πετοσφαίρισης.</b>  <i>Sto Stádio Irínis ke Filías sto Fáliro ipárhi yípedo petosférisis.</i></p> <p>"Peace and Friendship Stadium" in Faliro, there is a volleyball court.</p>	<p><b>Η Βούλα Πατουλίδου είναι μια από τις γνωστότερες αθλήτριες στίβου.</b>  <i>I Vúla Patulídu íne mia apó tis gnostóteres athlítries stívu.</i></p> <p>"Vούla Patoulídu is one of the best known track and field female athletes."</p>
<p><b>Η γυναίκα έτρεξε στο στίβο.</b>  <i>I gynaíka étrexe sto stívo.</i></p> <p>"The woman ran on the track."</p>	

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

Greece has a long tradition and history of success in basketball, which is very popular in the country. Greece was one of the eight founding members of FIBA in 1932. The national basketball team is considered among the world's top ones, having been crowned European champions twice, in 1987 and 2005. Basketball became extremely popular in Greece after the 1987

### 2. Soccer

### 2. Soccer

Soccer is THE most popular sport in Greece. The national team is referred to by the media and the Greeks simply as *Ethniki*, which means "national." The Greek national soccer team won the UEFA Euro 2004 championship, causing one of the biggest shocks in international soccer history.



### 3. Volleyball

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#### 3. Volleyball

Volleyball is a notable sport in Greece. The A1 Ethniki, often referred to as the Greek Volleyball League, is the highest professional volleyball league in Greece and it is considered one of the top volleyball leagues in Europe. Most schools in Greece have a Volleyball court, making it the most popular sport among teenage

#### 4. Track and field

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#### 4. Track and field

Track and field has its roots in ancient Greece, with the first recorded examples of organized track and field events taking place in Olympia at the Ancient Olympic Games. Today many young Greek athletes train very hard to compete on an international level, hoping they will bring back to Greece many golden medals and of course,

#### 5. Sailing

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#### 5. Sailing

Sailing in Greece is a popular sport and hobby due to Greece's unique geographical location and weather conditions. There are many sailing clubs in the southern suburbs of Athens, coastal cities and islands, where people and children from a very young age can learn the skills needed to sail. In Greece it is not considered an expensive or fancy sport as one might think. In the summer there are many sailing competitions taking place in the Aegean Sea that attract many athletes from all over the world.

## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #14 Recreational activities

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# 14

## GREEK

1. What are the five most popular recreational activities in Greece?
2. 1. κατασκήνωση
3. 2. ορειβασία
4. 3. ψαροντούφεκο
5. 4. κολύμβηση
6. 5. σκι

## ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most popular recreational activities in Greece?
2. 1. kataskínosi
3. 2. orivasía
4. 3. psarondúfeko
5. 4. kolímvisi
6. 5. ski

## ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular recreational activities in Greece?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. camping
3. 2. hiking
4. 3. spearfishing
5. 4. swimming
6. 5. skiing

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
σκι	ski	skiing	noun	neutral
ορειβασία	oreivasía	hiking	noun	feminine
κατασκήνωση	kataskínosi	camping	noun	feminine
ψαροντούφεκο	psarodúfeko	spearfishing	noun	neuter
κολύμβηση	kolýmvisi	swimming	noun	feminine

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Αυτό το Σαββατοκύριακο πάμε για σκι στα Καλάβρυτα.</b>  <i>Aftó to Savatokýriako páme ya ski sta Kalávrita.</i></p> <p>"This weekend we are going skiing in Kalávryta."</p>	<p><b>Στην Ελλάδα πολλοί πάνε για ορειβασία στον Όλυμπο.</b>  <i>Stin Eláda polí páne ya orivasía ston Ólimbo.</i></p> <p>"In Greece many people go hiking on Mount Olympus."</p>
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<p><b>Το επόμενο σαββατοκύριακο θα πάω για ορειβασία.</b>  <i>To epómeno savvato kýriako tha páo gia oreivasía.</i></p> <p>"I will go climbing next weekend."</p>	<p><b>Το κάμπινγκ στην παραλία είναι πολύ δημοφιλές στην Ελλάδα.</b>  <i>I kataskínosi stin paralia íne polí dimofilís stin Eláda.</i></p> <p>"Beachside camping is very popular in Greece."</p>
<p><b>Πολλοί στρατιωτικοί των Ομάδων Υποβρύχιων Καταστροφών ασχολούνται με το ψαροντούφεκο.</b>  <i>Polí stratiotikí ton Omádon Iporíhion Katastrofón asholúnde me to psarodúfeko.</i></p> <p>"Many military men from the Underwater Demolition Squads do spearfishing."</p>	<p><b>Οι Έλληνες το καλοκαίρι κάνουν κολύμβηση στη θάλασσα.</b>  <i>I Élīnes to kalokéri kánun kolímvisi sti thálasa.</i></p> <p>"In the summer, Greeks swim in the sea."</p>

## αγώνας κολύμβησης

"Swimming race"

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Camping

Beachside camping is the most popular in Greece. The organized campsites are very affordable and visited by young people and families who wish to be closer to the nature. Visitors can set up their own tents, caravans or sleeping bags or even stay inside bamboo huts.

### 2. Hiking

The way to escape the crowds in Greece is to head for the hills and mountains, where nature abounds and the real Greece is to be found. Greece is a hiker's paradise and many Europeans visit in the off-season to hike the mountain trails and ancient paths on the islands and in the mainland.

### 3. Spearfishing

Spearfishing is very popular in Greece as well as fishing especially in the summer months. It is considered more often as a "man's" hobby and a rather "macho" one, because of the use of the spear as a weapon. Many accidents do happen, so divers need to be well-trained and have special licenses to dive and fish. There are also many clubs and magazines in circulation related to this hobby.

#### 4. Swimming

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Swimming is a popular sport and leisure activity in Greece. Almost everyone knows how to swim! Although there are some public pools available, they cost money so most Greeks prefer to visit nearby beaches or islands in the summer in order to swim. Parents also prefer teaching their own children how to swim in a natural environment rather than in a chlorinated pool. This lies to the general belief that sea water is healthier. It can cure wounds, clean the sinuses and offer to the body some sort of "immunity" against winter colds. Also the fact that family bonds in Greece are very strong, is another reason why parents prefer to teach things themselves.

#### 5. Skiing

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The heart of Greek winter beats on snow-covered mountain tops. Skiing appeared for the first time in Greece in the 1920's and has had rising numbers of devoted fans ever since. Today the ski slopes of Greece are no secret to Greeks and many Europeans but they are unknown to most people from around the world.

## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #15 Tourist Attractions

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# 15

## GREEK

1. What are the five most popular tourist attractions in Greece?
2. 1. Ακρόπολη (or Ακρόπολις)
3. 2. το Μαντείο των Δελφών (οι Δελφοί)
4. 3. Σαντορίνη
5. 4. Μύκονος
6. 5. Επίδαυρος

## ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most popular tourist attractions in Greece?
2. 1. Akrópoli (or Akrópolis)
3. 2. to Mandío ton Delfón (i Delfi)
4. 3. Sandoríni
5. 4. Míkonos
6. 5. Epídavros

## ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular tourist attractions in Greece?

CONT'D OVER



2. 1. Acropolis
3. 2. The Oracle of Délfhi (also known as Delphi)
4. 3. Santoríni
5. 4. Mýkonos
6. 5. Epidaurus

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
Επίδαυρος	Epídavros	Epidaurus	noun	feminine
το Μαντείο των Δελφών (οι Δελφοί)	to Mandío ton Delfón (i Delphí)	The Oracle of Délfhi (also known as Delphi)	noun	neuter
Ακρόπολη (or Ακρόπολις)	Acrópoli (Acrópolis)	Acropolis	noun	feminine
Σαντορίνη	Santoríni	Santoríni	noun	feminine
Μύκονος	Míkonos	Mýkonos	noun	feminine

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Το θέατρο της Επιδαύρου ελκύει τεράστια πλήθη, τον Ιούλιο και τον Αύγουστο.</b></p> <p><i>To théatro tis Epidávru elkíi terástia plíthi ton Iúlio ke ton Ávgusto.</i></p> <p>"The theater of Epidaurus attracts huge crowds in July and August."</p>	<p><b>Το Μαντείο των Δελφών ήταν το πιο σημαντικό ιερό στην αρχαία Ελλάδα.</b></p> <p><i>To Mandío ton Delfón ítan to pio simantikó ieró stin arhéa Eláda.</i></p> <p>"The Oracle of Délfhi was the most important shrine in ancient Greece."</p>
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**Η Ακρόπολη συχνά αναφέρεται και ως «ο Ιερός Βράχος».**

*I Akrópoli sihná anaférete ke os "o Ierós Vráhos".*

"The Acropolis is often referred to as 'the Sacred Rock.'"

**Το καλύτερο ηλιοβασίλεμα στη Σαντορίνη είναι στην Οία.**

*To kalítero iliovasílema sti Santoríni íne stin Ía.*

"The best sunset in Santoríni is in Oía."

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**Το καλύτερο μέρος για φωτογραφίες στη Μύκονο είναι στη «Μικρή Βενετία».**

*To kalítero méros ya fotografíes sti Míkono íne sti "Mikrí Venetía".*

"The best place for pictures in Mýkonos is in Little Venice."

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## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Acropolis

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The word "Acropolis" itself means "city by the edge" and there are many acropolises all over Greece. The Acropolis in Athens is the most famous of all, with its emblematic Parthenon, a temple dedicated to goddess Athena. It is an impressive sight, situated in the middle of the city on top of a hill. Walking around its grounds, it gives the visitor a feeling of awe and a true sense of the greatness of the ancient Greeks.

### 2. The Oracle of Delphi (Delphi)

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Delphi is an ancient Greek city, set in a breathtaking landscape under the most important oracle site of the ancient world. It is known as the "navel of the earth" and a place of worship to the god Apollo. The region became a cultural and historical symbol of Hellenic unity where various fields flourished including music, sculpture and writing.

### 3. Santorini

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Santorini, also known as Thira, is an island in the Aegean sea, remnant of a volcanic caldera, famous for its dramatic views, unique architecture, and stunning sunsets from Oia town. Santorini has a long tradition in wine production due to the presence of indigenous white grape varieties such as Assyrtiko, Athiri and Aidani. Some famous Santorini wines are the "Vinsanto," "Mezzo" and "Nykteri."

### 4.

## Mykonos

---

Mykonos is part of the Cyclades island group in the Aegean sea. Since the 1950s, tourism has dominated the economy, making it one of the top international tourist destinations today, known for its cosmopolitan character and strong nightlife. Many Greek and international celebrities have summer residences in Mykonos and can often be seen walking the white-washed roads.

## 5. Epidaurus

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Epidaurus theater took its name from the city of Epidaurus where it is located, and it is an almost perfectly preserved amphitheater, with astonishing acoustics, even though it was built 2,500 years ago. Visitors flock here by the coachload on day trips from Athens and especially in the summer, during the annual Hellenic Festival of Epidaurus, one of the major cultural venues in Greece. During the festival many performances are held, usually ancient Greek dramas and comedies which Greeks enjoy watching.

## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #16 Common household items

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# 16

# GREEK

1. What are the five most popular common things of the homes in Greece?
2. 1. εικονοστάσι
3. 2. ασημικά
4. 3. εργόχειρα
5. 4. πατάρι
6. 5. μπρίκι

# ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most popular common things of the homes in Greece?
2. 1. ikonostási
3. 2. asimiká
4. 3. ergóhira
5. 4. patári
6. 5. bríki

# ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular common things of the homes in Greece?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. icon corner
3. 2. silverware
4. 3. lace knitting
5. 4. loft (storage area)
6. 5. Greek coffee pot

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
εικονοστάσι	ikonostási	icon corner	noun	neuter
ασημικά	asimiká	silverware	noun	
εργόχειρα	ergóhira	lace knitting	noun	neuter
πατάρι	patári	loft	noun	neuter
μπρίκι	bríki	Greek coffee pot	noun	neuter

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Στο εικονοστάσι μας καίει πάντα ένα καντήλι.</b>  <i>Sto ikonostási mas kái pánda éna kandíli.</i></p> <p>"On our icon corner there is always an oil lamp burning."</p>	<p><b>Τα ασημικά της γιαγιάς δεν τα χρησιμοποιούμε ποτέ.</b>  <i>Ta asimiká tis yayás den ta hrisimopiúme poté.</i></p> <p>"We never use grandmother's silverware."</p>
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**Στο σπίτι μου φυλάω πολλά  
εργόχειρα στη ντουλάπα.**

*Sto spíti mu filáo polá ergóhira sti dulápa.*

"In my house I keep many lace knitting items in the wardrobe."

**Μπορείς να κατεβάσεις το  
χριστουγεννιάτικο δέντρο από το  
πατάρι σε παρακαλώ.**

*Borís na katevásis to hristugeniátiko déndro apó  
to patári se parakaló?*

"Can you bring down the Christmas tree from the loft please?"

---

**Χρειαζόμαστε ένα μπρίκι για να φτιάξουμε ελληνικό καφέ.**

*Hriazómaste éna bríki ya na ftiáxume elinikó kafé.*

"We need a Greek coffee pot to make Greek coffee."

---

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Icon corner

---

The icon corner is a small worship space in most homes, often located in a corner. An oil lamp normally is placed in front of the icons as well as other sacred items such as relics of saints, a cross, incense, holy water, palms from Palm Sunday and candles from Easter.

### 2. Silverware

---

Silverware includes tableware, cutlery and other household items made of silver, sometimes bought in sets. In older times, people used to invest their wealth on such items. Displaying them on a buffet in the living room was a show of power and status. As these passed from generation to generation, today many families still keep displaying silverware items in their homes.

### 3. Lace knitting

---

Lace knitting in Greece is an old, traditional art of creating beautiful and complicated designs for decoration around the house. These creations were made by the women of the house,

usually of white color and they would be passed from generation to generation. Today most modern families don't decorate their homes with those, instead they keep them somewhere safe, as they have great sentimental value.

#### 4. Loft (storage area)

---

Almost all apartments and houses in Greece are equipped with a *patari*. That is a small storage area rather than a loft. It looks like a cabinet on the wall, usually built over a low ceiling bathroom. In there people can place the water boiler and any items that are not being used very often such as suitcases or sports equipment.

#### 5. Greek coffee pot

---

In order to make Greek coffee, Greeks use a special coffee pot known as *briki*. Its characteristic narrow top facilitates the correct slow brewing of the greek coffee and the forming of the infamous froth on top known as *kaimaki*. Traditional pots are made of copper or brass, but stainless steel ones are more popular.



## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #17

## Pop and traditional culture

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## CONTENTS

- 2 Greek
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Cultural Insight

# 17

## GREEK

1. What are the five most popular examples of pop or traditional culture in Greece?
2. 1. μεσημεριανός ύπνος
3. 2. θερινός κινηματογράφος
4. 3. καφενείο
5. 4. τάβλι
6. 5. κομπολόι

## ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most popular examples of pop or traditional culture in Greece?
2. 1. mesimerianós ípnos
3. 2. therinós kinimatográfos
4. 3. kafenío
5. 4. távli
6. 5. kobolói

## ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular examples of pop or traditional culture in Greece?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. Afternoon nap (siesta)
3. 2. Open air (summer) cinema
4. 3. Coffee house
5. 4. Backgammon
6. 5. Worry beads

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
θερινός κινηματογράφος	therinós kinimatográfos	open air cinema	phrase	masculine
μεσημεριανός ύπνος	mesimerianós ípnos	afternoon nap (siesta)	noun	masculine
καφενείο	kafenío	coffee house	noun	neuter
κομπολόι	kompolói	worry beads	noun	neutral
τάβλι	távli	backgammon	noun	neuter

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Οι θερινοί κινηματογράφοι λειτουργούν μόνο το βράδυ.</b> <i>I theriní kinimatográfi liturgún móno to vrádi.</i></p> <p>"The summer cinemas operate only in the evenings."</p>	<p><b>Κατά τον μεσημεριανό ύπνο το χωριό είναι πολύ ήσυχο.</b> <i>Katá ton mesimerianó ípno to horió íne polí ísiho.</i></p> <p>"During the afternoon nap, the village is very quiet."</p>
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<p><b>Στο καφενείο πίνει κανείς συνήθως ελληνικό καφέ.</b>  <i>Sto kafenió píni kanís siníthos elinikó kafé.</i></p> <p>"In the coffee house one usually drinks Greek coffee."</p>	<p><b>Ο ήχος που κάνει το κομπολόι είναι μερικές φορές δυνατός.</b>  <i>O íhos pu káni to kombolói íne merikés forés dinatós.</i></p> <p>"The sound that the worry beads make is sometimes loud."</p>
<p><b>Ο παππούς έπαιζε με το κομπολόι.</b>  <i>O pappós épaize me to kombolói</i></p> <p>"The old man was playing with his worry beads."</p>	<p><b>Οι άντρες παίζουνε τάβλι στο καφενείο.</b>  <i>Oi ándres pézune távli sto kafenió.</i></p> <p>"The men are playing backgammon at the coffee house."</p>

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Afternoon nap

In Greece the afternoon nap is part of everyday life. Many shops are closed between 2 and 5 pm to allow people to have lunch and nap for a couple of hours before returning to work again. During that time people refrain from making noise indoors and outdoors.

### 2. Open air (summer) cinema

Open air cinemas operate all over Greece from May to September and constitute an integral part of the summer culture. Nearly all the indoor cinemas close down for the summer except the new multi-complexes in the cities. Due to the warm weather, audiences seek a more romantic set on refreshing backyards and rooftop gardens with the stars and the moon as their ceiling. Some say that the open-air cinemas connect with the tradition of ancient Greek drama being always staged in open air theatres such as Epidavros.

### 3. Coffee house

Coffee houses represent a very important aspect of social life in Greece. This is the gathering place for all men: young and old, single and married. They come here to meet friends, learn the news, talk about politics, play cards or just relax with the monotonous clicking of worry

beads (*komboloi*) in their hands. Coffee houses are still very popular in the villages, whereas in cities although they still exist, they are gradually being replaced by cafés visited by both men and women.

#### 4. Backgammon

---

*Tavli* is a sort of Backgammon game and the most beloved game of Greeks. It is played in houses, cafes, student hangouts, everywhere and on any occasion! In an afternoon break, during a visit to a friend and specially at the beach. It is a fast game. It requires experience, knowledge and fast reflexes. Sometimes it gives the spark for verbal disputes and teases.

#### 5. Worry beads

---

Worry beads used to be popular around the middle of the 20th century with the rise of Rebetiko music as a symbol of Greek "machismo." Today they are still popular, but not among young people. It has no religious or ceremonial purpose. It's use could be either for relaxation and generally passing the time; protection against bad luck; against smoking by keeping hands and fingers occupied; or as a mark of power and social prestige when the beads are made of expensive silver or amber.

## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #18 Traditional clothing

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## CONTENTS

- 2 Greek
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Cultural Insight

# 18

# GREEK

1. What are the five most popular traditional clothing in Greece?
2. 1. φουστανέλα
3. 2. τσαρούχια
4. 3. φέσι
5. 4. φλουριά
6. 5. βράκα

# ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most popular traditional clothing in Greece?
2. 1. fustanéla
3. 2. tsarúhia
4. 3. fési
5. 4. fluriá
6. 5. vráka

# ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular traditional clothing in Greece?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. fustanella
3. 2. tsarouhia
4. 3. fez
5. 4. coins
6. 5. vraka

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
φουστανέλα	fustanéla	fustanella	noun	feminine
τσαρούχια	tsarúhia	Greek traditional pointy shoe	noun	neuter
φέσι	fési	fez	noun	neuter
φλουριά	fluriá	coins	noun	neuter
βράκα	vráka	vraka	noun	feminine

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

**Η φουστανέλα έχει τετρακόσιες πιέτες που συμβολίζουν τα τετρακόσια χρόνια Τουρκοκρατίας.**  
*I fustanéla éhi tetrakósies piétes pu simvolízun ta tetrakósia hrónia Turkokratías.*

"The fustanella has 400 pleats that symbolize the 400 years of the Turkish occupation."

**Τα τσαρούχια είναι συνήθως κόκκινα και φέρουν μια μαύρη φούντα στη μύτη.**  
*Ta tsarúhia íne siníthos kókina ke férun mia mávri fúnda sti míti.*

"The Greek traditional shoes are usually red and have a black pom pom on the pointy nose."



<p><b>Οι Εύζωνες φοράνε τσαρούχια μαζί με τη φουστανέλλα.</b>  <i>I Évzones foráne tsarúhia mazí me ti fustanélla.</i></p> <p>"The Evzones wear tsarouhia with the fustanella."</p>	<p><b>Η παραδοσιακή στολή του τσολιά περιλαμβάνει και το φέσι.</b>  <i>I paradosiakí stolí tu tsoliá perilamváni ke to fési.</i></p> <p>"The traditional tsolias costume also includes a fez."</p>
<p><b>Στις παραδοσιακές στολές τα φλουριά είναι συνήθως χρυσά ή ασημένια.</b>  <i>Stis paradosiakés stolés ta fluriá íne siníthos hrisá í asiménia.</i></p> <p>"The coins in the traditional costumes are usually gold or silver."</p>	<p><b>Το παντελόني σου είναι τόσο φαρδύ που μοιάζει με βράκα!</b>  <i>To pandelóni su íne τόσο fardí pu miázi me vráka!</i></p> <p>"Your trousers are so big that they look like "vraka"!"</p>

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Fustanella

Fustanella is a traditional pleated skirt-like garment, worn by men and similar to the kilt. In modern times, a short version of the fustanella is worn by ceremonial military units like the Evzones, the Presidential Guard. Archaeological evidence shows that the fustanella was already in common use in Greece as early as the 12th century. During the Ottoman period, the fustanella was worn by the Greek rebels. In the early 19th century, the costume's popularity rose among the Greek population. A fustanella is worn with a bolero, a waistcoat and a sleeveless coat. The leather belt with gold or silver embroidery, is worn around the waist over the fustanella, in which the old rebels used to place their arms and knives.

### 2. Tsarouhia

A tsarouhi or tsarouhia in plural is a type of pointy shoe with large woolen pompons, which is typically known nowadays as part of the traditional uniform worn by the Greek Presidential guards known as Evzones.

Their origin is obscure and goes back to the Byzantine times. They were the most common footwear worn by both urban and rural Greeks, mainly men. After the Greek Independence in early 19th century, their use was limited to isolated rural areas and nomadic populations.

Tsarouhia are typically made from pieces of stiff leather hand-sewn together. The pompoms were added originally to make the shoe nose waterproof, but it became an essential feature for their decoration.

### 3. Fez

---

The fez is a hat made of red felt or kilim textile. It has a short cylindrical shape, with a tassel attached to the top. Its name comes from the city of Fes in Morocco where it was first developed by the 17th century. The fez is also a necessary accessory for the men's traditional "tsolias" costume. The Evzones, regiments of the Greek Army wore their own distinctive version of the fez from 1837 until the World War II. It now survives in the parade uniform of the Presidential Guard in Athens.

### 4. Coins

---

Coins are a necessary addition on the Greek costumes. Mainly the feminine ones. They were usually worn on the chest, as a form of necklace but their use was not only decorative. It was a show of financial status and power for girls in order to attract possible husbands. Coins were also used as lucky charms, especially during the Ottoman occupation, when those coin necklaces were also an easy way to store the family's wealth and also transfer it in a case of an emergency.

### 5. Vraka

---

The word *vraka* means generally the male Cretan costume although it also refers to a special kind of baggy trousers, similar to a pantaloon, worn by the inhabitants of islands in Greece, instead of a fustanella. The men's *vraka* costume is made of heavy wool felt to protect against the cold and is embroidered with black cord. In some islands *vraka* pantaloons were worn by women too and were long, to the ankles, because during the Turkish occupation women wanted to hide their legs from the eyes of the Turks.

LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #19 Historical figures

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- 2 Greek
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Cultural Insight

# 19

## GREEK

1. Who are the five most famous historical figures in Greece?
2. 1. Περικλής
3. 2. Ιουστινιανός Α΄
4. 3. Θεόδωρος Κολοκοτρώνης
5. 4. Ελευθέριος Βενιζέλος
6. 5. Ανδρέας Γ. Παπανδρέου

## ROMANIZATION

1. Who are the five most famous historical figures in Greece?
2. 1. Periklís
3. 2. Iustinianós A΄
4. 3. Theódoros Kolokotrónis
5. 4. Elefthérios Venizélos
6. 5. Andréas G. Papandréu

## ENGLISH

1. Who are the five most famous historical figures in Greece?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. Péricles
3. 2. Justínian I
4. 3. Theodoros Kolokotronis
5. 4. Eleftherios Venizelos
6. 5. Andreas G. Papandreou

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
Περικλής	Periklís	Péricles	noun	masculine
Ιουστινιανός Α΄	Iustinianós o prótos	Justinian I	noun	masculine
Θεόδωρος Κολοκοτρώνης	Theódoros Kolokotrónis	Theodoros Kolokotronis	noun	masculine
Ελευθέριος Βενιζέλος	Elefthérios Venizélos	Eleftherios Venizelos	noun	masculine
Ανδρέας Γ. Παπανδρέου	Anréas G. Papandréu	Andreas G. Papandreou	noun	masculine

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Η εποχή του Περικλή λέγεται και ο «Χρυσός Αιώνας» του Περικλή.</b>  <i>I epohí tu Periklí léyete ke o "Hrisós Eónas" tu Periklí.</i></p> <p>"Pericles's age is also called the "Golden Century" of Pericles."</p>	<p><b>Ο Ιουστινιανός επανέκτισε τη γνωστή εκκλησία της Αγίας Σοφίας στην Κωνσταντινούπολη.</b>  <i>O Iustinianós epanéktise ti gností eklisía tis Ayías Sofías stin Konstandinúpoli.</i></p> <p>"Justinian rebuilt the famous church of Hagia Sophia in Constantinople."</p>
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**Το άγαλμα του Κολοκοτρώνη στην Αθήνα βρίσκεται μπροστά από την Παλιά Βουλή.**

*To ágalma tu Kolokotróni stin Athína vrískete brostá apó tin Paliá Vulí.*

"The statue of Kolokotronis in Athens is located in front of the Old Parliament building."

**Το αεροδρόμιο της Αθήνας ονομάζεται «αεροδρόμιο Ελευθέριος Βενιζέλος».**

*To aerodrómio tis Athínas onomázete "aerodrómio Elefthérios Venizélos".*

"The airport of Athens is called 'Eleftherios Venizelos airport'."

---

**Ο Ανδρέας Παπανδρέου νομιμοποίησε τον πολιτικό γάμο.**

*O Andréas Papandréu nomimopíise ton politikó gámo.*

"Andreas Papandreou legalized the civil wedding."

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## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Pericles

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Pericles was the most prominent and influential Greek statesman, orator, and general of Athens during the Golden Age of the classical years. He had such a profound influence on Athenian society that the period during which he led Athens, roughly from 461 to 429 BC, is known as the "Age of Pericles." Pericles fostered Athenian democracy and promoted the arts and literature, turning Athens into an educational and cultural center of the ancient Greek world. He started an ambitious project that generated most of the surviving structures on the Acropolis, including the Parthenon. This project beautified the city, exhibited its glory, and gave work to the people.

### 2. Justinian I

---

Justinian I, commonly known as Justinian the Great, was a Byzantine Emperor from 527 to 565AD. During his reign, Justinian sought to revive the Empire's greatness and reconquer the lost western half of the classical Roman Empire. One of the most important figures of Late Antiquity, Justinian's rule constitutes a distinct era in the history. The impact of his administration extended far beyond the boundaries of his time and domain. Justinian's reign is marked by the ambitious but only partly realized "restoration of the Empire."

### 3. Theodoros Kolokotronis

---

Theodoros Kolokotronis was a Greek general and the pre-eminent leader of the Greek War of Independence against the Ottoman Empire. Kolokotronis's greatest success was the defeat of the Ottoman army under Mahmud Dramali Pasha at the Battle of Dervenakia in 1822. In 1825, he was appointed commander-in-chief of the Greek forces in the Peloponnese. Today, Kolokotronis ranks among the most revered of the protagonists of the War of Independence.

### 4. Eleftherios Venizelos

---

Eleftherios Venizelos was an eminent Greek revolutionary, a prominent and illustrious statesman as well as a charismatic leader in the early twentieth century. Elected several times as Prime Minister of Greece, serving from 1910 to 1920 and from 1928 to 1932, Venizelos had such profound influence on the internal and external affairs of Greece that he is credited with being "the maker of modern Greece" and is still widely known as the "Ethnarch."

### 5. Andreas G. Papandreou

---

Andreas G. Papandreou was a Greek economist, a socialist politician and a dominant figure in Greek politics. He served two terms as Prime Minister of Greece. His assumption of power in 1981 influenced the course of Greek political history, ending an almost 50-year long system of power, dominated by conservative forces. The achievements of his successive governments include the constitutional amendment of 1985-1986 which strengthened parliamentarism and reduced the powers of the President. In a poll conducted in 2007, Papandreou was voted the "most important Greek Prime Minister" and the first four years of his government were voted as the "best government Greece ever had."

## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #20 Commonly used medicines and drugs

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## CONTENTS

- 2 Greek
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Cultural Insight

# 20



## GREEK

1. What are the five commonly used medicine and drugs in Greece?
2. 1. χαμομήλι
3. 2. ασπιρίνη
4. 3. γιαούρτι
5. 4. έμπλαστρο Λέοντος
6. 5. Fenistil

## ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five commonly used medicine and drugs in Greece?
2. 1. hamomíli
3. 2. aspiríni
4. 3. yaúrti
5. 4. émblastro Léondos
6. 5. Fenistíl

## ENGLISH

1. What are the five commonly used medicine and drugs in Greece?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. chamomile
3. 2. aspirin
4. 3. yoghurt
5. 4. Léontos patch
6. 5. Fenistil

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
χαμομήλι	hamomíli	chamomile	noun	neuter
ασπιρίνη	aspiríni	aspirin	noun	feminine
γιαούρτι	yaúrti	yoghurt	noun	neuter
έμπλαστρο Λέοντος	émblastro Léondos	Leontos patch	noun	neuter
Fenistil	Fenistíl	Fenistil	noun	neuter

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Όποτε έχω μόλυνση στο μάτι, βάζω κομπρέσα με χαμομήλι για να μου περάσει.</b></p> <p><i>Ópote ého mólinsi sto máti, vázo kobrása me hamomíli ya na mu perási.</i></p> <p>"Whenever I have an eye infection, I put a chamomile compress to make it heal."</p>	<p><b>Οι εντριβές στο στήθος με ασπιρίνη διαλυμένη σε τσίπουρο κατεβάζουν τον πυρετό.</b></p> <p><i>I endrivés sto stíthos me aspiríni dialiméni se tsípouro katevázun ton piretó.</i></p> <p>"Rubbing the chest with aspirin diluted in tsipouro lower the fever high temperature."</p>
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**Αμα καείς από τον ήλιο, να βάλεις γιαούρτι.**

*Áma kaís apó ton ílio, na vális yaúrti.*

"If you get sunburned, put some yoghurt on."

**Το έμπλαστρο Λέοντος είναι μία τοπική θεραπεία για πόνους μυών και αρθρώσεων.**

*To émblastro Léontos íne mia topikí therapía ya rónus mión ke arthróseon.*

"Leontos patch is a local treatment for muscle and joint pains."

---

**Για τον επιχείλιο έρπη, πρέπει να βάζω Fenistil στα χείλη μου κάθε δύο ώρες.**

*Ya ton epihílio érpi, prépi na vázo Fenistíl sta híli mu káthe dío óres.*

"For the cold sore I have to apply Fenistil on my lips every two hours."

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## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Chamomile

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Chamomile is one of the most widely used flowers for herbal tea. It is well-known for its medicinal purposes and is usually administered as a tea. Chamomile tea is very popular and can be used as a mild sedative, a treatment for insomnia as well as for many other nervous conditions. It can also be administered as a compress with some cotton for external healing and as a bath for babies. It soothes and relaxes at bedtime, relieves restlessness, teething problems, and colic in children. It also relieves allergies, morning sickness during pregnancy, it aids digestion and speeds the healing of skin or stomach ulcers, wounds, or burns.

### 2. Aspirin

---

Aspirin used to be the bestselling painkiller for decades, however over recent years people prefer to use other types of drugs based on paracetamol due to the lower risk of side effects.

### 3. Yoghurt

---

Greeks in the summer tend to spend a lot of time in the beaches and sunburns occur often. For many generations, plain Greek yoghurt has been a popular home remedy to soothe and

moisture sunburned skin.

#### **4. Leontos patch**

---

Leontos patches are large heating plasters that relieve muscle and joint pains. Greeks usually prefer them for back and waist pains because their adhesive is very strong and the removal of a patch can be a bit painful if it is placed over a hairy area.

#### **5. Fenistil**

---

Fenistil is used as an anti-itch drug to treat cold sores, allergic reactions, insect bites and stings. It is very popular in the summer when people get bitten by mosquitos and stung by jellyfish more often.

LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #21 Modes of transportation

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- 2 Greek
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Cultural Insight

# 21

# GREEK

1. What are the five most popular frequently used modes of transportation in Greece?
2. 1. αυτοκίνητο
3. 2. λεωφορείο
4. 3. ταξί
5. 4. φέρι μποτ
6. 5. τρένο

# ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most popular frequently used modes of transportation in Greece?
2. 1. aftokínito
3. 2. leoforío
4. 3. taxí
5. 4. féri bot
6. 5. tréno

# ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular frequently used modes of transportation in Greece?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. car
3. 2. bus
4. 3. taxi
5. 4. ferry boat
6. 5. train

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
λεωφορείο	leoforeío	bus	noun	neutral
αυτοκίνητο	aftokínito	car	noun	neutral
ταξί	taxí	taxi	noun	neutral
τρένο	tréno	train	noun	neutral
φέρι μποτ	féri bot	ferry boat	noun	neuter

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Το λεωφορείο έχει καθυστερήσει λόγω της κίνησης στην Κηφισίας.</b>  <i>To leoforío éhi kathisterísi lógo tis kínisis stin Kifisías.</i></p> <p>"The bus is delayed because of the traffic on Kifisias avenue."</p>	<p><b>Τα λεωφορεία της Αθήνας είναι μπλέ.</b>  <i>Ta leoforeía tis Athínas éinai ble.</i></p> <p>"Buses in Athens are blue."</p>
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<p><b>Στην Ελλάδα πωλούνται πιο εύκολα τα μεταχειρισμένα αυτοκίνητα παρά τα καινούρια.</b>  <i>Stin Eláda polúnde pio éfkola ta metahirisména aftokínita pará ta kenúria.</i></p> <p>"In Greece second-hand cars are sold more easily than new ones."</p>	<p><b>Θα βάλω το αυτοκίνητο στο γκαράζ.</b>  <i>Tha valo to aytokiníto sto gkaraz.</i></p> <p>"I'll put the car in the garage."</p>
<p><b>Το αυτοκίνητο ήταν άσπρο.</b>  <i>To aftokínito ítan áspro.</i></p> <p>"The car was white."</p>	<p><b>Τα ταξί στην Αθήνα είναι κίτρινα.</b>  <i>Ta taxí stin Athína íne kítrina.</i></p> <p>"The taxis in Athens are yellow."</p>
<p><b>Είμασταν πέντε άτομα στο ταξί.</b>  <i>Eímastan pénte átoma sto taxí.</i></p> <p>"We were five people in one taxi."</p>	<p><b>Θα πρέπει να προσέχετε την τσάντα σας μέσα στο τρένο.</b>  <i>Tha prépi na proséhete tin tsánda sas mésa sto tréno.</i></p> <p>"You have to watch your bag inside the train."</p>
<p><b>Έρχονται δύο τρένα.</b>  <i>Erchontai dyo trena.</i></p> <p>"Two trains are coming."</p>	<p><b>Το τρένο είναι αργό, αλλά συνεπές.</b>  <i>To tréno éinai argó, allá synepés.</i></p> <p>"The train is slow, but punctual."</p>
<p><b>Το καλοκαίρι θα ταξιδέψουμε στα νησιά με φέρι μποτ.</b>  <i>To kalokéri tha taxidépsume sta nisiá me féri bot.</i></p> <p>"In the summer we will travel to the islands by ferry boat."</p>	

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Car

Travelling by car is common for locals and tourists. There are main roads leading to all of the major tourist destinations. Particularly good areas for road trips are the Peloponnese



peninsula and Crete. Athens' traffic and parking however can be a nightmare!

## 2. Bus

---

Cheap and convenient, the city bus lines can take you almost everywhere. In Greece there is also an excellent long-distance bus service called "KTEL" with comfortable seats and room for luggage underneath the bus and in racks inside.

## 3. Taxi

---

Taxi cars in Athens are yellow with an illuminated "TAXI" sign on top. One can stop a cab by simply raising a hand or by going to taxi stands called *piatsa*, located everywhere in Athens. It may occur that a taxi with passengers already inside, can take other people during the ride.

## 4. Ferry boat

---

Greek ferries are the primary means of transporting passengers, goods and even cars to and from the islands. The trip is an experience to be savored, almost like a cruise sometimes. There are many ticket options ranging from aircraft type seats, to comfortable private cabins.

## 5. Train

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Greece can be perfectly explored by train. The Greek railway company is TRAINOSE and covers most tourist destinations. There are overnight trains connecting Athens and Thessaloniki and international trains connecting Thessaloniki with Belgrade, Sofia, Budapest, Ljubljana and Istanbul.

## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #22 Shops or services in town

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- 2 Greek
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Cultural Insight

# 22

# GREEK

1. What are the five most popular shops and services in Greece?
2. 1. μπακάλικο
3. 2. λαϊκή (αγορά)
4. 3. φούρνος
5. 4. περίπτερο
6. 5. μανάβικο

# ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most popular shops and services in Greece?
2. 1. bakáliko
3. 2. laikí (agorá)
4. 3. fúnos
5. 4. períptero
6. 5. manáviko

# ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular shops and services in Greece?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. grocery store
3. 2. street market
4. 3. bakery
5. 4. kiosk
6. 5. greengrocer

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
μανάβικο	manáviko	greengrocer	noun	neuter
λαϊκή (αγορά)	laikí (agorá)	street market	noun	feminine
μπακάλικο	bakáliko	grocery store	noun	neuter
φούρνος	fúrnos	bakery	noun	masculine
περίπτερο	períptero	kiosk	noun	neuter

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Ο μανάβης απέναντι πουλάει τις καλύτερες ντομάτες.</b>  <i>O manávis apénandi pulái tis kalíteres domátes.</i></p> <p>"The greengrocer across the street sells the best tomatoes."</p>	<p><b>Στη λαϊκή παίρνω μαζί μου το καρότσι για τα ψώνια.</b>  <i>Sti laikí pérno mazí mu to karótsi ya ta psónia.</i></p> <p>"I take a shopping cart with me to the street market."</p>
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<p><b>Το μπακάλικο της γειτονιάς πουλάει και απορρυπαντικά.</b> <i>To bakáliko tis yitoniás pulái ke aporipandiká.</i></p> <p>"The neighborhood grocery store sells detergents too."</p>	<p><b>Ο φούρνος στη γειτονιά μου πουλάει ωραιότατα κρητικά παξιμάδια.</b> <i>O fúrnos sti yitoniá mu pulái oreótata kritiká paximádia.</i></p> <p>"The bakery in my neighborhood sells great Cretan rusks."</p>
<p><b>Τις Κυριακές τα μαγαζιά είναι κλειστά, οπότε αγοράζω γάλα από το περίπτερο.</b> <i>Tis Kiriakés ta magaziá íne klistá, opóte agorázo gála apó to períptero.</i></p> <p>"On Sundays the shops are closed, so I buy milk from the kiosk."</p>	<p><b>Έψαχνε παντού γι' αυτό το περιοδικό και τελικά το βρήκε στο περίπτερο της γειτονιάς του.</b> <i>Épsachne pandoy gi'aftó to periodikó kai teliká to vríke sto períptero tis geitoniás toy.</i></p> <p>"He was searching everywhere for this magazine and he finally found it at the kiosk of his neighborhood."</p>

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Grocery store

These stores are just like a convenience store, although they do not operate 24/7. On Sundays they will be probably closed and the opening hours during the rest of the days pretty much depend on the owner's lifestyle. Some can close in the afternoon and some can stay open till even 10 o'clock at night. They sell a little bit of everything but the variety is not that great. You can get cheese, drinks, canned food, toiletries, hygiene items, snacks, flour, rice, beans and in the summer you can also find ice creams.

### 2. Street market

In Greece many people prefer to do their grocery shopping from the weekly *laiki* or "people's market." These are set up on specific streets of neighborhoods on specific days of the week. Wandering through the tables and stalls overflowing with locally grown produce, one can find apart from fruits and vegetables, eggs, fresh fish, houseware items, linen, clothing items,

shoes and even flowers. The best time to visit the market is between 9AM and 1PM. After 1PM, prices start to fall as the vendors try to sell out whatever is left.

### 3. Bakery

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While supermarkets now carry prepackaged bread and cakes, Greeks still prefer to get their baked goods, such as baguettes, rustic bread, pastries and pies from local bakeries, which are literally everywhere. They can find a wide variety of delicious baked goods there and most important, everything is "homemade" and freshly baked early every morning.

### 4. Kiosk

---

Kiosks can be found in towns and cities on many street corners and every large village will have one as well. They have long opening hours, offering a variety of items you might need when the shops are closed. From cigarettes, magazines, newspapers, drinks, ice creams, sweets and snacks until toiletries, transportation tickets, telephone cards, stamps, ballpens and even small toys! Just ask and they will probably have what you need!

### 5. Greengrocer

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A *manaviko* is a small shop that sells fruits and vegetables. They were once common in all neighborhoods, but now they have been affected by the dominant rise of supermarkets. However, still many can be found not only in towns and villages but also in cities.

LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #23 Chain stores

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- 2 Greek
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Cultural Insight

# 23

## GREEK

1. What are the five most popular chain stores in Greece?
2. 1. ο Γρηγόρης
3. 2. ο Κωτσόβολος
4. 3. τα Jumbo
5. 4. το Πλαίσιο
6. 5. ο Σκλαβενίτης

## ROMANIZATION

1. What are the five most popular hen stores in Greece?
2. 1. ο Grigóris
3. 2. ο Kotsóvolos
4. 3. ta Jumbo
5. 4. to Plésio
6. 5. ο Sklavenítis

## ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular chain stores in Greece?

CONT'D OVER



2. 1. Gregory's
3. 2. Kotsovolos
4. 3. Jumbo
5. 4. Plaisio Computers
6. 5. Sklavenitis

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
ο Γρηγόρης	ο Grigóris	Gregory's	noun	masculine
ο Κωτσόβολος	ο Kotsónolos	Kotsovolos	noun	masculine
τα Jumbo	ta Jámbο	Jumbo	noun	neuter
το Πλαίσιο	to Plésio	Plaisio Computers	noun	neuter
ο Σκλαβενίτης	ο Sklavenítis	Sklavenitis	noun	masculine

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Στο αεροδρόμιο της Αθήνας υπάρχει ένα κατάστημα «Γρηγόρης».</b>  <i>Sto aerodrómio tis Athínas ipárhi éna katástima Grigóris.</i></p> <p>"In the airport of Athens there is a "Gregory's" shop."</p>	<p><b>Εγώ θα κάνω τη λίστα γάμου μου στον Κωτσόβολο.</b>  <i>Egó tha káno ti lísta gámu mu ston Kotsónolo.</i></p> <p>"I will do my wedding gift list at Kotsovolos."</p>
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**Κάθε χρόνο αγοράζω τη σχολική τσάντα του γιου μου στα Jumbo.**

*Káthe hróno agorázo ti sholikí tsánda tu yíu mu sta Jámbu.*

"Every year I buy my son's school backpack at Jumbo."

**Στο Πλαίσιο υπάρχει υπηρεσία επισκευής υπολογιστών.**

*Sto Plésio ipárhí ipiresía episkevís ipologistón.*

"In Plaisio there is a computer repairing service."

---

**Στον Σκλαβενίτη οι τιμές είναι πολύ καλές.**

*Ston Sklaveníti i timés íne polí kalés.*

"At Sklavenitis the prices are very good."

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## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Gregory's

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Gregory's are fast food chain stores. They sell a variety of pies and sandwiches which Greeks prefer as a quick breakfast before work, as light lunch or even in the evening as a snack when they go out for coffee and to meet friends.

### 2. Kotsovolos

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Kotsovolos is the leading electrical retailer in Greece. Having started as a simple store in Athens in 1950, the chain today operates stores all over Greece with a huge variety of products offered.

### 3. Jumbo

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Jumbo S.A. is a Greek based retail company whose principal activity is the distribution of children's toys, baby items, books and stationery, as well as seasonal and decoration items. It also operates in Cyprus, Bulgaria, and Romania.

### 4. Plaisio Computers

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Plaisio Computers SA is one of the largest electronics retailer in Greece. It started out as an office and art supply shop in Athens but soon expanded to other major cities in Greece and even in Bulgaria.

## 5. Sklavenitis

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Sklavenitis is a major supermarket chain in Greece. The first one opened in 1969 in Athens. The average Sklavenitis store is significantly larger than most of its competitors, thus explaining the company's ability to generate increased sales with a relative small number of stores.

## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #24 Artists and musicians

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## CONTENTS

- 2 Greek
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Cultural Insight

# # 24

## GREEK

1. Who are the five most popular artists and musicians in Greece?
2. 1. Μαρία Κάλλας
3. 2. Yanni
4. 3. Σταμάτης Σπανουδάκης
5. 4. Μάνος Χατζιδάκις
6. 5. Μίκης Θεοδωράκης

## ROMANIZATION

1. Who are the five most popular artists and musicians in Greece?
2. 1. María Kálas
3. 2. Iani
4. 3. Stamátis Spanudákis
5. 4. Mános Hajidákis
6. 5. Míkis Theodorákis

## ENGLISH

1. Who are the five most popular artists and musicians in Greece?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. Maria Callas
3. 2. Yanni
4. 3. Stamatis Spanoudakis
5. 4. Manos Hatzidakis
6. 5. Mikis Theodorakis

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
Μαρία Κάλλας	María Kálas	Maria Callas	noun	feminine
Yanni	Yáni	Yanni	noun	masculine
Σταμάτης Σπανουδάκης	Stamátiς Spanudákis	Stamatis Spanoudakis	noun	masculine
Μάνος Χατζιδάκις	Mános Hajidákis	Manos Hatzidakis	noun	masculine
Μίκης Θεοδωράκης	Míkis Theodorákis	Mikis Theodorakis	noun	masculine

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Η καριέρα της Κάλλας ξεκίνησε από την Εθνική Λυρική Σκηνή.</b>  <i>I kariéra tis Kálas xekínise apó tin Ethnikí Lirikí skiní.</i></p> <p>"Callas's career began at the Greek National Opera."</p>	<p><b>Ο Yanni έχει συγκεντρώσει πάνω από τριάντα πέντε πλατινένιους και χρυσούς δίσκους παγκοσμίως.</b>  <i>O Yáni éhi singendrósi páno apó triánda pénde platinénius ke hrisús dískus pangosmíos.</i></p> <p>"Yanni has accumulated more than 35 platinum and gold albums globally."</p>
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**Ο Σταμάτης Σπανουδάκης έγραψε τη μουσική για την ταινία «Νύφες».**  
*O Stamátis Spanudákis égrapse ti musikí ya tin tenía "Nífes".*

"Stamatis Spanoudakis wrote the music for the movie "Brides"."

**«Τα παιδιά του Πειραιά» είναι ένα από τα πιο γνωστά τραγούδια του Μάνου Χατζιδάκι.**

*"Ta pedía tu Pireá" íne éna apó ta pio gnostá tragúdia tu Mánu Hajidáki.*

""The children of Piraeus" is one of the most popular songs of Manos Hatzidakis."

---

**Ο Μίκης Θεοδωράκης έχει γράψει πάνω από χίλια τραγούδια.**

*O Míkis Theodorákis éhi grápsi páno apó hília tragúdia.*

"Mikis Theodorakis has written more than 1,000 songs"

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## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Maria Callas

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Maria Callas was an American-born Greek soprano and one of the most renowned opera singers of the twentieth century. Critics praised her bel canto technique, wide-ranging voice and dramatic gifts. Her repertoire ranged from classical opera seria to the bel canto operas of Donizetti, Bellini and Rossini; further, to the works of Verdi and Puccini; and, in her early career, to the music dramas of Wagner. Her musical and dramatic talents led to her being hailed as La Divina.

### 2. Yanni

---

Yanni is a Greek pianist, keyboardist, composer, and music producer who has spent his adult life in the United States. Rising in popularity with the new age music boom of the 1980s and 1990s, Yanni's music became more well known through adult alternative radio airplay, appearances on public television and in television commercials, as well as international music tours. In addition to performing at historic venues such as the Royal Albert Hall, Yanni has been permitted to perform at such world landmarks as the Acropolis of Athens, the Taj Mahal, the Forbidden City, the Burj Khalifa in Dubai, the Kremlin, and the Castillo San Felipe del Morro, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

### 3. Stamatis

## Spanoudakis

---

Stamatis Spanoudakis is a Greek classical and new age composer. Born in Athens, he studied classical guitar in his early days. Later he went through a pop music phase, but then continued classical studies at the Würzburg State Conservatory and Athens and Later he took up Byzantine music. He has written numerous hit songs for most of the major contemporary Greek singers. He has also composed the music for many blockbuster films in Greece, Germany and Italy, music for theater and television and has so far recorded more than fifty albums.

## 4. Manos Hatzidakis

---

Manos Hatzidakis was a Greek composer and theorist of Greek music. He was also one of the main prime movers of the *Éntehno* song, along with Mikis Theodorakis. In 1960 he received an Academy Award for Best Original Song for his *Song Never on Sunday* from the self-titled movie. He became active in public life and assumed a number of positions in the Athens State Orchestra, the National Opera, and the National Radio. In 1989 he founded and directed the Orchestra of Colours, a small symphonic orchestra.

## 5. Mikis Theodorakis

---

Mikis Theodorakis is a Greek songwriter and a world-famous composer. He scored the films *Zorba the Greek* and *Serpico* and he is viewed as Greece's best-known living composer. His most significant and influential works are based in Greek and world poetry. He attempted to give back to Greek music a dignity which in his perception it had lost. He developed his concept of "meta-symphonic music," symphonic compositions that go beyond the "classical" status and mix symphonic elements with popular songs, Western symphonic orchestra and Greek popular instruments.



## LESSON NOTES

# Culture Class: Essential Greek Vocabulary #25 Writers

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- 2 Greek
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Cultural Insight

# # 25

## GREEK

1. Who are the five most popular writers in Greece?
2. 1. Γιάννης Ρίτσος
3. 2. Κωνσταντίνος Καβάφης
4. 3. Κώστας Καρυωτάκης
5. 4. Γιώργος Σεφέρης
6. 5. Οδυσσέας Ελύτης

## ROMANIZATION

1. Who are the five most popular writers in Greece?
2. 1. Yíanis Rítsos
3. 2. Konstandínos Kaváfis
4. 3. Kóstas Kariotákis
5. 4. Yiórgos Seféris
6. 5. Odiséas Elítis

## ENGLISH

1. Who are the five most popular writers in Greece?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. Yiannis Ritsos
3. 2. Konstantinos Kavafis
4. 3. Kostas Karyotakis
5. 4. Giorgos Seferis
6. 5. Odysseas Elytis

## VOCABULARY

Greek	Romanization	English	Class	Gender
Γιάννης Ρίτσος	Yánis Rítsos	Yiannis Ritsos	noun	masculine
Κωνσταντίνος Καβάφης	Kostandínos Kaváfis	Konstantinos Kavafis	noun	masculine
Κώστας Καρυωτάκης	Kóstas Karyotákis	Kostas Karyotakis	noun	masculine
Γιώργος Σεφέρης	Yiórgos Seféris	Giorgos Seferis	noun	masculine
Οδυσσεάς Ελύτης	Odiséas Elítis	Odysseas Elytis	noun	masculine

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p><b>Στο σχολείο σήμερα διαβάσαμε Γιάννη Ρίτσο στο μάθημα λογοτεχνίας.</b></p> <p><i>Sto sholío símera diavásame Yíani Rítso sto máthima logotehnías.</i></p> <p>"At school today we read Yiannis Ritsos in literature class."</p>	<p><b>Το πιο γνωστό ποίημα του Καβάφη είναι η «Ιθάκη».</b></p> <p><i>To pio gnostó píima tu Kaváfi íne i "Itháki".</i></p> <p>"Kavafis's most known poem is "Ithaka"."</p>
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**Το τελευταίο ποίημα του  
Καρυωτάκη λέγεται «Πρέβεζα».**  
*To teleftéo píima tu Kariotáki léyete "Préveza"*

"Karyotakis's last poem is called  
"Preveza"."

**Ο Γιώργος Σεφέρης ήταν ο πρώτος  
Έλληνας που κέρδισε το βραβείο  
Νόμπελ.**

*O Giórgos Seféris ítan o prótos élinas pou  
kérdisse to vravío Nóbel.*

"Giorgos Seferis was the first Greek to win  
the Nobel prize."

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**Το πραγματικό όνομα του Οδυσσέα Ελύτη είναι Οδυσσέας Αλεπουδέλης.**  
*To pragmatikó ónoma tu Odiséa Elíti íne Odiséas Alepudélis.*

"Odysseas Elytis real name is Odysseas Alepoudelis."

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## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### 1. Yiannis Ritsos

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Yiannis Ritsos was a Greek poet, left-wing activist and an active member of the Greek Resistance during World War II. Today, Ritsos is considered one of the five great Greek poets of the twentieth century. The French poet Louis Aragon once said that Ritsos was "the greatest poet of our age." He was unsuccessfully proposed nine times for the Nobel Prize for Literature. When he won the Lenin Peace Prize, he declared "this prize is more important for me than the Nobel."

### 2. Konstantinos Kavafis

---

Konstantinos Kavafis was a Greek poet who lived in Alexandria and worked as a journalist and a civil servant. He published 154 poems and dozens more remained incomplete or in sketch form. His most important poetry was written after his fortieth birthday. Kavafis was instrumental in the revival and recognition of Greek poetry, both at home and abroad. His poems are, typically, concise but intimate evocations of real or literary figures and milieux that have played roles in Greek culture.

### 3. Kostas Karyotakis

---

Kostas Karyotakis is considered one of the most representative Greek poets of the 1920s and one of the first poets to use iconoclastic themes in Greece. His poetry conveys a great deal of nature, imagery and traces of expressionism and surrealism. The majority of Karyotakis's contemporaries viewed him in a dim light throughout his lifetime, without a pragmatic accountability for their contemptuous views. It wasn't until after his suicide, that the majority began to revert to the view that he was indeed a great poet. He had a significant, almost disproportionately progressive influence on later Greek poets.

#### **4. Giorgos Seferis**

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Giorgos Seferis was a Greek poet and a diplomat in the Greek Foreign Service. He was one of the most important Greek poets of the twentieth century, and a Nobel laureate. Seferis was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature "for his eminent lyrical writing, inspired by a deep feeling for the Hellenic world of culture." He was the first Greek to receive the prize.

#### **5. Odysseas Elytis**

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Odysseas Elytis was regarded as a major exponent of romantic modernism in Greece and the world. In 1979 the Nobel Prize in Literature was bestowed on him. Elytis's poetry has marked, through an active presence of over forty years, a broad spectrum of subject matter and stylistic touch with an emphasis on the expression of that which is rarefied and passionate. He borrowed certain elements from Ancient Greece and Byzantium but devoted himself exclusively to today's Hellenism.



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3	Beverages	16	Common household items
4	Homecooked Meals	17	Pop and traditional culture
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