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LEXICON of IDIOMS & Slang

Greek - English

From colloquial Greek
into English
25.000 entries
(headphrases)
each with example

AHEAD
BOOKS

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A

αβαβά/γίνεται αβαβά/μπαγαποντιά/στήσιμο/ κομπίνα/διαπλοκή/νοθεία • *There was a racket/hanky-panky/monkey business/chicanery.*

αβάντα/αβανταδόρος • *Our new boss is a go-getter so we have to work hard those days.*

αβάσιμος/αβάσιμες υποψίες/κατηγορίες • *Groundless/Unfounded/Baseless suspicions/accusations.*

αβάσταχτος/αβάσταχτα οικογενειακά βάρη • *She has unbearable family burdens/responsibilities.*

άβγαλος/είμαι άβγαλος • *I was ignorant of the world/inexperienced when I first left home.*

αβγό/ακόμη δε βγήκα απ' τ' αβγό μου και • *She is not even out of her shell yet and she wants a car!*

Η κότα έκανε τ' αβγό ή το αβγό την κότα;

• *It's a "chicken-and-egg situation!"*

Σιγά τ' αβγά!/Σιγά το πράμα! • *Big deal!*

• *So what! • What's the big deal?*

Χάνω τ' αβγά και τα καλάδια/πασχάλια!

• *He's at his wits' end!*

αβέρτα/πληρώνω αβέρτα • *I pay uncomplainingly/continually/endlessly.*

αβίωτος/βίος αβίωτος • *In the Middle Ages, most people lived wretched/unbearable life.*

αβλαβής/σώος και αβλαβής • *I hope he'll be back safe and sound/all in one piece/unharmmed.*

αβλεψία/από αβλεψία • *You lost the match from/out of/through carelessness.*

αβοήθητος/μένω αβοήθητος • *From the day he first came to Athens he was left with no help at all/without help/holding the baby/the bag.*

αβρόχοις/αβρόχοις ποσί (= ανώδυνα, χωρίς κόπο)
• *He managed to pass the exams quite painlessly/in a delicate/gentle manner/without working hard.*

άβυσσος/Αβυσσος η ψυχή του ανθρώπου!

• *Man's heart/soul is infinitive/bottomless!*

• *The unplumbed depths of the soul!*

αγαθά/Τα αγαθά κόποις κτώνται! • *No pain no gain!*

αγάλι/Αγάλι-αγάλι γίνεται η αγουρίδα μέλι!

• *Slow and steady wins the race!*

• *Little by little fills the purse!*

• *Sour grapes take time to be wine!*

• *Everything comes to him who waits!*

• *Great oaks from little acorns grow!*

αγανακτώ/αγανακτώ με • *I am angry with/indignant with him • He sends me up the wall.*

αγαπώ/Αγάπα τον πλησίον σου με τα ελαττώματά του! • *Love thy neighbour with all his failings!*

Αγάπα το φίλο σου ως εαυτόν!

• *Love me, love my dog!*

Αγαπάει ο Θεός τον κλέφτη, αγαπάει και τον

νοικοκύρη! • *Fortune doesn't favor a thief!*

αγάς/Πάψε να φέρεσαι σαν αγάς! • *Stop throwing your weight around!*



αγγαρεία/αγγαρεία μου φαίνεται κάτι • *I see it as having to clean out/ cleanse the Augean stables!*

• *It looks like hard work/drudgery/a chore/forced labour to me.*

αγγίζω/αγγίζω τα όρια της ανοσίας • *Her attitude borders on stupidity.*

αγγίζω τα όρια της τρέλας

• *His intense bravery verges on insanity.*

αγγίζω το τέλος • *The month is drawing to a close.*

Άγγιξες την ευαίσθητη χορδή μου!

• *You touched me on a tender spot!*

• *You touched me on the raw!*

αγγούρι/κάτι είναι αγγούρι/μανίκι/μπαστούνι/ δύσκολο • *The problem of global warming will be a hard nut to crack! • It is a real stinker!*

αγιάζω/Εσύ παιδί μου δ' αγιάσεις! • *She's a saint to put up with that man!*

Ν'αγιασει το στόμα σου! • *Hear-hear!*

• *Now you are talking!*

Ο σκοπός αγιάζει τα μέσα! • *The end justifies the means!* • *All is fair in love and war!*

άγιος/Ούτε άγιος δε σ'αντέχει! • *Your continual nagging would try the patience of a saint!*

αγιάζι/με τρώει τ'αγιάζι • *I was frozen/chilled to death by the damp.*

αγκάδι/Απ'τ'αγκάδι βγαίνει ρόδο!

• *Great oaks from little acorns grow!*

Λες και κάδομαι στ'αγκάδια! • *As if she were on/sat upon thorns/pins and needles!*

μου μπαίνει αγκάδι/αγκίδα στο χέρι

• *My finger was pricked by a thorn.*

αγκάλες/με ανοικτές αγκάλες • *They welcome us with open arms.*

αγκαλιά/μια αγκαλιά ξύλα • *Can you bring in a bundle/an armful of wood for the fire?*

σφίγγω κάποιον στην αγκαλιά μου • *She pressed/held him to her breast* • *She gave him a hug.*

αγκίστρι/δολώνω αγκίστρι • *I bait the hook.*

πιάνομαι στ'αγκίστρι • *I take the bait.*

άγκυρα/ρίχνω την άγκυρα • *Cast/Drop/Come to anchor.*

σπκώνω/βιράρω την άγκυρα • *It's time to weigh anchor and head for the high seas.*

αγλέορας/τρώω/πίνω τον αγλέορα

• *He gorges himself.*

άγνοια/Εν αγνοία μου • *He told the boss about me behind my back/without my knowledge.*

αγνώω/αγνοώ γεγονότα

• *I am unaware/ignorant of the facts.*

αγνοώ κάποιον • *She ignored me at the time I so much needed her.*

αγνοώ τον κίνδυνο • *He disregarded the danger.*

Να μην αγνοηθεί το γεγονός ότι

• *There is no escaping the fact that she tried to contribute towards the new hospital ward.*

αγνός/αγνή ψυχή/αγνός άνθρωπος • *Pure butter/Chaste thought/Innocent soul/A virgin girl.*

• *She is pure in thought, word and deed.*

αγοράζω/αγοράζω γουρούνι στο σακκί • *She blew it when she bought that boneshaker/she bought a pig in a poke!*

αγοράζω με πίστωση/τοίς μετρητοίς/με δόσεις

• *I buy on credit/for cash/by instalments.*

αγουρίδα/Αγάλι-αγάλι γίνεται η αγουρίδα μέλι!

• *Slow and steady wins the race!*

• *Little by little fills the purse!*

• *Sour grapes take time to be wine!*

• *Everything comes to him who waits!*

• *Great oaks from little acorns grow!*

αγράμματος/Ανθρωπος αγράμματος ξύλο

απελέκτο! • *An illiterate man is the same as a block of wood!*

αγριεύω/αγριεύω/γίνομαι τούρκος • *I go up the*

wall/get angry • *I lose my temper.*

αγρός/Αγρόν ηγόρασε! • *He couldn't care less!*

• *He didn't give a damn!* • *He showed no interest!*

αγύριστος/αγύριστο κεφάλι • *He is a stubborn/bullheaded/mulish person.*

Στον αγύριστο! • *Go to hell!* • *Get lost!*

• *Good riddance!*

αγχιστεία/συγγενής εξ αγχιστείας

• *Relation by marriage.*

αγωγή/Αγωγή του πολίτη (μάθημα) • *Of all the lessons she liked "Civics" best.*

δίνω καλή αγωγή/ανατροφή σε κάποιον

• *She was well-bred* • *She is well-mannered.*

κάνω/εγείρω αγωγή αποζημίωσης

• *I lodge a claim for damages against him.*

κάνω/εγείρω αγωγή/μήνυση σε κάποιον

• *I bring a lawsuit against him.*

αγώνας/αγώνας για επιβίωση • *It has been "catch as catch can" for George since he lost his job!*

• *The struggle/fight for survival.*

αγώνας μέχρι θανάτου

• *Fight to the death/mortal combat.*

αγώνες στίβου • *Field and track events.*

αγωνία/με τρώει η αγωνία • *I was full of anguish/anxiety/agonny/suspense about his exam results.*

περιμένω με αγωνία • *I am looking forward to receiving a letter from you.*

αγωνιώ • *She is nervous/anxious/eager/agog.*

• *She is full of anguish/anxiety/agonny.*

αγωνίζομαι/αγωνίζομαι να τα βγάλω πέρα

• *He's trying to make ends meet.*

αδαμιαίος/αδαμιαία περιβολή • *He was in his birthday suit/in the nude/stark naked.*

άδεια/άδεια οδήγησης • *She doesn't have a driving licence.*

Βρίσκομαι σε άδεια • *She is on vacation in Samos.*

δίνω άδεια να κάνει κάποιος κάτι • *He was given permission/allowed to cross the frontiers.*
 δίνω την άδεια να • *My father won't give (me) his consent to buy a motor-bike.*
 είμαι σε αναρρωτική άδεια • *He is on sick-leave.*
 έχω άδεια εργασίας • *She's got a work permit.*
 παίρνω άδεια • *He got five-days leave.*
 Ποιητική άδεια όλα επιτρέπονται
 • *Everything is allowed by poetic licence.*
άδειος/άδεια καθίσματα • *Unoccupied seats.*
 • *Vacant seats.*
 δεν υπάρχουν άδεια δωμάτια
 • *Unfortunately, there are no vacancies.*
 Ρίχνω άδεια για να πιάσω γεμάτα!
 • *He threw a sprat to catch a mackerel!*
 φεύγω με άδεια χέρια • *She left empty-handed.*
αδειάζω/αδειάζω μπουκάλι στο νεροχύτη
 • *I empty the bottle into the sink.*
 • *I empty/pour the water out.*
 δεν αδειάζω να
 • *He is too busy/has no spare time to join us.*
 Αδειασέ μου τη γωνιά! • *Get off my back!*
 • *Beat it! • Get lost! • Get moving! • Be off!*
 • *Clear off!*
αδέξιος/είμαι αδέξιος • *He is all thumbs.*
αδέσποτος/αδέσποτα ζώα • *This charity takes care of waifs and strays from the streets.*
 αδέσποτη σφαίρα • *He was shot by a stray bullet and is still in hospital.*
αδιάθετος/αδιάθετα αντίτυπα • *You are kindly requested to send us all the unsold copies.*
 αδιάθετοι πόροι • *They are trying to invest all unutilized resources.*
 νιώθω αδιάθετος • *I'm feeling unwell/indisposed today.*
αδιαίρετος/έχω κάτι εξ αδιαίρετου
 • *We have it in its entirety.*
αδιάκριτος/αδιάκριτα βλέματα
 • *We went inside, and felt safe from prying eyes.*
 αδιάκριτη ερώτηση
 • *He asked an indiscreet/personal question.*
αδιόρθωτος/αδιόρθωτος ψεύτης • *Petros proved to be a compulsive/hopeless liar.*
αδιάσειστος/αδιάσειστα επιχειρήματα/στοιχεία
 • *Unshakable arguments.*
 • *Incontestable proofs/evidence.*

αδιάσειστο/ατράνταχτο άλλοθι

• *An unshakable alibi.*

αδιάφορος/αδιάφορος για • *He seems to be indifferent to his lessons.*

μου είναι τελείως αδιάφορο • *I couldn't care less.*
 • *I don't give a damn.*

αδιαφορώ/αδιαφορώ για ό,τι μου λένε • *My words run off him like water off a duck's back.*

αδιάψευστος/αδιάψευστα στοιχεία • *Uncontradicted/Uncontested/Indisputable evidence.*

αδιέξοδο/βρίσκομαι σ'αδιέξοδο • *We have finally reached a dead end.*

άδικα/Άδικα ανησυχείς! • *You worry too much!*

'Αδικα παιδεύεσαι! • *You are a fool for your pains!*
 • *You are flogging a dead horse!*

άδικος/Ήρξατο χειρών αδικών! • *Deliver the first blow!*
 • *Let him who is without blame cast the first stone!*

Κάνω άδικο κόπο! • *Tell him that he is just flogging a dead horse!*

αδίστακτος/άνθρωπος αδίστακτος χωρίς αναστολές
 • *Beware of her; she happens to be on the loose.*

αδρός/αδρά χαρακτηριστικά

• *Martha has prominent/pronounced features.*

αμειβομαι αδρά • *I'm paid lavishly.*

πληρώνω αδρά • *I paid a pretty penny.*

αδυναμία/έχω αδυναμία στις γυναίκες • *He has a weakness/a soft spot for women*
 • *He can't resist women.*

αδύνατος/είμαι αδύνατος • *The old man was thin and feeble/skinny.*



Αδύνατον! Δε γίνεται! • *It's an utter impossibility!*

• *Nothing doing!*
 • *Quite impossible!*

είμαι αδύνατος σα στέκα • *She is thin/slim as a lath/as a rake*
 • *She is skinny*
 • *She is skin and bone(s).*