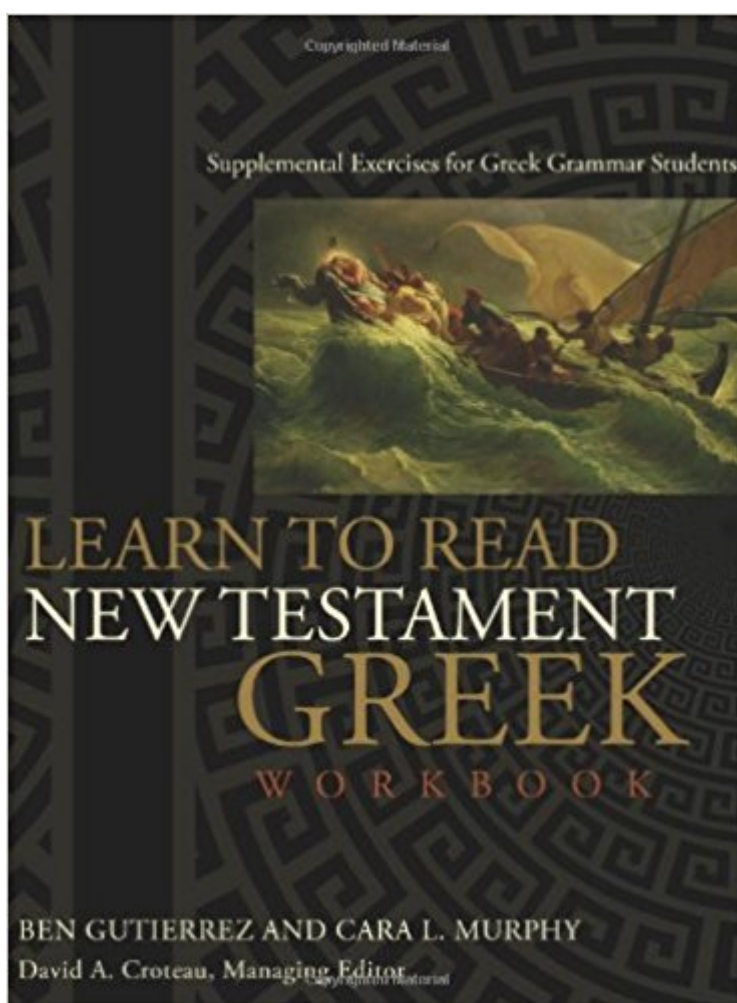


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Learn To Read New Testament Greek, Workbook: Supplemental Exercises For Greek Grammar Students



Synopsis

Keyed to David Alan Black's popular Learn to Read New Testament Greek main text, this supplemental workbook includes 1300 Greek to English/English to Greek sentences, more than 700 drilling exercises to reinforce the foundational principles of Greek grammar, and many other helpful learning resources for introductory Greek students.

Book Information

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: B&H Academic; Workbook ed. edition (March 1, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 080544792X

ISBN-13: 978-0805447927

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.6 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars 34 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #71,448 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #54 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > Language Studies](#) #174 in [Books > Reference > Foreign Language Study & Reference > Instruction](#) #14049 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality](#)

Customer Reviews

David A. Croteau is assistant professor of Biblical Studies at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia, where he teaches New Testament and Greek. He holds a Ph.D from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Ben Gutierrez is chairman of the department of Pastoral Leadership and dean of the Distance Learning Program at Liberty University. He holds a Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership from Regent University. Cara L. Murphy holds a Master of Arts from Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia, where she now serves as an adjunct professor.

This workbook has been an indispensable part of the learning process as I have been teaching myself Greek. It is an excellent companion to the text by David Alan Black and provides a lot of opportunities for translation work both from Greek to English and English to Greek. I cannot recommend this book highly enough. One caveat, the workbook does NOT come with an answer key. However, if you email india.harkless@lifeway.com you may request an answer key if you are a teacher or a self-learner. You will have to electronically sign a pdf document saying that you will not distribute the answers and that sort of thing, but that is standard practice. If you get the text book by

Black I strongly, strongly recommend purchasing this workbook as well. The extra translation work is extremely helpful and goes a long way in helping you get a stronger working grasp on the material in each chapter that builds upon each previous chapter. I recommend doing the work in pencil so you can erase your answers and go back through the sections and do them again.

This book has some very notable weaknesses:1. The sentences are strange, to the point of being meaningless, and do not always have a word order that is consistent with good Greek, either Koine or Attic. Thus the students learn to read Greek as though they were deciphering a math problem, rather than reading meaningful language.2. There are grammatical mistakes throughout (especially neuter plural nouns which have plural verbs instead of singular).Overall, my students found it frustrating as well as not a lot of help in really mastering the language. The authors' time would have been better spent writing a narrative-based companion to the textbook (where students could encounter large volumes of Greek in a meaningful context), and exercises which would help the students learn to read and write well in Greek rather than just translate back and forth.

I taught a Greek class and used this workbook along with Black's textbook. Thus I came to know the workbook well, not just my perspective but that of the students in the class. The quality of the workbook is lower than Black's textbook. Here are some of the weaknesses:First, the Greek-to-English sentences are often bizarre to the point where you can hardly know if you got the translation right. For example, p. 129, exercise 12. This should be translated, "Immediately the friends received peace, but the disciples will not eat the letters of life." Huh? These kinds of weird sentences are throughout the book and distract from its utility. Often it got me very frustrated. Some of the times, sentences are introduced before the relevant material has been taught in the textbook. For example, p. 121 exercise 27 uses the imperfect middle / passive (ebaptizonto) before it was taught. These little errors make students' lives difficult. The book does have notable strengths. The matching, multiple choice, and true / false components are at the right level and help reinforce the material. The preposition table on p. 69 was similarly very helpful. I liked the Greek-to-English section quite a bit (note that the answer key does not provide accents, which is unfortunate.) Note that there are no sentences from the Bible in the workbook (unlike Mounce's workbook, for example). This means that you are actually translating, not recalling verses from memory. This is a strength of the book though I would have preferred a small section of translations from the Bible, partly to help motivate students. I would recommend to the authors of the workbook that they prepare a new edition making the sentences more sensible, carefully proof the book, and add

accents to the answer key.

This review is in reference to the usability of the Kindle version. With the greek language being part text and part pictures it is not only difficult to read but useless in terms of being printed and used as a workbook. If a PDF version were available, it could be of good use. My recommendation is that you get the physical workbook if you intend to use it; otherwise, be prepared to go through the refund process for Kindle purchases.

Ben Gutierrez's Workbook is the perfect compliment to David Alan Black's textbook. Each set of Lesson exercises completely reviews all the key grammatical and hermeneutical principles that Black is explaining. The set-up of the exercises is detailed and inductive and this "fleshes out" the generic or deductive points which Black makes. I have chosen this workbook for my high school students who are enrolled in Greek 101 and 102 (First Year Greek) at a private Christian school near Wills Point, Texas. The book is formatted in a logical structure and it has close-knit transitions which closely follow the argument of the author in the main text. It is also artistically attractive and of a modest, reasonable length in page numbers.

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