

Greek Vowels	
Short	Long
α - like in father	α – same only held longer ¹
ε - like in bet	η – like ā in fate
ο - like in omelet	ω – like ō in tote
ι – like i in pit	ι – like ē in feet
υ - like in lute	υ – same only held longer ²

Gamma Combinations	
Combination	English Sound
γγ	ng
γκ	nk
γχ	nkh

Breathing And Accent Marks		
Rough	Smooth	
ἐν - “h” sound so, “hen”	ἐν - silent, so “en”	
´ (acute)	` (grave)	˘ (circumflex)
When a breathing mark and accent stand over the same vowel or combination, the breathing is first - except with the circumflex.		

1 Some readers of the Koine Greek will pronounce the long α like “a” in father and the short α as in “sat” but it is customary to simply hold the “ah” sound longer.

2 Some readers of the Koine Greek will pronounce the long υ like “u” in lute and the short υ as the “u” in “put” but it is customary to simply hold the ü sound longer.

Vowel Combinations (Diphthongs)

Diphthong	English Sound	As In
αι	ī, ai	aisle
ει	ā, ei	fate, veil
οι	oi	oil
αυ	au, ou	cow, out
ευ	eu, yew	feud
ου	ü, oo	root, food
υι	uee, ui, wi	queen
η	yā	Yale

Note, the ει diphthong sounds the same as the η. Also a vowel or diphthong at the beginning of a word always has a breathing mark. The second vowel of a diphthong is always an iota (ι) or an upsilon (υ). In all other vowel combinations, the vowels are pronounced separately.

Movable ν

Some verb forms ending in a vowel and preceding a word beginning with a vowel or when placed at the end of a sentence have an ν added. For example, *ἔστι* and *ἔστιν* both mean "is." Sometimes ν is added to a word even when these rules do not apply. The meaning does not change.