

17a

ὅτι μὲν ὑμεῖς, ὦ ἄνδρες Ἀθηναῖοι,

πεπόνθατε ὑπὸ τῶν ἐμῶν κατηγορῶν, οὐκ οἶδα:

ἐγὼ δ' οὖν καὶ αὐτὸς ὑπ' αὐτῶν ὀλίγου ἑμαυτοῦ ἐπελαθόμην, οὕτω πιθανῶς ἔλεγον.

Growing inside me: Plato “Apology”

<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.01.0169%3Atext%3DApol.%3Asection%3A1>

ὅτι μὲν ὑμεῖς, ὦ ἄνδρες Ἀθηναῖοι,

ὅτι • (hóti)

subordinating conjunction

πεπόνθατε ὑπὸ τῶν ἐμῶν κατηγορῶν, οὐκ οἶδα.

after verbs of perception and emotion, introducing a noun clause expressing a fact

after verbs of perception, emotion, saying, or hearing, introducing an infinitive clause

introducing a causal clause expressing a reason: because, seeing that

ἐγὼ δ' οὖν καὶ αὐτὸς ὑπ' αὐτῶν ὀλίγου ἐμαυτοῦ ἐπελαθομένην, οὕτω πιθανῶς ἔλεγον.

(with a superlative) as much as possible

Particle

μὲν • (mén) (discourse particle)

Pronoun

ὑμεῖς • (hūmeîs)

on the one hand, while, whereas (often left untranslated)
(before other particles) accordingly, and so

second person plural personal pronoun: you (ye, y'all, you guys)

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ὅτι μὲν ὑμεῖς, ὦ ἄνδρες Ἀθηναῖοι,

ὦ Interjection ὦ • (ô)

(usually ὦ) expresses surprise, joy, or pain: oh!; ah!

πεπόνθατε ὑπὸ τῶν ἐμῶν κατηγορῶν, οὐκ οἶδα:

(usually ὦ) Very commonly used before a noun in the vocative

ἐγὼ δ' οὖν καὶ αὐτὸς ὑπ' αὐτῶν ὀλίγου ἐμαυτοῦ ἐπελαθόμεν, οὕτω πιθανῶς ἔλεγον.

Noun ἄνδρες • (ándres) nominative/vocative plural of

Noun ἀνὴρ • (anér) m (genitive ἀνδρός); third declension

man (adult male) husband human being, as opposed

Ἀθηναῖοι • (Athēnaîoi)

masculine nominative/vocative plural of Ἀθηναῖος (Athēnaîos)

Adjective

Ἀθηναῖος • (Athēnaîos) m (feminine Ἀθηναίᾱ, neuter Ἀθηναῖον); first/second declension

of or relating to Athens; Athenian

(substantive) an Athenian

ὅτι μὲν ὑμεῖς, ὦ ἄνδρες
Ἀθηναῖοι,

Oh so you, hey guys Athenian,

πεπόνθατε ὑπὸ τῶν [ἐμῶν κατηγορῶν], οὐκ οἶδα:

οὐκ
οἶδα

πεπόνθατε ὑπὸ τῶν [my prosecutors], οὐκ οἶδα:

ἐμῶν
κατηγορῶν
My prosecutors

undergo/suffer [preposition] [the] [my prosecutors],[I doubt
that]

Undergo/suffer under/by my prosecutors, I doubt
that

How you, men of Athens, have been affected by my accusers, I do

17a

not know

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πεπόνθατε ὑπὸ τῶν ἐμῶν κατηγορῶν, οὐκ οἶδα:

Verb

πεπόνθατε • (perónthate)

second-person plural perfect active indicative of πάσχω (páskhō)

Verb

πάσχω • (páskhō)

to undergo, experience (as opposed to acting)

(with another person involved) have someone do something to oneself, to be treated a certain way by someone (with ὑπό (hupó) and genitive, sometimes with adverb of manner)
(in a negative sense) suffer at someone's hands

(law) to suffer a punishment

(without a person involved) to experience something, have something happen to one,
undergo something

to be in a certain situation (with adverb of manner)

to feel an emotion or impulse

Growing inside me: Plato “Apology”

<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.01.0169%3Atext%3DApol.%3Asection%3D1>

πεπόνθατε ὑπὸ τῶν ἐμῶν κατηγορῶν, οὐκ οἶδα:

Preposition

ὑπό • (hupó) (governs the genitive, dative and accusative)

(+ genitive)

(of place) from underneath

under, beneath

(of cause or agency) by, through

(in pregnant phrases) of immediate acts of an agent, as well as further results

(in Herodotus and Attic, of things as well as persons)

denoting the attendant or accompanying circumstances

(of accompanying music) to give the time

(+ dative)

(of place or position) under, near

(of agency) under, through, by

expressing subjection or dependence

of logical subordination

of attendant circumstances

Growing inside me: Plato "Apology"

<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.01.0169%3Atext%3DApol.%3Asection%3D1>

πεπόνθατε ὑπὸ τῶν ἐμῶν κατηγορῶν, οὐκ οἶδα:

Article

τῶν • (tôn)

(Attic, Ionic) masculine/feminine/neuter genitive plural of ὁ (ho)

Article

ὁ • (ho) m, ἡ f (hē), τό n (tó)

(rarely in Epic, often in later Greek) the

Usage notes

The article undergoes crasis with nouns and adjectives that start with a vowel:

τὸ ὄνομα → τοὔνομα "the name"

τὰ ἐμὰ → τᾶμὰ "my (affairs)"

τὸ ἐναντίον → τοὔναντίον "on the contrary"

τὸ αὐτό → ταὐτό "the same"

Growing inside me: Plato “Apology”

<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.01.0169%3Atext%3DApol.%3Asection%3D1>

πεπόνθατε ὑπὸ τῶν ἐμῶν κατηγορῶν, οὐκ οἶδα:

Adjective

ἐμῶν • (emôn)

masculine/feminine/neuter genitive plural of ἐμός (emós)

Participle

ἐμῶν • (emôn) m (feminine ἐμοῦσᾶ, neuter ἐμοῦν); first/third declension

present active participle of ἐμέω (eméō)

Adjective

ἐμός • (emós) m (feminine ἐμή, neuter ἐμόν); first/second declension
(first person singular possessive adjective)

(modifying noun) my, of mine

(substantive, on its own, often with article) mine

Growing inside me: Plato "Apology"

<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.01.0169%3Atext%3DApol.%3Asection%3D1>

πεπόνθατε ὑπὸ τῶν ἐμῶν κατηγορῶν, οὐκ οἶδα:

Κατηγορῶν Greek POPULAR TRANSLATIONS POPULARITY Prosecutors

Particle οὐκ • (ouk) (negative particle)

Alternative form of οὐ (ou), used before a vowel with smooth breathing

Verb οἶδᾶ • (oîda) (transitive) to know, be acquainted with [+accusative = something]
(with neuter accusative plural of an adjective): have a quality in one's heart

(transitive) to be skilled in [+genitive = something]

(intransitive) to know how to [+infinitive = do something]

(transitive, when main verb and participle have separate subjects) to know that

[+accusative noun and accusative participle = someone else does something]

(intransitive, when subject of main verb and subject of participle are the same) to

know that [+nominative participle = one does something]

to know that, with accusative and then an indirect statement introduced by ὅτι (hóti)

or ὥς (hōs) (negative) οὐκ οἶδα εἰ (ouk oîda ei): I don't know if or whether, I doubt

that (parenthetical) (a superlative is often followed by the phrase "ὧν ἴσμεν")

ἐγὼ δ' οὖν καὶ αὐτὸς ὑπ' αὐτῶν ὀλίγου ἑμαυτοῦ ἐπελαθόμην, οὕτω πιθανῶς ἔλεγον.

Pronoun[[edit](#)]

ἐγὼ • (egō) ([Epic](#), [Attic](#), [Ionic](#), *Thessalian*, [Koine](#))

1.first person singular personal

pronoun: [I](#), me, my

Usage notes[[edit](#)]

[ἐγών](#) (egón) is used in Epic mostly before vowels, and is used in Doric also before consonants. The dual and plural are [vώ](#) (nó) and [ἡμεῖς](#) (hēmeîs).

Particle[[edit](#)]

οὖν • (oûn) (*discourse particle*) ([Attic](#), [Epic](#))

1.[then](#) (*implying temporal sequence*)

2.[therefore](#) (*implying causal sequence*)

3.Marker of the continuation of a previously interrupted line of thought: "As I was saying..."

4.Added to indefinite pronoun or adverb, such as [ὅστισοῦν](#) (hostisoûn), to make it more general: [whoever](#), [whatever](#); whosoever

Particle[[edit](#)]

δέ • (dé) (*discourse particle*)

1.[but](#), [and](#)

Conjunction[[edit](#)]

δέ • (dé)

1.[but](#), [and](#)

Usage notes[[edit](#)]

δέ is a postpositive word: it is never the first word in a sentence. It is usually the second but sometimes also the third or fourth.

It is often used together with [μέν](#) (mén).

ἐγὼ δ' οὖν καὶ αὐτὸς ὑπ' αὐτῶν ὀλίγου ἑμαυτοῦ ἐπελαθόμην, οὕτω πιθανῶς ἔλεγον.

Conjunction[[edit](#)]

καί • (kaí)

1.[and](#)

2.[even](#), [also](#)

3.[both](#) ... [and](#) ... (when used in the α

Derived terms[[edit](#)]

•[κἄτα](#) (kâita)

Descendants[[edit](#)]

•→ Esperanto: [kaj](#) (“and”)

•Greek: [καί](#) (kai, “and”)

•Tsakonian: [ἰαῖ](#)

Pronoun[[edit](#)]

αὐτός • (autós) *m*, [αὐτή](#) (autḗ) *f*, [αὐτό](#) (autó) *n*; [first/second declension](#)

1.(without article) [self](#)

1.(in nominative, emphasizing the subject)

2.(reflexive pronoun, in oblique cases) [himself](#), [herself](#), [itself](#), [themselves](#)

3.(in philosophy, of an abstract idea) by or in itself

2.(without article, in oblique cases, 3rd person personal pronoun) [he](#), [she](#), [it](#), [they](#)

3.(with definite article) [same](#)

ἐγὼ δ' οὖν καὶ αὐτὸς ὑπ' αὐτῶν ὀλίγου ἑμαυτοῦ ἐπελαθόμην, οὕτω πιθανῶς ἔλεγον.

Preposition[[edit](#)]

ὑπ' • (hup') (governs
the [genitive](#), [dative](#) and [accusative](#))

1.[Apocopic](#) form of [ὑπό](#) (hupó)

αὐτῶν • (autôn)

1.[genitive plural masculine/feminine/neuter](#) of [αὐτός](#) (autós)

ὀλίγου • (olígu)

1.[masculine/neuter genitive singular](#) of [ὀλίγος](#) (olígos)

ὀλίγος • (olígos) *m* (feminine [ὀλίγη](#), neuter [ὀλίγον](#)); [first/second declension](#)

1.Of small amount: [few](#), [little](#)

2.Of small size: [little](#), [small](#)

3.Of small degree: [slight](#)

ἑμαυτοῦ • (emautoû) *m* or *n* (feminine [ἑμαυτῆς](#)) ([reflexive](#), [Attic](#))
1.[myself](#)

αὐτός • (autós) *m*, [αὐτή](#) (autḗ) *f*, [αὐτό](#) (autó) *n*; [first/second declension](#)

1.(without article) [self](#)

1.(in nominative, emphasizing the subject)

2.(reflexive pronoun, in oblique

cases) [himself](#), [herself](#), [itself](#), [themselves](#)

3.(in philosophy, of an abstract idea) by or in itself

2.(without article, in oblique cases, 3rd person personal pronoun) [he](#), [she](#), [it](#), [they](#)

3.(with definite article) [same](#)

Ἐπελαθόμην is more interesting. This is the first-person singular aorist active indicative of ἐπι-λανθάνομαι. Λανθάνομαι means “to forget”, but I’ve never seen this verb with the prefix ἐπι before, and LSJ doesn’t even have an entry for it. However, there *is* an adjective ἐπίληθος, “causing to forget” with a

ἐγὼ δ' οὖν καὶ αὐτὸς ὑπ' αὐτῶν ὀλίγου ἑμαυτοῦ ἐπελαθόμην, οὕτω πιθανῶς ἔλεγον.

οὕτω • (hoútō) (*demonstrative adverb*)

1. Alternative form of **οὕτως** (hoútōs) (used before a consonant)

οὕτως • (hoútōs) (*demonstrative adverb*)

1. in this manner, thus, so quotations ▼

1. even so, just so quotations ▼

2. (with imperative, added emphasis) quotations ▼

3. (the introduction of the apodosis after a protasis) quotations ▼

2. (in a really inferential sense) so, therefore quotations ▼

3. (with an adjective or adverb) so, so much, so excessively quotations ▼

4. (sometimes used like **αὕτως** (aútōs)) so, merely, simply

πιθάνος • (pithanós) *m* (feminine **πιθανή**, neuter **πιθάνον**); first/second declension

1. persuasive, influential, winning

2. plausible, credible

3. (art) true to nature, natural

4. easy to persuade, credulous

5. obedient, docile

ἔλεγον • (élegon)

1. first-person singular/third-person plural imperfect active indicative of **λέγω** (légō)

λέγω • (légō)

1. I put in order, arrange, gather

2. I choose, count, reckon

3. I say, speak

4. I call, name (usually in the passive voice)

ἐγὼ me
δ' and
οὖν then, therefore, whoever
καὶ and, even, also, both
αὐτὸς self
ὑπ' under, by
αὐτῶν self
ὀλίγου few, little
ἐμαυτοῦ arrange, gather, choose, say
ἐπελαθόμην, *ἐπίληθος*, "causing to forget"
with a genitive object (compare *Λήθη*).
οὕτω in this manner
πιθανῶς persuasive
ἔλεγον. arrange, gather, choose, say

1 ὅ τι...πεπόνθατε: whatever...; ὅτι, neut. acc.
relative ὅστις and 2p pf. πάσχω ὧ ἄνδρες Ἀθηναῖοι:
voc. direct address; Socrates addresses the
Athenian jurors 2 ὑπὸ: by..., because of...; ὑπό+ gen.
expressing agency or cause δ(ὲ) οὖν: but at any rate
(S2959) καὶ: also, even; adv. αὐτὸς: intensive (-self)
with 1s subject ὑπ(ὸ): by...; + gen, expressing
agency 3 ὀλίγου: almost; '(lacking) from a little,'
adverbial (gen. of separation) ἐπελαθόμην: 1s aor.
mid.; often verbs of forgetting and remembering
govern a gen. ἔλεγον: 3p impf

ἐγὼ me

δ' and

οὖν then, therefore, whoever

καὶ and, even, also, both

αὐτὸς self

ὑπ' under, by

αὐτῶν self

ὀλίγου few, little

ἑαυτοῦ arrange, gather, choose, say

ἐπελαθόμην, ἐπίληθος, "causing to forget"

with a genitive object (compare Λήθη).

οὕτω in this manner

πιθανῶς persuasive

ἔλεγον. arrange, gather, choose, say

everyone

1 ὃ τι...πεπόνθατε: whatever...; ὅτι, neut. acc.

relative ὅστις and 2p pf. πάσχω ὦ ἄνδρες Ἀθηναῖοι:
voc. direct address; Socrates addresses the

Athenian jurors 2 ὑπὸ: by..., because of...; ὑπό+ gen.

expressing agency or cause δ(ὲ) οὖν: but at any rate

(S2959) καὶ: also, even; adv. αὐτὸς: intensive (-self)

with 1s subject ὑπ(ὸ): by...; + gen, expressing

agency 3 ὀλίγου: almost; '(lacking) from a little,'

adverbial (gen. of separation) ἐπελαθόμην: 1s aor.

mid.; often verbs of forgetting and remembering

govern a gen. ἔλεγον: 3p impf

Almost forgot

myself?

Everyone forgot myself (because) persuades told this manner

but I know that their persuasive words almost made me forget who I was

καίτοι ἀληθές γε ὡς ἔπος εἶπεῖν οὐδὲν εἰρήκασιν.

μάλιστα δὲ αὐτῶν ἐν ἐθαύμασα τῶν πολλῶν ὧν
ἐψεύσαντο, τοῦτο ἐν ᾧ ἔλεγον ὡς χρῆν ὑμᾶς
εὐλαβεῖσθαι μὴ ὑπ' ἐμοῦ ἐξαπατηθῆτε

καίτοι ἀληθές γε ὥς ἔπος εἰπεῖν οὐδὲν εἰρήκασιν.

Particle[[edit](#)]

καίτοι • (kaítoi) (*discourse particle*)

1. and [indeed](#), and [further](#)

2. Used to introduce an objection by the speaker, often in rhetorical questions: and [yet](#)

Adjective[[edit](#)]

ἀληθές • (alēthés)

1. inflection of [ἀληθής](#) (alēthḗs):

1. [masculine/feminine vocative singular](#)

2. [neuter nominative/accusative/vocative singular](#)

Adjective

ἀληθής • (alēthḗs) m or f (neuter ἀληθές); third declension

(of things) true, real, genuine

(of people) truthful, honest

Particle[[edit](#)]

γε • (ge) (*discourse particle*)

1. often translatable with italics or stress

1. (limiting) [at least](#), [at any rate](#), [only](#)

2. (intensifying) [in fact](#)

Etymology 1 [edit]

From the relative pronoun [ὅς](#) (*hós*) + [-ως](#) (*-ōs*, adverbial suffix)

Adverb[\[edit\]](#)

[ὅς](#) [•](#) (*hōs*) (*relative adverb*)

1.the introduction to similes

1.[like as](#), [as](#), [just](#) as

2.according as

2.(*with adverbial clauses*)

1.(*parenthetically*) to qualify a general statement; as it seems

2.(*in elliptical phrases*) so far as....

3.(*attached to the object of a verb*) [as](#)

[*yós](#)

3.(*to limit or augment the force of adverbs*)

Conjunction[\[edit\]](#)

[ὅς](#) [•](#) (*hōs*)

1.(*subordinating conjunction or complementizer, introducing dependent or subordinate clause*)

2.(*with noun clauses*) introducing a clause expressing a fact: [that](#) (*with indicative or optative*)

3.(*final*) introducing a clause expressing an end or purpose: [that](#), so that, in order that, so (*with subjunctive or optative*)

4.(*consequential*) introducing a clause expressing a result: so that

5.(*causal*) [as](#), [since](#), [because](#)

6.(*temporal*) [when](#)

7.(*modal*) [how](#)

8.(*local*) [where](#)

Noun[[edit](#)]

ἔπος • (épos) *n* (genitive [ἔπεος](#) or [ἔπους](#)); [third declension](#)

1. something spoken: speech, story, song

1. one's word, [promise](#)

2. word as opposed to deed

3. [subject](#)

4. a line of poetry

5. (when discussing etymology or usage) an individual word

2. (in the [plural](#)) [epic](#) poetry

3. (the phrase, ὥς ἔπος εἰπεῖν, qualifying a [hyperbolic statement](#)) so to speak, roughly speaking, almost

4. (the phrase, κατ' ἔπος) word by word

Verb[[edit](#)]

εἰπεῖν • (eipeîn)

1. [aorist](#) [active](#) [infinitive](#) of [εἶπον](#) (eîpon)

Verb[[edit](#)]

εἶπον • (eîpon)

1. I [said](#), [spoke](#)

Usage notes[[edit](#)]

εἶπον generally [supplies](#) aorist active forms to the verbs [εἶρω](#) (eíró) and [λέγω](#) (légō, “say”).

Pronoun[[edit](#)]

οὐδέν • (oudén)

1.[neuter nominative singular](#) of [οὐδείς](#) (oudeís)

2.[neuter accusative singular](#) of [οὐδείς](#) (oudeís)

3.[neuter vocative singular](#) of [οὐδείς](#) (oudeís)

Adverb[[edit](#)]

οὐδέν • (oudén)

1.in no way, not at all

Descendants[[edit](#)]

•Greek: [δ ε ν](#) (den)

Pronoun[[edit](#)]

οὐδείς • (oudeís)

1.[no one](#), [nobody](#), [none](#), [nothing](#), [no](#)

Καίτοι and indeed, and further, and yet
ἀληθές true real genuine
Γε at least, at any rate, only, in fact,
ὥς so that
ἔπος word
Εἶπεῖν I said, spoke
Οὐδὲν in no way, no one, not at all
εἰρήκασιν

They have said nothing truthful, so to say

The phrase ὥς ἔπ ο ς εἰπ εἶν is an expression, meaning something like “so to say”. So a very rough translation would be, “they have said (perfect tense) nothing truthful, so to say”. Apparently, “they said nothing truthful” is itself also an expression. As to ὥς ἔπ ο ς εἰπ εἶν, I believe ὥς is not seldom used with an infinitive rather than a finite verb, so perhaps the infinitive is not so surprising. The particle γ ε often gives emphasis to the preceding word (I’m not sure whether it has a more specific connotation here). The fact that ἀ λ η θ ές and ο ὔ δ ε ν are so far apart is not very unusual: gender, number, and case make it clear that they belong together; Greek and Latin are simply such that you can put phrases or clauses between words belonging to the same syntactic constituent.