

How is Ancient Greek assessed?

Ancient Greek is assessed by the State Examinations Commission (SEC), at both Ordinary and Higher Levels. Assessment consists of two components designed to evaluate both linguistic and contextual understanding of Ancient Greek:

1. Research Study (40%) (Additional Assessment Component – AAC)
2. Written Examination (60%) - Includes prescribed grammar, vocabulary, and the Capstone Text*. Assesses comprehension, translation, and literary analysis skills.

The Research Study requires students to investigate, evaluate and report on a language-centred topic of their own choosing that is anchored in the specification. Designed to allow students to engage in self-directed study and to pursue in more depth an aspect of their study of the language that animates their interest and curiosity.

The Research Study brief is published annually in term 2 of year 1 of the Leaving Certificate by the SEC who will also publish dates for completion submission. For each examination year, the brief will set out specific instructions, including information on choice of topic, authentication and submission of the Research Study.

Assessment component	Weighting	Level
Research Study (AAC)	40%	Common Brief
Written Examination	60%	Higher and Ordinary Level

Overview of assessment for certification

At a glance

- minimum 180 class contact hours over 2 years
- 2 interconnected strands that encompass language acquisition, cultural understanding, and literary analysis
- prescribed Ancient Greek Capstone Text
- assessment:
 - Research Study: 40%
 - Written Examination: 60%

*The Capstone Text is an in-depth and context aware reading of a prescribed Ancient Greek text. The Capstone Text provides a culminating and integrative experience, which allows all students to showcase and apply key knowledge and skills they have acquired in the course to a stimulating and context-rich Ancient Greek text.

The specification for Ancient Greek is available at www.curriculumonline.ie



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Senior Cycle Redevelopment

Leaving Certificate Ancient Greek

Information Leaflet

What is Ancient Greek?

Ancient Greek is the language that was spoken and written in Greece since the late bronze age, and it later migrated with its speakers to other parts of the Mediterranean, ranging from southern Italy to Turkey. In Greece itself, the democratic city state of Athens became a major political power in the 'classical' fifth century BC and remained a major cultural centre and cultural model after the conquests of Alexander the Great. The Ancient Greek language had a major influence on the modern foreign languages and it remains central to the technical terminology of fields such as law, medicine and the sciences. All of this makes Ancient Greek an important and exciting language to study today.

Studying an ancient language

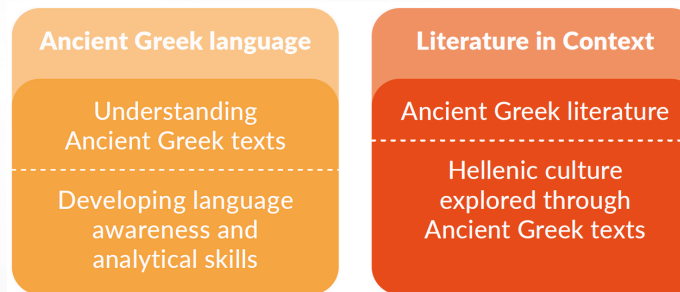
The principal goal of learning Ancient Greek is being able to read culturally important written texts such as narratives, poems, histories, plays and scripts of famous speeches. Learning Ancient Greek develops the capacity to carefully read, understand, evaluate, correlate and situate many kinds of texts, while taking into consideration aspects such as genre, structure, style, bias and socio-historical context. By learning Ancient Greek students gain direct access to the literature, culture and thought processes of ancient Greece and how the past continues to inform the present.

The aims of Leaving Certificate Ancient Greek include:

- develop the capacity to recognise Ancient Greek language structures and vocabulary
- relate Ancient Greek texts to their historical, social, and literary contexts and situate them within the broader ambit of Hellenic culture
- develop skills of critical analysis and evaluation to extract information and derive enjoyment from a variety of Ancient Greek texts
- foster an appreciation of linguistic and cultural diversity and the interdependence between language and culture
- appreciate how the Hellenic culture and Ancient Greek language have influenced modern cultures and languages

What do students learn about?

Students study two interconnected strands that encompass language acquisition, cultural understanding and literary analysis:



Two interconnected strands

Strand 1: Ancient Greek Language

Students develop proficiency in Ancient Greek by:

- recognising linguistic structures and vocabulary
- exploring authentic and adapted texts
- translating Ancient Greek sentences and passages with accuracy
- applying analytical skills to understand grammar and syntax

Strand 2: Literature in Context

Students engage with Ancient Greek texts to:

- analyse Hellenic cultural, historical and literary significance
- understand Hellenic society through myths, traditions and values
- reflect on themes such as identity, citizenship and politics

Language Portfolio

Over the two years of Leaving Certificate Ancient Greek, each student develops a collection of materials which accumulate as part of the language learning process, this may include items such as notes, vocabulary lists, exercises, translation samples, analyses and discussions of texts, and projects and presentations in various formats and media, as well as learning logs, learner reflections and learning goals. This collection is called the Language Portfolio.

Students will maintain a Language Portfolio to:

- record and reflect on their learning experiences
- document their progress in language acquisition
- showcase examples of their engagement with Ancient Greek language and texts

The Language Portfolio does not play a role in assessment for certification.

