

3: Quotations from the Classical Greek

Here are some notable quotations from ancient Greek authors and philosophers. [21] As practice with the Greek alphabet, try spelling each word by providing the name of each letter. You may also try pronouncing each quotation. Can you spot any Greek words that might be the source of words in English? (For example, the Greek word *πεντε* means *five*, and is the source of the English word *pentagon* (a five-sided polygon).)

το γαρ εξαπατασθαιαντον υφ αυτουπαντων χαλεπωτατου

The worst of all deceptions is self-deception. —Plato

ηθοςανθρωπωδαιμων.

A man's character is his fate. - Heraclitus

δοςμοιπαστωκαιταν γανκιησω

Give me but one firm spot on which to stand, and I will move the world. -Archimedes, describing the lever

ευρηκα, ευρηκα!

Eureka! I have discovered it! -Archimedes, jumping out of a public bath as he discovered the laws of displacement

κτηματων παντων εστιτιμιωτατουανηρφιλοςσυνετοςτεκαιεννοος

The most precious of all possessions is a wise and loyal friend. -Herodotus

ο μεν ονν δειλος καιαμηδειφοβειται

A coward fears even things he ought not to fear. - Aristotle

μετρον δ' επι πασι ναριστον

Moderation in all things is best. -Pythagoras

(The Roman philosopher Seneca later expressed the same sentiment in Latin: *Modum tenēre dēēēus*.)

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