

# Review #1

## Definitions

- What is a gamma nasal, and how is it pronounced?
  - A gamma nasal is the letter gamma (  $\gamma$  ) when followed by gamma (  $\gamma$  ), kappa (  $\kappa$  ), xsi (  $\xi$  ), or chi (  $\chi$  ).
    - In other words, it is the first letter of the consonant clusters  $\gamma\gamma$ ,  $\gamma\kappa$ ,  $\gamma\xi$ , or  $\gamma\chi$ .
  - A gamma nasal is pronounced like the English letter “n.”
    - Therefore, the consonant clusters with a gamma nasal are pronounced as follows:  $\gamma\gamma$  as “ng,”  $\gamma\kappa$  as “nk,”  $\gamma\xi$  as “nks,” and  $\gamma\chi$  as “nch.”

- What is a diphthong?
  - A diphthong is two vowels in a row that are pronounced together as one sound in one syllable rather than separately as two sounds in two syllables.
  - The diphthongs that appear in the New Testament are as follows:<sup>1</sup>

Lower Case	Upper Case	Transliteration	Pronunciation
$\alpha\iota$	AI	ai	<u>a</u> isle
$\epsilon\iota$	EI	ei	<u>e</u> ight
$\omicron\iota$	OI	oi	<u>o</u> il
$\alpha\upsilon$	AY	au	<u>sau</u> erkra <u>u</u> t
$\omicron\upsilon$	OY	ou	<u>sou</u> p
$\upsilon\iota$	YI	ui	<u>su</u> ite
$\epsilon\upsilon$	EY	eu	<u>fe</u> ud
$\eta\upsilon$	HY	$\bar{e}u$	<u>fe</u> ud

- What is an improper diphthong?
  - An improper diphthong is an alpha, eta, or omega with an iota subscript.<sup>2</sup>
  - An improper diphthong is transliterated as if the iota subscript were a normal iota.
  - An improper diphthong is pronounced as if the iota subscript did not exist.<sup>3</sup>

Lower Case	Transliteration	Pronunciation
$\alpha\iota$	ai	<u>f</u> ather
$\eta\iota$	$\bar{e}i$	<u>o</u> bey
$\omega\iota$	$\bar{o}i$	<u>t</u> one

- Describe when an apostrophe is used.
  - An apostrophe (  $\prime$  ) is used in the process of elision. In elision, certain words that end in a vowel substitute an apostrophe for the final vowel when followed by a word that begins with a vowel. Note that an apostrophe, a smooth breathing mark, and a coronis (used in the process of crasis, described on pages 111 and 338 of the textbook) all look identical.

<sup>1</sup> Advanced information: There is one other Greek diphthong,  $\omega\upsilon$ , which doesn't occur as a diphthong in the NT (although  $\omega\upsilon$  occurs in the NT and the diphthong does appear in the LXX).  $\omega\upsilon$  is pronounced as a diphthong by combining the two separate sounds into one quick, smooth sound  $\bar{o}h'$ -oo (Herbert Weir Smyth, *Greek Grammar*, rev. Gordon M. Messing (Harvard, 1984), 13).

<sup>2</sup> Advanced information: When written in capital letters, the iota of an improper diphthong is written as a normal capital iota (Smyth, 9). As a result,  $\alpha\iota$  and  $\omicron\iota$  are both written in Greek capital letters as AI, and can only be distinguished by context.

<sup>3</sup> Advanced information: In the combination alpha-iota, if the alpha is short, the iota will not subscript, forming the diphthong  $\alpha\iota$ . And if the alpha is long, the iota will subscript, forming the improper diphthong  $\alpha\iota$ . So if you pronounce short and long alpha differently, pronounce the improper diphthong  $\alpha\iota$  as you pronounce a long alpha.

## Exercises

- Write out the alphabet.
  - Lower case: α β γ δ ε ζ η θ ι κ λ μ ν ξ ο π ρ σ/ς τ υ φ χ ψ ω
  - Upper case: Α Β Γ Δ Ε Ζ Η Θ Ι Κ Λ Μ Ν Ξ Ο Π Ρ Σ Τ Υ Φ Χ Ψ Ω
  - Names: alpha, beta, gamma, delta, epsilon, zeta, eta, theta, iota, kappa, lambda, mu, nu, xi, omicron, pi, rho, sigma, tau, upsilon, phi, chi, psi, omega.
- How are the two sigmas used in one word?
  - Lower-case sigma is written (ς) when it is the last letter of a word, and is written (σ) everywhere else.
  - E.g., ἀπόστολος.
- Give an example of a smooth breathing mark and a rough breathing mark.
  - ἀμήν has a smooth breathing mark.
  - ἁμαρτία has a rough breathing mark.
- Punctuation Marks. Match the Greek punctuation mark with its function.
 

a. ,	←	→	semi-colon
b. .	←	→	question mark
c. · (dot above the line)	←	→	comma
d. ;	←	→	period
- Accents. Match the appropriate accent marks with their proper name.
 

a. ´	←	→	circumflex
b. `	←	→	acute
c. ˘	←	→	grave <sup>4</sup>
- How does an accent affect a translation?
  - For most words, accent does not affect translation in any way.
  - There are a few words that can only be distinguished by their accents. For a list, see page 338 in the textbook.
  - Certain personal pronoun forms may have more emphasis if they are accented than if they are not. This is described on pages 91 and 92 in the textbook.
- Syllabification. Divide the following words into syllables.
  - δι • δά • σκων
  - δι • α • μαρ • τυ • ρό • με • νος
  - ἄν • θρω • πος
  - λέ • γον • τες
  - βάλ • λω

<sup>4</sup> The word “grave,” when it refers to the accent, can either be pronounced the same as when it refers to a tomb, or it can be pronounced with the sound of the letter “a” in the word “part.”