

Greek Slang: 25 Everyday Words

GREEK	PRONUNCIATION	ENGLISH
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ADDRESS AND WARMTH

ρε	re	hey / mate (vocative particle) <i>adds warmth or emphasis in front of names and addresses</i>
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τι λες ρε;	ti les re?	what are you saying, mate? <i>surprise, disbelief, or friendly protest</i>
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χαλάρωσε	halárose	chill / relax
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μπάχαλο	báhalo	mess / chaos <i>used for a room, a plan, or a night out that went sideways</i>
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PEOPLE AND VIBES

γκόμενα	gómena	girlfriend / girl (casual) <i>informal; not offensive but not for polite company</i>
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γκόμενος	gómenos	boyfriend / guy (casual)
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καλαμπόκι	kalabóki	corn (literal) / cheesy / cringe <i>of jokes and rom-coms</i>
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ψιλά γράμματα	psilá grámata	small print / details / nuance <i>literally 'small letters'</i>
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μπερδεύτηκα	berdéftika	I got confused / mixed up
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τα σπάει	ta spái	it's amazing / it kills <i>literally 'it breaks them!'; used for songs, films, food</i>
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REACTIONS AND JUDGEMENTS

τσάμπα	tsába	for nothing / wasted / no charge <i>μπήκα τσάμπα = I got in without paying</i>
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χάλια	hália	terrible / awful / rubbish
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GREEK	PRONUNCIATION	ENGLISH
φοβερό	<i>foveró</i>	awesome / incredible <i>literally 'terrifying', but used as a positive superlative</i>
φίλε	<i>fíle</i>	mate / dude <i>vocative of φίλος; used in most conversations</i>
καλά	<i>kalá</i>	OK / fine / all right <i>does a lot of work; also 'yeah, sure'</i>
εντάξει	<i>endáxi</i>	OK / all good
μαλάκα	<i>maláka</i>	mate / dude (informal) / idiot <i>warm between friends, insult with strangers, see our swear words guide</i>
LITTLE WORDS THAT DO A LOT		
μωρέ	<i>more</i>	look / hey (soft protest) <i>adds a gentle 'come on' to a sentence</i>
σιγά ρε	<i>sigá re</i>	yeah right / calm down <i>sarcastic 'oh sure'</i>
άσε	<i>áse</i>	forget it / leave it <i>άσε ρε = 'oh come on'</i>
μπρος	<i>bros</i>	come on / go on <i>shortened form of εμπρός, used to hurry someone</i>
παίζει	<i>pézi</i>	it's possible / it could happen <i>literally 'it plays'; the Greek 'maybe / could be'</i>
στα ίσια	<i>sta ísia</i>	straight up / for real <i>used to promise honesty</i>
σκίζει	<i>skízi</i>	it slaps / it rips <i>literally 'it tears'; songs and outfits σκίζουν</i>
φύγαμε	<i>fígame</i>	let's go / here we go <i>literally 'we left'; the Greek 'let's do this'</i>



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