

A quick guide to the Perseus Digital Library: Searching for words using the Search Tools

This document provides a quick guide on how to find a particular Greek word in the collections of the Perseus Digital Library, followed by a step-by-step example that you can work through for practice.

Quick guide

In the header on any page of Perseus, below the Search box in the top right corner is a link to 'All Search Options'.

This provides various search possibilities, including:

- **English-to-[Language] Lookup**
Use this to search for an English definition in the Greek dictionaries.
- **Dictionary Entry Lookup**
Use this if you want to search the headwords (lemmas) of the dictionaries. Note that you cannot use this method if you enter an inflected form.
If searching Greek, you need to input the word or word parts in a Beta Code format, the guide for which appears towards the top right of the page.
- **Word Study Tool search**
Use this tool if you have a specific word or an exact word form that you want to look up.

Step-by-step example

This example demonstrates how to access the Perseus Search Tools, and how to use three of the search options.

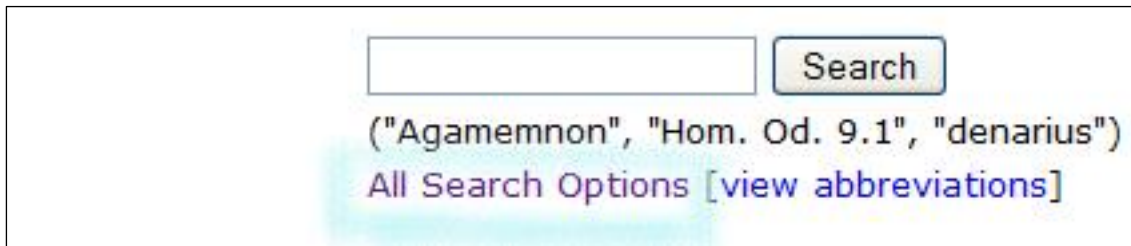
If you already have the Perseus Digital Library website open on any page, you are ready to start.

If you are not already in the Perseus Digital Library, follow this link to start:

<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/>

Accessing the Perseus Search Tools

Select the 'All Search Options' link at the top of the page.



The Perseus Search Tools page is displayed.

The Perseus Search Tools page is displayed. The page features a navigation bar with links for Home, Collections/Texts, Perseus Catalog, Research, Grants, Open Source, About, and Help. The main content area is titled "Perseus Search Tools" and includes a logo of a runner. The "General Search Tools" section contains a search form with a language dropdown set to "English", search criteria for "all of the words", "exact phrase", and "at least one of the words", and a "Limit Search to:" list with checked options for Greek and Roman Materials, Arabic Materials, Germanic Materials, 19th-Century American, Renaissance Materials, Richmond Times Dispatch, and Humanist and Renaissance Italian Poetry in Latin. To the right, there is a "How to enter text in Greek:" section with a table of Greek characters and their Beta Code equivalents, and a "Word Study Tool" with a search box and a "Go" button. Below these are sections for "English-to-[Language] lookup", "Dictionary Entry Lookup", "Art & Archaeology Search", and "Named Entity Search Tools" with sub-sections for "Search places", "Search people", and "Search dates".

Searching for a word in the Word Study Tool

In this example, the search is for a simple set of characters.

Note: If you want to search for a word that includes Greek characters that do not have an equivalent in English, you need to refer to the table that illustrates how to enter the Beta Code. For example the long 'e' character (ē) in Greek is η and you would type in the letter **h**. If you wanted an accented character, for example ε̃ you would need to type the additional formatting codes, in this case **e)/** to get the smooth breathing and the acute accent.

1. In the **Word Study Tool**, type **lege** into the textbox.

How to enter text in Greek:

Greek	α β γ δ ε ζ η θ ι κ λ μ ν ξ ο π ρ σ / ς τ υ φ χ ψ ω
Beta Code	a b g d e z h q i k l m n c o p r s t u f x y w
ά ᾶ ᾷ Ᾱ Ὰ Ά ᾼ ᾽ ι ᾿ ᾿ ᾿ ᾿ ᾿	use * for capital letter
a/ a\ a= a) a(a)/ a(/ a)\ a(\ a)= a(= a a)/ a)=	

Hom. II. 1.1 μῆνιν ἄειδε θεὰ Πηληϊάδεω Ἀχιλῆος
mh=nin a)/eide qea \ *phlhi+a/dew *)axilh=os

Word Study Tool [hide](#)

Get Info for in Greek v

Vocabulary Tool [link](#)

2. Make sure **Greek** is selected from the drop-down menu.
 3. Click **Go**.
- A new tab opens and displays the results are displayed:



Greek Word Study Tool

[Home](#) [Collections/Texts](#) [Perseus Catalog](#) [Research](#) [Grants](#) [Open Source](#) [About](#)

λέγος lewd
(Show lexicon entry in [LSJ](#)) ([search](#))

λέγε adj sg masc voc
[Word frequency statistics](#)

λέγω lay
(Show lexicon entry in [LSJ](#) [Middle Liddell Autenrieth](#)) ([search](#))

λέγε' verb 3rd sg aor subj pass epic contr short_subj
λέγε' verb 3rd sg pres ind act
λέγε' verb 2nd sg pres ind mp epic ionic poetic
λέγε' verb 2nd sg imperf ind mp epic doric ionic aeolic unaugmented
λέγε' verb 2nd sg pres imperat mp epic doric ionic aeolic
λέγε verb 3rd sg imperf ind act homeric ionic unaugmented
λέγε verb 2nd sg pres imperat act
[Word frequency statistics](#)

λέγω2 pick up
(Show lexicon entry in [LSJ](#) [Middle Liddell Slater](#)) ([search](#))

λέγε' verb 2nd sg pres ind mp
λέγε' verb 3rd sg pres ind act
λέγε' verb 2nd sg pres imperat mp epic doric ionic aeolic
λέγε' verb 2nd sg imperf ind mp epic doric ionic aeolic unaugmented
λέγε verb 3rd sg imperf ind act homeric ionic unaugmented
λέγε verb 2nd sg pres imperat act
[Word frequency statistics](#)

λέγω3 to say, speak
(Show lexicon entry in [Middle Liddell](#)) ([search](#))

λέγε' verb 3rd sg pres ind act
λέγε' verb 2nd sg pres ind mp epic ionic poetic
λέγε' verb 2nd sg pres imperat mp epic doric ionic aeolic
λέγε' verb 2nd sg imperf ind mp epic doric ionic aeolic unaugmented
λέγε verb 3rd sg imperf ind act homeric ionic unaugmented

Notice that this search produces **λέγος** [*legos*] and the three entries for **λέγω** [*legō*], since **lege** is a potential inflected form for all of them.

From here you can choose to show a lexicon entry for any of these forms.

4. Close this tab to return to the Perseus Search Tools.

Searching for a dictionary entry

1. Back at the Perseus Search Tools window, in the 'General Search Tools' section, find the third grey bar, 'Dictionary Entry Lookup', and click on **show**

General Search Tools

Search the collections [hide](#)

Search all text in the Perseus Digital Library using a specific language. This search will also return links to entries in language dictionaries (Lewis & Short, LSJ, Buckwalter, etc.)

Search in English ▼

containing *all* of the words

Search for all possible forms

containing the *exact phrase*

containing *at least one* of the words

Search for all possible forms

without the words

Search for all possible forms

Search [Clear this search](#)

Limit Search to:

- Greek and Roman Materials
- Arabic Materials
- Germanic Materials
- 19th-Century American
- Renaissance Materials
- Richmond Times Dispatch
- Humanist and Renaissance Italian Poetry in Latin

English-to-[Language] lookup [show](#)

Dictionary Entry Lookup [show](#)

Art & Archaeology Search [show](#)

The Dictionary Entry search options are displayed:

Dictionary Entry Lookup [hide](#)

(Search for *words starting with "am"* in Latin to find *amo, amarus, amplus*, etc.)

Search for words starting with ▼ in English ▼ Search

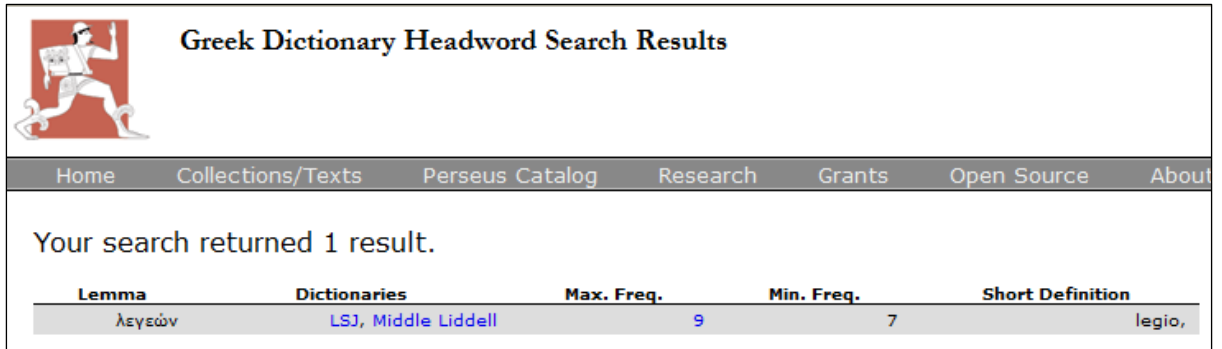
2. Type **lege** in the box, and select **Greek** as the language.

Dictionary Entry Lookup [hide](#)

(Search for *words starting with "am"* in Latin to find *amo, amarus, amplus*, etc.)

Search for words starting with ▼ lege in Greek ▼ Search

3. Click **Search**.



Greek Dictionary Headword Search Results

Home Collections/Texts Perseus Catalog Research Grants Open Source About

Your search returned 1 result.

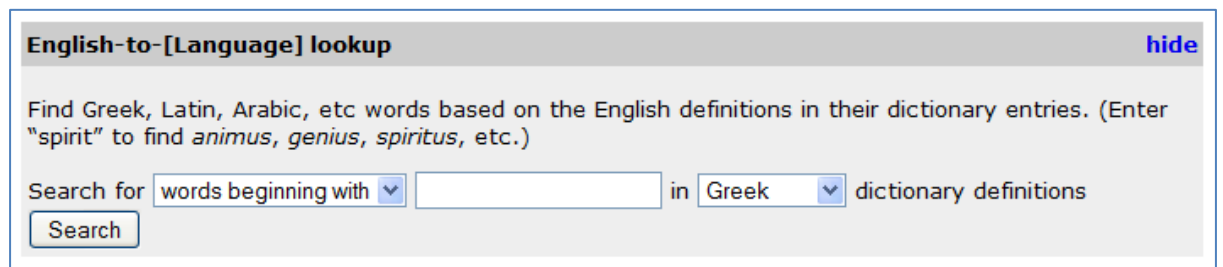
Lemma	Dictionaries	Max. Freq.	Min. Freq.	Short Definition
λεγεών	LSJ, Middle Liddell	9	7	legio,

Notice the result produces **λεγεών**, because this starts with the Greek characters corresponding to **lege**.

4. Click on the browser's **back** button to return to the Perseus Search Tools.

Looking up Greek words from an English term

1. From the Perseus Search Tools, in the General Search Tools section, find the second grey bar, '**English-to-[Language] Lookup**' and click on **show**.



English-to-[Language] lookup [hide](#)

Find Greek, Latin, Arabic, etc words based on the English definitions in their dictionary entries. (Enter "spirit" to find *animus*, *genius*, *spiritus*, etc.)

Search for in dictionary definitions

2. In the textbox, type **anger**, and make sure the language is selected as **Greek**.
3. Click **Search**.

A long list is displayed showing different words for anger in Greek, both as nouns and verbs.

These results are from all the Greek texts in the Perseus Digital Library.

You can click on any of the individual words to display the Word Study Tool entry for that word, or on the number of occurrences to display the list of works.

Notice that the largest number of occurrences is for **μῆνις**



English-to-Greek Word Search Results for anger

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Your search returned 44 matching entries.

Headword	Dictionaries	Max. Inst.	Min. Inst.	# Documents	Short Definition
ἀκοτος	LSJ , Slater	0	0	0	free from anger, cheerful
ἀγριαίνω	LSJ , Middle Liddell	54	54	33	to be
ἀκράχολος	LSJ , Middle Liddell	13	5	7	quick to anger irascible
ἀνεποργίζομαι	LSJ	0	0	0	to be roused by anger,
ἀντιθυμόομαι	LSJ	0	0	0	show anger in turn,
ἀόργητος	LSJ , Middle Liddell	14	14	12	not irascible,
ἀοργησία	LSJ , Middle Liddell	3	3	2	a defect in the passion of anger,
ἀστομάχητος	LSJ	0	0	0	without anger
βριμάομαι	LSJ , Middle Liddell	7	2	4	snort with anger, to be indignant
διοιδέω	LSJ , Middle Liddell	15	13	12	swell with anger,
δύσοργος	LSJ , Middle Liddell	3	3	3	quick to anger
ἐξερεθίζω	LSJ , Slater	7	7	7	stimulate,
ἐγκότησις	LSJ	0	0	0	anger at one, hatred
ἐρέθω	LSJ , Middle Liddell , Autenrieth	0	0	0	stir to anger, provoke,
ἐρεθίζω	LSJ , Middle Liddell , Slater , Autenrieth	214	214	68	rouse to anger, rouse to fight,
κότος	LSJ , Middle Liddell , Slater , Autenrieth	783	41	26	grudge, rancour, ill-will
κρυψίχολος	LSJ	0	0	0	dissembling one's anger
μῆνις	LSJ , Middle Liddell , Autenrieth	1,834	157	185	wrath
νέμεσις	LSJ , Middle Liddell , Slater , Autenrieth	155	61	54	distribution of what is due
ὀξύθυμος	LSJ , Middle Liddell	37	9	18	quick to anger, choleric,
ὀξύχολος	LSJ , Middle Liddell	6	6	6	quick to anger,
ὀξυμήνιτος	LSJ , Middle Liddell	1	1	1	bringing down quick anger
ὀξυθυμέω	LSJ , Middle Liddell	19	3	7	to be quick to anger,
ὀξυθυμία	LSJ , Middle Liddell	11	0	2	vivacity
ὀξυθυμίας	LSJ	11	0	2	one who is quick to anger,
ὀργίλος	LSJ , Middle Liddell	76	76	43	inclined to anger, irascible,
ὀργίζω	LSJ , Middle Liddell	956	827	174	make angry, provoke to anger, irritate,
ὀργιστός	LSJ	0	0	0	fit to cause anger,
ὀχθέω	LSJ , Middle Liddell , Autenrieth	423	35	52	to be sorely angered, vexed in spirit
παρόργισμα	LSJ	0	0	0	provocation, cause of anger
παροργίζω	LSJ , Middle Liddell	12	12	6	provoke to anger
παροργισμός	LSJ , Middle Liddell	2	2	2	provocation : anger
περισπερχέω	LSJ , Middle Liddell	3	1	2	to be much angered
θύμωσις	LSJ	0	0	0	ebullition of anger
θυμοκάτοχος	LSJ	0	0	0	restraining anger