

# ANCIENT GREEK WORDS used in MODERN ENGLISH

It is estimated that 15% of modern English words have Ancient Greek origins. Many of these words are almost direct translations of the original Ancient Greek, whereas many more are made from combining two or more Ancient Greek words.

Classic examples of this are words like “Telescope” & “Telephone” – very modern you may believe but taken from the Ancient Greek “tele” (meaning “distant”), “skopos” (meaning “observer”) & “phone” (meaning “voice”).

Therefore “telescope” literally means “distant observer” and “telephone” means “distant voice”.

Here are just a few examples of the many English words that have originated from Ancient Greek:

<u>English Word</u>	<u>Greek Origin</u>	<u>Greek Meaning</u>
Angel	Angelos	Messenger
Agony	Agonia	Pain
Anchor	Ankyra	Anchor
Athlete	Athletes	Contestant (in games)
Academy	Akademia	School
Acoustics	Akouein	To hear
Amnesia	Amnesia	Oblivion
Amphi.....	Amphi	On both sides
Anatomy	Anotomia	Dissection
Anthology	Anthos	Flower
Anthropod	Anthropos	Human being
Anonymous	Anonumos	Nameless
Anti.....	Anti	Opposite, against
Arachnid	Arakhne	Spider
Architect	Arkhitekton	Chief builder
Asthma	Asthma	Breathing condition

Asylum	Asulon	Sanctuary
Asterisk	Aster	Star
Astrology	Astron	Constellation
Authentic	Authentikos	Original
Auto.....	Auto	Self
Barbarian	Barbaros	Non-Greek
Biology	Bios	Life
Demo.....	Demos	People
Graphics	Graphein	To write
Therm.....	Thermos	Hot
Theology	Theos	A God
Hepta.....	Hepta	Seven
Zoo & Zoo.....	Zoon	Animal
Clone	Klonos	Branch, twig
Cosmos	Kosmos	Universe
.....cracy	Kratos	Power, rule
Mono.....	Monos	Alone
Micro.....	Mikros	Small
Museum	Mousa	Goddess of Art
Nautical	Nautikos	Sailor, ship
Pathology	Pathos	Suffering, disease
Poly.....	Polus	Many
(Dino)saur	Sauros	Lizard
.....Scope.....	Skopos	Observer
Tele.....	Tele	Distant
Toxin	Toxon	Poison
Hydro.....	Hydro	Water
Hypno....	Hypno	Sleep
.....Phobia	Phobos	Fear
.....Phone.....	Phone	Voice
Chrono.....	Khrono	Time
Psycho.....	Psykhe	Spirit, mind, soul

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