

# It's Greek to Me...

Greek Alphabet and  
Contributions to language



# The Greek Alphabet

**Α**

**Alpha**  
(al-fah)

**Β**

**Beta**  
(bay-tah)

**Γ**

**Gamma**  
(gam-ah)

**Δ**

**Delta**  
(del-ta)

**Ε**

**Epsilon**  
(ep-si-lon)

**Ζ**

**Zeta**  
(zay-tah)

**Η**

**Eta**  
(ay-tah)

**Θ**

**Theta**  
(thay-tah)

**Ι**

**Iota**  
(eye-o-tah)

**Κ**

**Kappa**  
(cap-pah)

**Λ**

**Lambda**  
(lamb-dah)

**Μ**

**Mu**  
(mew)

**Ν**

**Nu**  
(new)

**Ξ**

**Xi**  
(zie)

**Ο**

**Omicron**  
(om-e-cron)

**Π**

**Pi**  
(pie)

**Ρ**

**Rho**  
(roe)

**Σ**

**Sigma**  
(sig-mah)

**Τ**

**Tau**  
(taw)

**Υ**

**Upsilon**  
(up-si-lon)

**Φ**

**Phi**  
(fie)

**Χ**

**Chi**  
(kie)

**Ψ**

**Psi**  
(sigh)

**Ω**

**Omega**  
(oh-may-gah)

# Greek Prefixes

- **acro-**
- Auto-
- Dys-
- Hemi-
- Hyper-
- Mirco-
- Neo-
- Pseudo-
- Geo-
- “top” Acrobat
- “self” automobile
- “bad” dysfunctional
- “half” hemisphere
- “in excess” hyperactive
- “small” microscope
- “new” neoclassical
- “false” - pseudonym
- “earth” - geography



# Greek Root Words

- -anthrop- “human” misanthrope, philanthropy, anthropomorphic
- chron- “time” chronicle, synchronize, chronometer
- dem- “people” democracy, demography, demagogue, endemic, pandemic
- morph- “form” amorphous, metamorphic, morphology
- path- “feeling, suffering” empathy, sympathy, apathy,
- Ped, pedo- “child, children” pediatrician,
- philo-, -phil- “having a strong affinity or love” philanthropy, philharmonic, philosophy
- phon- “sound” polyphonic, cacophony, phonetics



# Greek Suffixes

- **Greek root Basic meaning Example**
- anthrop "human" anthropology
- chron-"time" chronometer
- dem-people democracy, demography,
- path-feeling, sufferingempathy, sympathy,
- pedo-, -ped-child, children pediatrician, pphilo-, -  
phil-having a strong affinity or love philosophy
- phon-soundpolyphonic, cacophony, phonetics



# Greek Number Forms

- Bi-
- Tri-
- Terta-
- Penta-
- Hexa-
- Hepta-
- Octo-
- Deca-
- Kilo-
- “two” Bipolar
- “three” triangle
- “four” tetrameter
- “five” Pentagon
- “six” hexagram
- “seven” heptagon
- “eight” octagon
- “ten” decagram
- “thousand” kilogram

