

GREEKS AND ROMANS

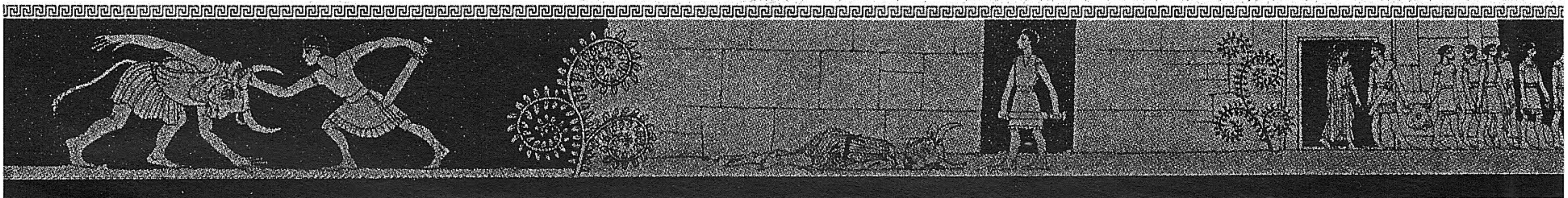
THE ROMANS adopted many aspects of Greek civilisation through contact with Greek cities in Italy and later when they invaded Greece itself. They used a similar system of writing and worshipped many of the Greek gods, although they had different names for these gods.

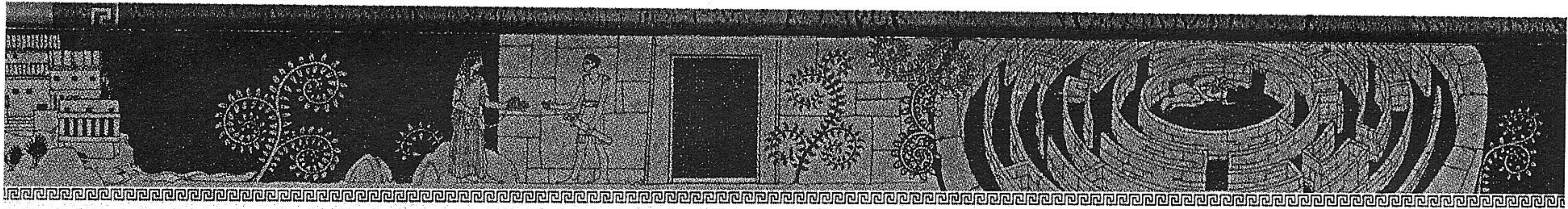
THE ANCIENT GREEK ALPHABET

Our modern alphabet is based on the Roman alphabet, which in turn was based on the ancient Greek alphabet. The first thing to note about the Greek alphabet is that although some of the letters are familiar, they may not be equivalent to ours. For example, the Greek letter ρ, which looks like our letter *p*, was called *rho* and had the same sound as our letter *r*. There are other differences, too.

For instance, the Greeks had no letters for *j* or *v* and used the Greek equivalents of the letters *i* and *b* for these sounds. Also, the Greeks used a single letter for some sounds for which we use two letters, such as θ (*theta*) for the *th* sound, and ψ (*psi*) for the *ps* sound at the start of words. The chart below shows capital and lowercase Greek letters and their names and equivalent English letters.

Α α [alpha]	a	Ν ν [nu]	n
Β β [beta]	b or v	Ξ ξ [xi]	x
Γ γ [gamma]	g	Ο ο [omicron]	o
Δ δ [delta]	d	Π π [pi]	p
Ε ε [epsilon]	e	Ρ ρ [rho]	r
Ζ ζ [zeta]	z	Σ σ [sigma]	s
Η η [eta]	e or h	Τ τ [tau]	t
Θ θ [theta]	th	Υ υ [upsilon]	u or y
Ι ι [iota]	i or j	Φ φ [phi]	ph or f
Κ κ [kappa]	c, k, or q	Χ χ [chi]	ch
Λ λ [lambda]	l	Ψ ψ [psi]	ps
Μ μ [mu]	m	Ω ω [omega]	aw or w



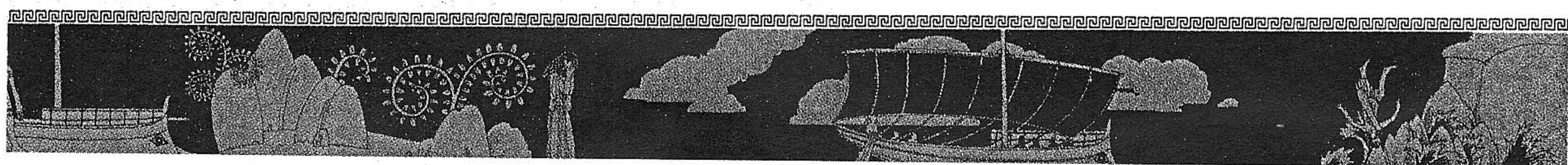


NAMES OF THE GODS AND GODDESSES

Studying the Greek alphabet will allow you to “translate” the Greek names of any gods, heroes, or monsters that you may encounter. The names of the main gods are shown in Greek in the central column below. The names by which the Romans knew them are shown in the right-hand column. Take particular note that the Greek letters ε (*epsilon*) and η (*eta*) were

both used to represent slightly different *e* sounds. You may be able to recognise some of the Greek gods’ names below, but do not expect them to be exactly the same as they are in English. For example, *Apollo* is usually written ΑΠΟΛΛΩΝ in capital letters and Ἀπόλλων in lowercase letters, which you could translate as *Apollawn* or *Apollon*.

<u>GOD/GODDESS</u>	<u>GREEK NAME</u>	<u>ROMAN NAME</u>
Aphrodite	ΑΦΡΟΔΙΤΗ	Venus
Apollo	ΑΠΟΛΛΩΝ	Apollo
Ares	ΑΡΗΣ	Mars
Artemis	ΑΡΤΕΜΙΣ	Diana
Athena	ΑΘΗΝΑ	Minerva
Demeter	ΔΗΜΗΤΗΡ	Ceres
Dionysus	ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΣ	Bacchus
Hades	ΑΔΗΣ	Pluto
Hephaestus	ΗΦΑΙΣΤΟΣ	Vulcan
Hera	ΗΡΑ	Juno
Hermes	ΕΡΜΗΣ	Mercury
Hestia	ΕΣΤΙΑ	Vesta
Pan	ΠΑΝ	Silvanus
Poseidon	ΠΟΣΕΙΔΩΝ	Neptune
Zeus	ΖΕΥΣ	Jupiter



The Greek Alphabet
Sight and Sounds of the Greek Letters

Practice writing all the capital letters. Pronounce each letter as you write it.
Write and say these letters until you can do so with ease.

Α

Β

Γ

Δ

Ε

Ζ

Η

Θ

The Greek Alphabet
Sight and Sounds of the Greek Letters

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The Greek Alphabet
Sight and Sounds of the Greek Letters (Module A)

Σ

Τ

Υ

Φ

Χ

Ψ

Ω