



# An Introduction to the Composition and Analysis of Greek Prose

By Eleanor Dickey

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Why learn to write in a dead language? Because a really good understanding of a language can only be attained by using it actively. Unlike earlier textbooks aimed at schoolboys, this work addresses modern adults who want to understand concepts fully as they learn. Drawing on recent scholarship where appropriate and assuming no prior background except some reading knowledge of Greek, the course combines a structured review of paradigms and vocabulary with clear and comprehensive explanations of the rules of Greek syntax. Large numbers of exercises are provided, both with and without key: a complete set of cumulative exercises and another set of non-cumulative exercises for those who prefer to dip into specific sections. The exercises include, as well as English sentences and paragraphs for translation, Greek sentences and passages for translation, analysis, and manipulation. A full English-Greek vocabulary and list of principal parts are included.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"Eleanor Dickey's book is nothing short of a complete, stand-alone Greek prose composition course, one that touches on the sorts of skills and practice found in recent studies to be essential to language acquisition: alternating composition with reading and analysis of sentences in the target language, constant self-testing, engaging students' recall, interleaving various types of exercises, regularly revisiting common structures, and recontextualizing important skills. There is simply no other Greek prose composition book like it."

Ryan C. Fowler, Franklin and Marshall College, Pennsylvania

"Dickey's book satisfies a longstanding need for a serious, comprehensive textbook in Greek prose composition. Indeed, until now, teachers of Greek composition have had to rely on antiquated primers more than a century old, often geared to very young students rather than those at University level. Dickey's book offers students both basic and complex grammar review, and then gradually shows them how to think about style as well. Written in lucid, contemporary prose, with a variety of exercises systematically presented, this book will surely become the standard choice of our time for teaching Greek prose composition and style."

Ralph M. Rosen, University of Pennsylvania

"This is the book on Greek syntax that every teacher of Greek composition has always wanted. After using earlier versions of it in class over the years, I have to express my full satisfaction because each part serves entirely the needs of both students and their instructors. Students have at their disposal exercises that can be done in class, others that can be assigned as homework and more that can be used for extra practice. The ten exercises in each lesson that are in the answer key can also be useful when a student has to miss a class. At the end, students are fully prepared to proceed to a higher stage of learning how to compose passages in the style of a certain Greek author."

Raffaella Cribiore, New York University

"A pragmatic and hands-on textbook which will be of great value to those seeking to deepen their linguistic skills by back-translation."

Martin Revermann, University of Toronto

#### About the Author

Eleanor Dickey has taught Greek in the University of Ottawa, Columbia University, New York, the University of Oxford and the University of Exeter, and is currently Professor of Classics at the University of Reading and a Fellow of the British Academy. She is an expert on Greek and Latin linguistics and has published more than eighty scholarly works, including books on Greek forms of address, Latin forms of address, ancient Greek scholarship, and the *Colloquia of the Hermeneumata Pseudodositheana* (an ancient Latin and Greek textbook).

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