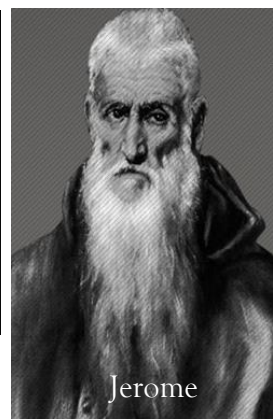


Homer



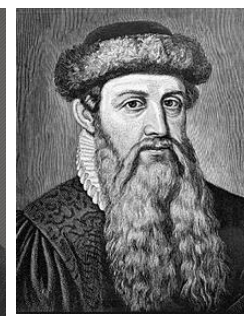
Alexander the Great



Jerome



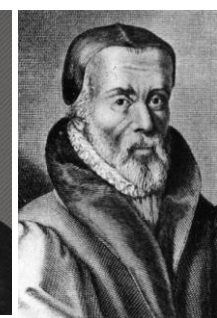
Martin Luther



Johannes Gutenberg



Desiderius Erasmus



William Tyndale



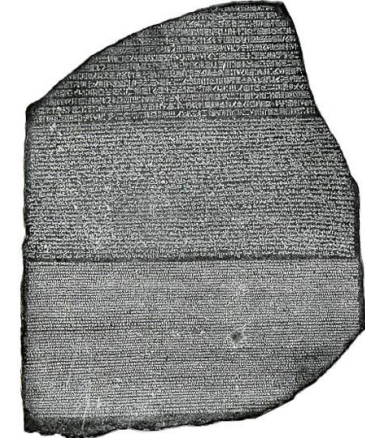
Napoleon Bonapart

Lost in Translation: Philology, Linguistics and the Bible

Bill Gazeley

April 29th, May 6th and May 13th

The Rosetta Stone

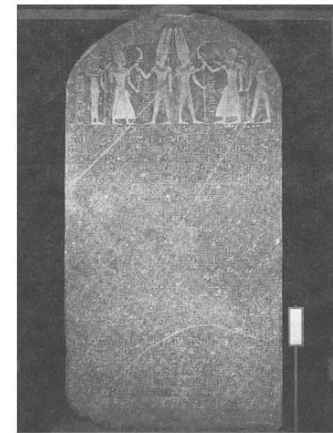


Greek

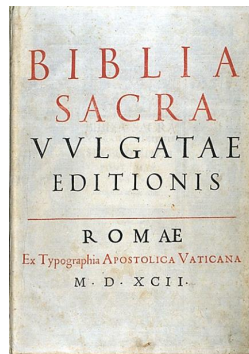


Mythology

Merneptah Stele



The Vulgate



The Septuagint



Hebrew – Aramaic

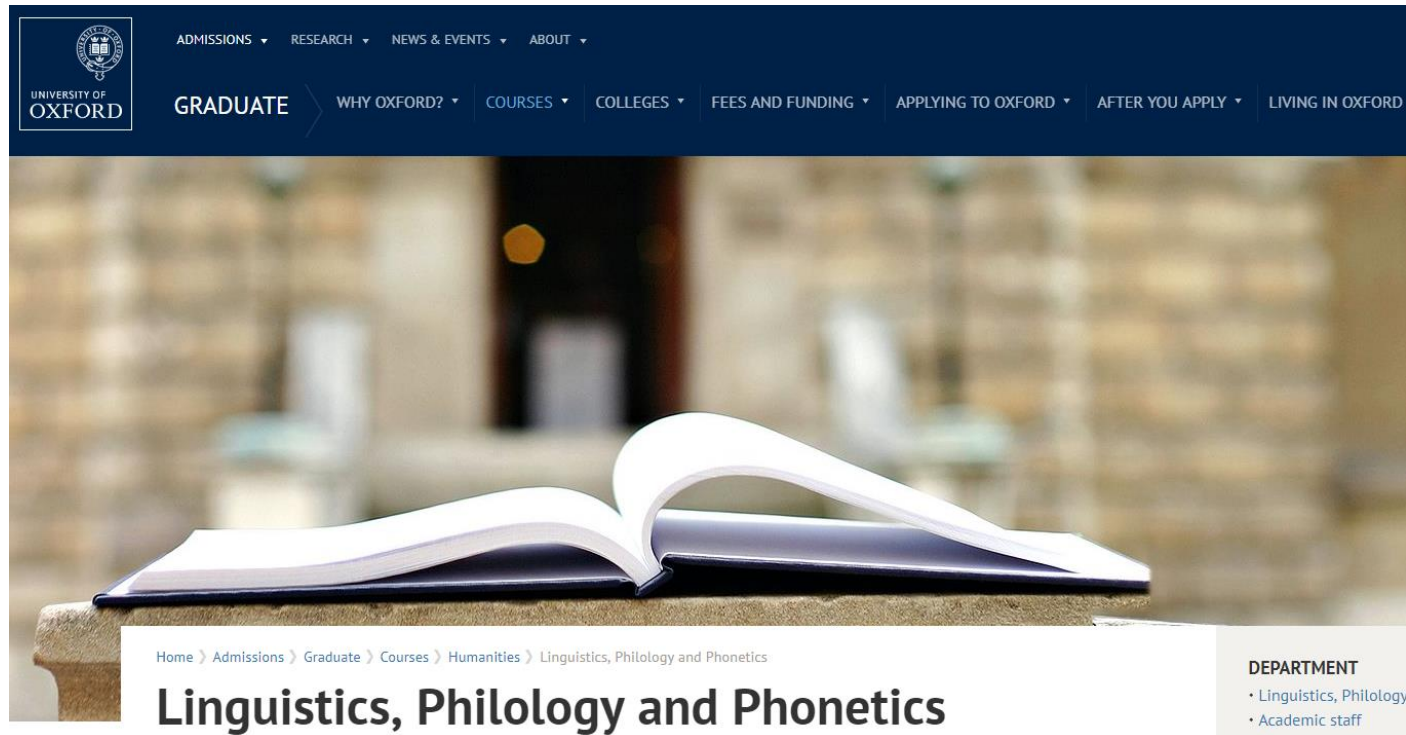


Some Questions...

- What language did Jesus speak?
- Why was the New Testament written in Greek?
- What is the Septuagint?
- What is the Vulgate?
- How did the Bible get translated into English?
- Why are there so many translations today?
- Does grammar really matter?
- Why are there so many Hebrew names that end in “el” or “iah”?

Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics at the University of Oxford

- Linguistics is the study of language in all its aspects.
- In British English, the word '**philology**' denotes the historical study of language.



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Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics

DEPARTMENT

- Linguistics, Philology
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Philology

the branch of knowledge that deals with the structure, historical development, and relationships of a language or languages. (google/dictionary)

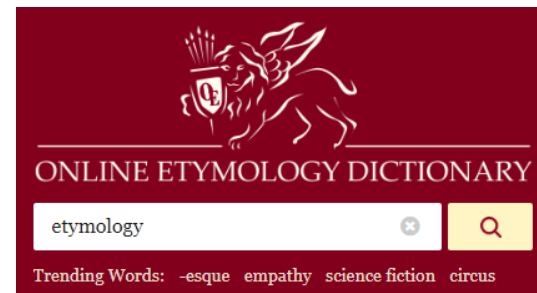
Etymology The term "[philology](#)" is derived from the [Greek](#) φιλολογία (*philología*), from the terms φίλος (*phílos*) "love, affection, loved, beloved, dear, friend" and λόγος ([lógos](#)) "word, articulation, reason", describing a love of learning, of literature, as well as of argument and reasoning, reflecting the range of activities included under the notion of [λόγος](#).

The term changed little with the Latin *philologia*, and later entered the English language in the 16th century, from the [Middle French](#) *philologie*, in the sense of "love of literature".

The adjective φιλόλογος (*philólogos*) meant "fond of discussion or argument, talkative", in [Hellenistic Greek](#), also implying an excessive ("[sophistic](#)") preference of argument over the love of true wisdom, [φιλόσοφος](#) (*philósophos*).

Etymology

- late 14c., *ethimologia* "facts of the origin and development of a word," from Old French *etimologie*, *ethimologie* (14c., Modern French *étymologie*), from Latin *etymologia*, from **Greek *etymologia* "analysis of a word to find its true origin,"** properly "study of the true sense (of a word)," with *-logia* "study of, a speaking of" + *etymon* "true sense, original meaning," neuter of *etymos* "true, real, actual," related to *eteos* "true," which perhaps is cognate with Sanskrit *satyah*, Gothic *sunjis*, Old English *soð* "true," from a **PIE** **set-* "be stable." Latinized by Cicero as *veriloquium*.
- In classical times, with reference to meanings; later, to histories. Classical etymologists, Christian and pagan, based their explanations on allegory and guesswork, lacking historical records as well as the scientific method to analyze them, and the discipline fell into disrepute that lasted a millennium. Flaubert ["Dictionary of Received Ideas"] wrote that the general view was that etymology was "the easiest thing in the world with the help of Latin and a little ingenuity."
- As a modern branch of linguistic science treating of the origin and evolution of words, from 1640s. As "account of the particular history of a word" from mid-15c.
- As practised by Socrates in the *Cratylus*, etymology involves a claim about the underlying semantic content of the name, what it really means or indicates. This content is taken to have been put there by the ancient namegivers: giving an etymology is thus a matter of unwrapping or decoding a name to find the message the namegivers have placed inside. [Rachel Barney, "Socrates Agonistes: The Case of the *Cratylus* Etymologies," in "Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy," vol. xvi, 1998]



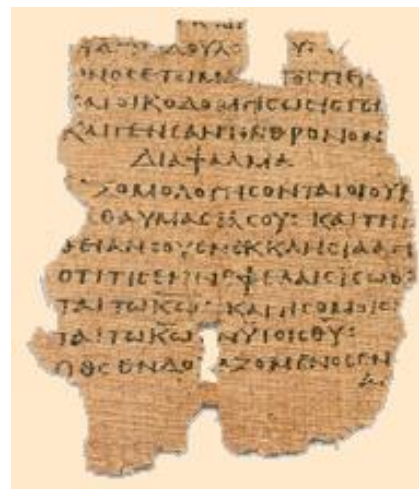
In The Beginning Was The Word...

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ Λόγος

Why was the New Testament Written in Greek?



Alexander
the Great



The Septuagint

Alexander The Great

July 356 BC – June 323 BC

- Educated at Mieza, Macedon, which was like a boarding school for Alexander and the children of Macedonian nobles, such as Ptolemy, Hephaestion, and Cassander.
- Many of these students would become his friends and future generals, and are often known as the 'Companions'.
- **Aristotle** taught Alexander and his companions about medicine, philosophy, morals, religion, logic, and art.
- Under Aristotle's tutelage, Alexander developed a passion for the works of Homer, and in particular the Iliad; Aristotle gave him an annotated copy, which Alexander later carried on his campaigns.

Alexander's Conquest



On either 10 or 11 June 323 BC, Alexander died in the palace of [Nebuchadnezzar II](#), in [Babylon](#), at age 32

The Successor Kingdoms



The **diadochi** [fought over and carved up Alexander's empire](#) into several kingdoms after his death, a legacy which reigned on and continued the influence of ancient Greek culture abroad for over 300 more years. This map depicts the kingdoms of the diadochi c. 301 BC, after the [Battle of Ipsus](#).

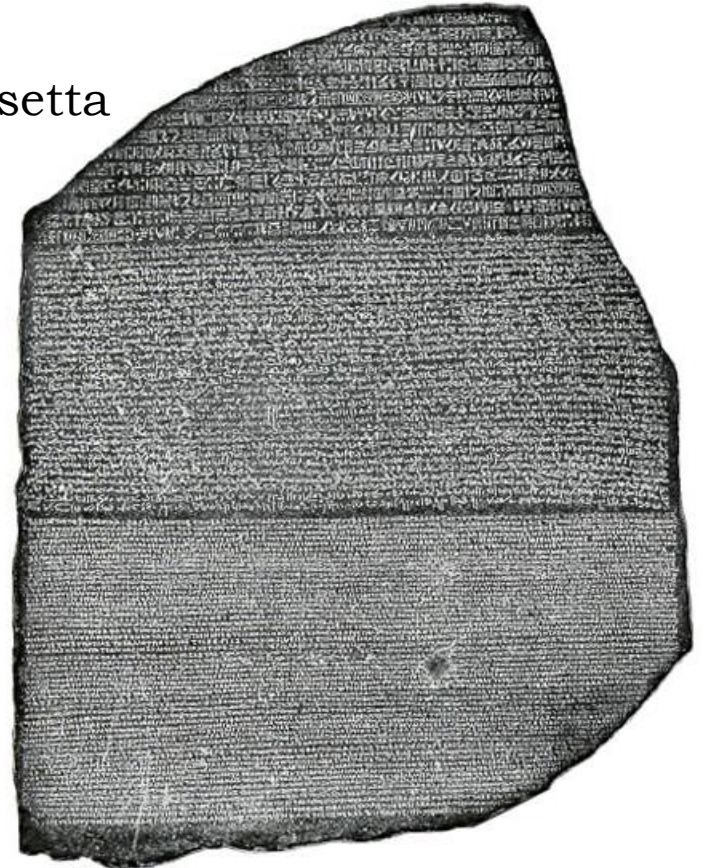
LXX -- The Septuagint

- Translation of the Hebrew Scriptures (the “Old Testament”) into Greek LXX – Latin: Septuāgintā
- It is estimated that the first five books of the Old Testament, known as the [Torah](#) or Pentateuch, were translated in mid-3rd century [BCE](#) and the remaining texts were translated in the 2nd century BCE
- The full title in Ancient Greek: Ἡ μετάφρασις τῶν ἑβδομήκοντα, literally "**The Translation of the Seventy**", derives from the traditional story recorded in the *Letter of Aristeas* that the Septuagint was translated at the request of **Ptolemy II** by 70 or 72 Jewish scholars (6 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel) who independently translated identical versions of the entire Hebrew canon.
- Heavily referenced by the writers of the New Testament

The Rosetta Stone

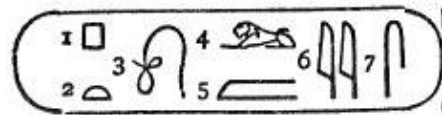
a [granodiorite stele](#), found in **1799**, inscribed with three versions of a [decree](#) issued at [Memphis, Egypt](#) in **196 BC** during the [Ptolemaic dynasty](#) on behalf of King [Ptolemy V](#). The top and middle texts are in [Ancient Egyptian](#) using [hieroglyphic script](#) and [Demotic](#) script, respectively, while the bottom is in [Ancient Greek](#). As the decree has only minor differences between the three versions, the Rosetta Stone proved to be the key to deciphering [Egyptian hieroglyphs](#).

The Rosetta Stone



Napoleon Bonapart

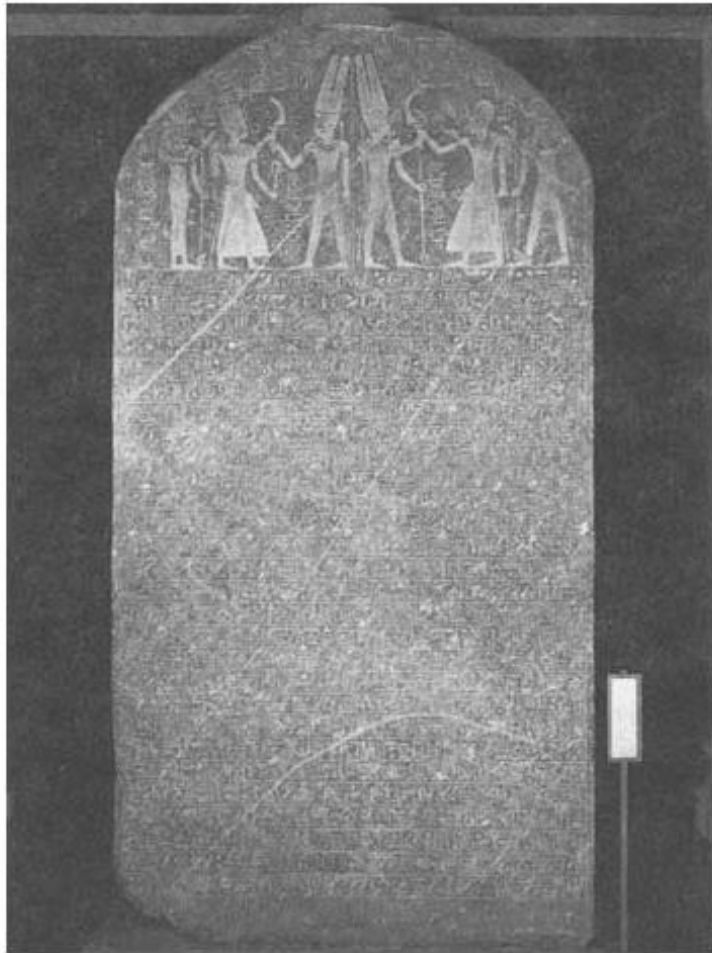
No. 1, PTOLEMY.



No. 2, CLEOPATRA.



The Mernepteh Stele – 1208 BCE



also known as the **Israel Stele** or the **Victory Stele of Merneptah**—is an inscription by the [ancient Egyptian king Merneptah](#) (reign: 1213 to 1203 BCE) discovered by [Flinders Petrie](#) in 1896 at [Thebes](#), and now housed in the [Egyptian Museum](#) in [Cairo](#).

Earliest extrabiblical reference to Israel

The Canaan has been plundered into every sort of woe

[Ashkelon](#) has been overcome

[Gezer](#) has been captured

[Yano'am](#) is made non-existent

Israel is laid waste and his seed is not

<i>ysr̄w̄r</i>	<i>fk.t</i>	<i>bn</i>	<i>pr.t</i>	<i>=f</i>
Israel	waste	[negative]	seed/grain	his/its

The Roman Empire Under Augustus



Yellow areas indicate the **empire** prior to Augustus' reign, green areas those gained subsequently, violet areas are client states of **Rome**.

BIBLIA
SACRA
VULGATAE
EDITIONIS

R O M A E

Ex Typographia APOSTOLICA VATICANA

M · D · X C I I ·

The Vulgate: The Latin Bible

For over a thousand years (c. AD 400–1530), the **Vulgate** was the definitive edition of the most influential text in Western European society. Indeed, for most Western Christians, it was the only version of the Bible ever encountered. The Vulgate's influence throughout the [Middle Ages](#) and the [Renaissance](#) into the [Early Modern Period](#) is even greater than that of the [King James Version](#) in English; for Christians during these times the phraseology and wording of the Vulgate permeated all areas of the culture.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vulgate>

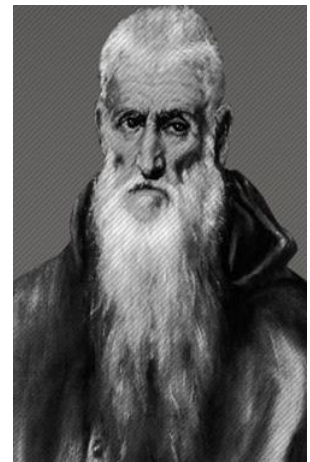
Genesis 1:1

In principio creavit Deus caelum et terram

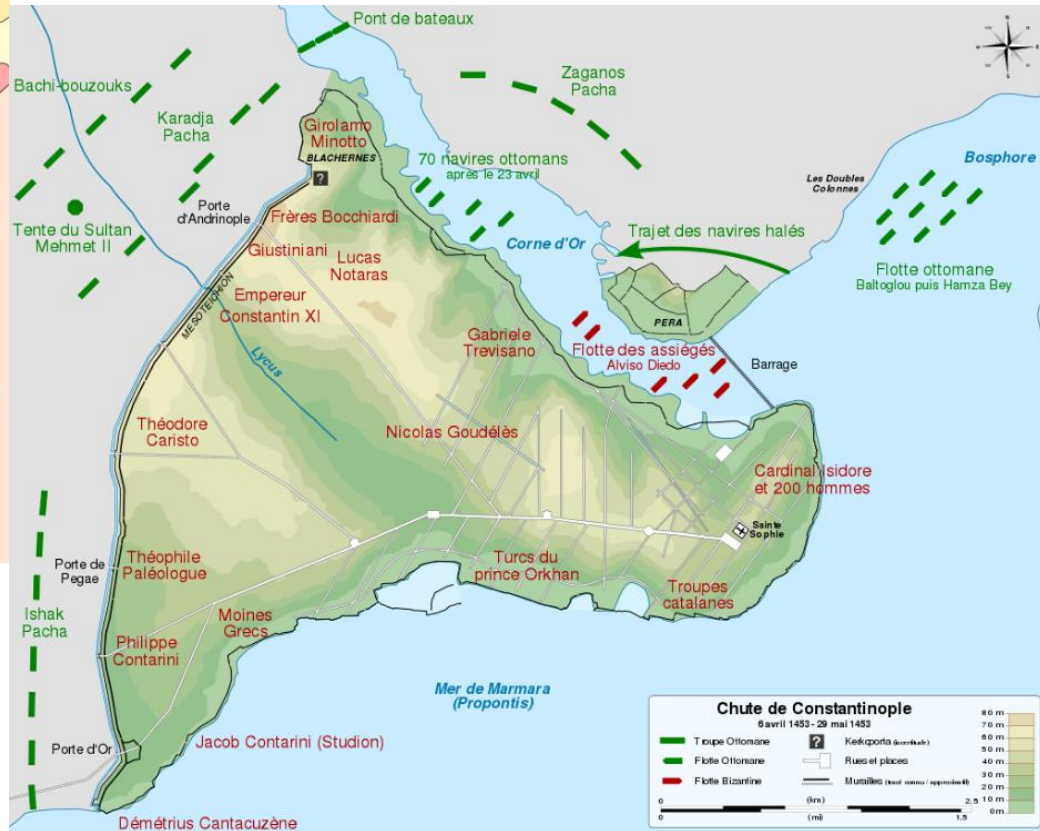
John 1:1

In principio erat Verbum, et Verbum erat apud Deum, et Deus erat Verbum

Jerome
347-420 CE



The Siege of Constantinople



1453

- The **Fall of Constantinople** was the capture of the [capital](#) of the [Byzantine Empire](#) by an invading [Ottoman](#) army on 29 May, 1453. The attackers were commanded by the then 21-year-old [Sultan Mehmed II](#), who defeated an army commanded by [Emperor Constantine XI Palaiologos](#) and took control of the imperial capital, ending a 53-day siege that had begun on 6 April 1453. After conquering the city, Sultan Mehmed transferred the capital of his Empire from [Edirne](#) to Constantinople, and established his court there.
- The capture of the city (and two other Byzantine splinter territories soon thereafter) marked the [end of the Byzantine Empire](#), a continuation of the [Roman Empire](#), an imperial state dating to 27 BC, which had lasted for nearly 1,500 years. The conquest of Constantinople also dealt a massive blow to [Christendom](#), as the Muslim Ottoman armies thereafter were left unchecked to advance into Europe without an adversary to their rear.
- It was also a watershed moment in military history. Since ancient times, cities had used ramparts and city walls to protect themselves from invaders, and Constantinople's substantial fortifications had been a model followed by cities throughout the Mediterranean region and Europe. The Ottomans ultimately prevailed due to the use of [gunpowder](#) (which powered formidable cannons).
- The conquest of the city of Constantinople and the end of the Byzantine Empire was a key event in the [Late Middle Ages](#) which also marks, for some historians, the end of the Mediaeval period.

What Language Did Jesus Speak?

John 1:35-42

35 The next day John was standing there again with two disciples
36 when he saw Jesus walking by. “There is the lamb of God!” he said.

37 The two disciples heard him say this and went with Jesus.

38 Jesus turned, saw them following him, and asked, “What are you looking for?” They answered, “Where do you live, Rabbi?” (The word means “Teacher.”)

39 “Come and see,” he answered. (It was about four o’clock in the afternoon.) So they went with him and saw where he lived, and spent the rest of that day with him.

40 One of them was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother.

41 At once he found his brother Simon and told him, “We have found the Messiah,” (This word means “Christ.”)

42 Then he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “Your name is Simon son of John, but you will be called Cephas.” (This is the same as Peter and means “rock”.)