Your First Greek Words

Getting Started on Your Greek Vocabulary

A lesson for the *Paideia* web-app © Ian W. Scott, 2015



My Slide Heading

 You can already sound out many Greek words

τυπος

τομος





- Common patterns
 - Letter υ becomes "y" in English (not "u")
 - Endings often dropped off or shortened
 - τυπος becomes "type"





- Common patterns
 - Endings often replaced
 - -ια becomes "-y" in English
 - Often two words compounded
 - $\theta \epsilon \circ \varsigma + \lambda \circ \gamma \circ \varsigma = \text{theology}$
 - μονος + γαμος = monogamy
 - τοπος + γραφη = topography





- Most medical terms are Greek
 - τομος, "cutting"
 - lobotomy (λοβος, "lobe" or "pod")
 - ἰατρος, "doctor, healer"
 - podiatrist ($\pi \circ \delta \circ \varsigma$, "concerning a foot")
 - psychiatrist (ψυχη, "mind, soul")





- Greek prefixes common on English words
 - μεγας, "big, large"
 - megastore
 - megastar
 - megachurch
 - μικρος, "small, tiny"
 - microscope
 - microprocessor
 - microwave



Words You Will Use Right Away

- Answering "yes" or "no"
 - ναι, "yes"
 - εὐγε, "alright, ok"
 - oປໍ, "no"
 - oປ່x before a vowel



Words You Will Use Right Away

- Feedback from the townspeople
 - καλον, "good, well done"
 - κακον, "bad, poorly done"
 - οὐ κακον, "not bad!"



Words You Will Use Right Away

- Conjunctions: connecting words
 - Connecting sentences
 - Connecting clauses
 - Connecting phrases
- Four basic conjunctions
 - και, "and"
 - Opening a sentence: "so," "then," "next," etc.
 - τε, "and"
 - $\delta \varepsilon$, "and" or "but"
 - $\dot{\alpha}\lambda\lambda\alpha$, "but, but rather"