

## The Erasmian Pronunciations of the Greek Alphabet

	Lower case	Upper case	English Equivalent	Letter Name	Pronounced As
1.	α or α	A	a	ἄλφα.....alpha (ahl-fah)	a, in <u>father</u>
2.	β	B or Β	b	βῆτα.....Bēta (bay-tah)	b, in <u>bar</u> or <u>ball</u>
3.	γ or γ	Γ	g	γάμμα.....Gamma (gahm-ma)	g, in gutter or gone
4.	δ	Δ	d	δέλτα.....Delta (dell-tah)	d, in <u>dust</u> or <u>dog</u>
5.	ε	E	e	ἔψιλον.....Epsilon (ep-sih-lawn)	e, in <u>met</u>
6.	ζ	Z	z or dz	ζῆτα.....Zēta (dzay-tah)	dz, in <u>dozed</u>
7.	η	Η	ē	ῆτα.....Ēta (ay-tah)	a, in <u>late</u> or c, in <u>they</u>
8.	θ or θ	Θ or Θ	th	θῆτα.....Thēta (thay-tah)	th, in <u>thunder</u> or <u>throne</u>
9.	ι	I	i or y or j	ἰῶτα.....Iota (ee-oh-tah)	i, in machine or marine
10.	κ or κ	K	k or c	κάππα.....Kappa (cop-ah)	k, in <u>karate</u> or <u>king</u>
11.	λ	Λ	l	λάμβδα.....Lambda (lahm-dah)	l, in <u>love</u> or <u>long</u>
12.	μ	M	m	μῦ.....Mu (moo)	m, in <u>mother</u>
13.	ν	N	n	νῦ.....Nu (new)	n, in <u>nothing</u>
14.	ξ	Ξ or Ξ	x	ξί.....Xi (ksee)	x, in <u>box</u> or ks as in <u>asks</u>
15.	ο	O	o	ὀμικρον....Omicron (au-mih-crawn)	o, in <u>dog</u> or <u>log</u>
16.	π	Π	p	πί.....Pi (pea, pie)	p, in puffs or <u>pea</u>
17.	ρ	P	r or rh	ῥῶ.....Rho (hrow)	h & r, in <u>her</u>
18.	σ, s	Σ, ζ	s	σίγμα.....Sigma (sig-mah)	s, in sent or sign
19.	τ	T	t	ταῦ.....Tau (rhyme with "how")	t, in <u>ten</u>
20.	υ	Υ or Υ	y or v or u	ὑψιλον.....Upsilon (oop-sih-lawn)	ew, in <u>new</u>
21.	φ or φ or φ	Φ	ph	φί.....Phi (fee)	ph, in <u>phone</u>
22.	χ	X	ch	χί.....Chi (key)	ch, in <u>Bach</u>
23.	ψ	Ψ	ps	ψί.....Psi (psee)	Ps, (initial) in <u>Psalms</u> Ps, (medial or final) in <u>lips</u>
24.	ω	Ω	ō	ὦμέγα.....Omega (oh-may-gah)	o, in <u>only</u>

## The Erasmian Pronunciations of Greek Vowels and Diphthongs

- I. The Greek vowels are:  $\alpha$ ,  $\epsilon$ ,  $\eta$ ,  $\iota$ ,  $\omicron$ ,  $\upsilon$ ,  $\omega$ .  
(note: think of the English vowels and then add  $\eta$  and  $\omega$ )
- II. A diphthong is a combination of two vowels producing one sound and one syllable. The seven common Greek diphthongs are:
  1.  $\alpha\iota$  = pronounced "I" as ai in aisle.
  2.  $\alpha\upsilon$  = pronounced "au" as au in auction (ow).
  3.  $\epsilon\iota$  = pronounced "A" as ei in eight.
  4.  $\epsilon\upsilon$  = pronounced "you" as eu in neuter.
  5.  $\omicron\iota$  = pronounced "oi" as oi in oil, foil.
  6.  $\omicron\upsilon$  = pronounced "oo" as oo, as in food, or ou as in youth.
  7.  $\upsilon\iota$  = pronounced "we" as uee as in queen.

Note: The strong's Concordance does not pronounce " $\alpha\iota$ " a diphthong, and " $\epsilon\iota$ " is pronounced "i" instead of "A".