

Marie-Dominique Porée

Ancient Greek Made Easy. Declension, Grammar, Vocabulary

France (2019)



TAGS: [Greek Gods](#) [Odysseus](#)

General information	
<i>Title of the work</i>	Le grec ancien facile. Déclinaisons, grammaire, vocabulaire
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Marie-Dominique Porée is a grammar teacher and a Latin literature specialist. She is a professor of Greek and classical literature at the Lycée La Bruyère in Versailles and teaches classes preparing for higher education. She is authored many books about the French language and literature and the ancient Greek.

Additional information

Contents & Purpose

Le grec ancien facile is a mini textbook of Greek grammar. The author wants to convince the reader that ancient Greek is not dead as it is still present in the French language and that it is not so difficult to learn. Though the textbook is really of pocket size (8,5x12cm) it contains a 160-page long full grammar course starting from letters and articles through declensions and contractions or irregular verbs to the syntax.

The references to classical antiquity are not many, but they do appear even in such a small textbook. First of all the reader sees Odysseus and Penelope on the cover in a witty illustration. Odysseus is shown running ahead, exclaiming that he is going for the Trojan war and that will be back in 5 minutes, Penelope barely noticing.

In the grammatical resources, antiquity appears even in the first exercise in which the task is to re-write uppercase names of 23 Greek gods and deities into lowercase. At the end of the book, after the glossary finishing the grammatical resources, one can find a collection of famous quotes to be learned in the original Greek words, along with explanations of their meaning and provenience. Among them, one can find, for example, two of the seven Delphic sentences: *γνῶθι σεαυτόν* [gnōthi seautón] - "know thyself" and *μηδέν ἄγαν* [mēdēn ágan] - "nothing in excess".
