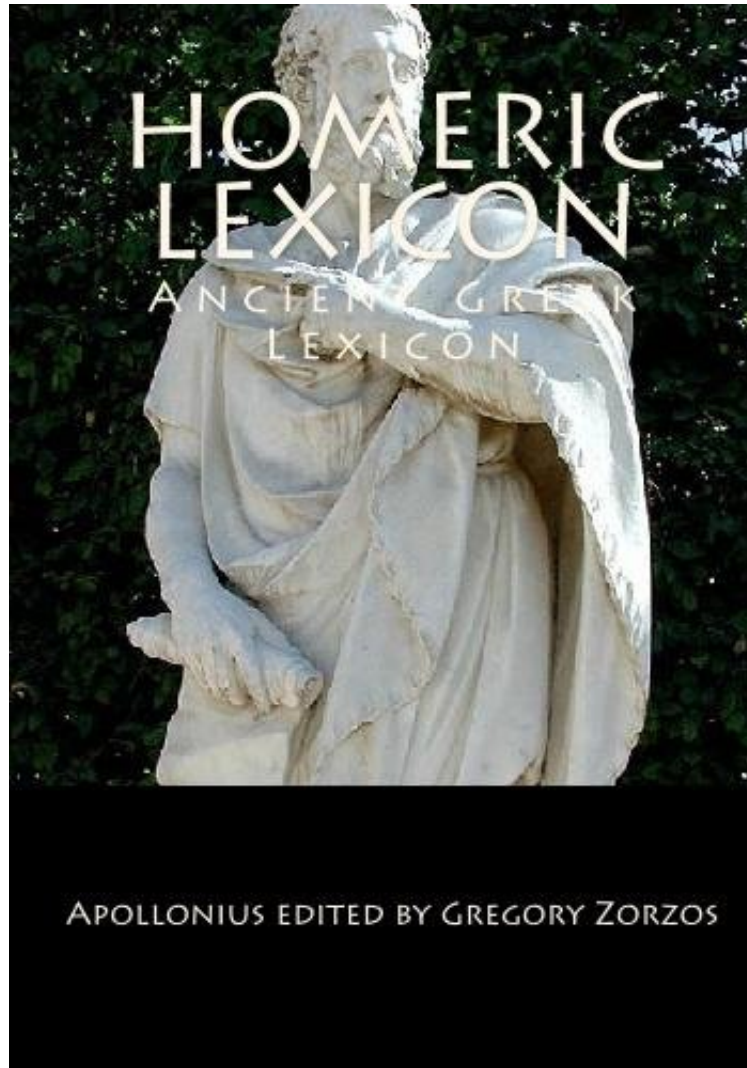


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Apollonius edited by Gregory Zorzos
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Apollonius edited by Gregory Zorzos : Homeric lexicon: Ancient Greek Lexicon before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Homeric lexicon: Ancient Greek Lexicon:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. incomplete, uneven in its usefulness, but still an important read By MarkosFirst, let me tell you what this book is NOT. It is NOT a complete, user-friendly, mono-lingual Homeric dictionary in Greek that can be used as an alternative to the Greek-English ones of Cunliffe and Autenrieth. This book only includes about 1/5 of the words found in those resources. Apollonius' writing style is elliptical and fairly difficult. My Ancient Greek is pretty good, but even after reading Apollonius' entries I often found myself having to look up the word in Cunliffe anyway. And the entries are quite uneven. Sometimes a simple one-word Greek gloss is given,

whereas sometimes an extended Scholiast-like comment on the word is found, or a reference to etymology (false or otherwise,) or a brief discussion of the grammatical forms. Only sometimes are quotes from the poems included (and without chapter and verse numbers.) At times Apollonius refers to early Greek lexicographers, and then includes his own interpretation. Really this book is more like random excerpts from the Scholiasts than a complete lexicon that learners can actually use while reading the poems. But, having said this, I still recommend the book very much. It is very important to use whatever resources are available which go beyond the grammar-translation mode. Along with Gaza's Greek paraphrase, this is a very helpful resource for more advanced Homer learners. I find Apollonius insights very interesting. Also, I think reading an all-Greek dictionary will cause ones to remember the meanings more than going back and forth from Greek to English. And of course, any book written in Ancient Greek will improve one's Ancient Greek. It's unclear what role the editor, one Gregory Zorzos, has played in producing this book, nor what prior edition he is working from. The book is printed in a pretty readable and large font, but a more modern font would have been preferred. There are some mistakes in the alphabetical order of the words. Fortunately, the preview lets you see very large chunks of the book. (Just keep clicking on "surprise me.") I am very grateful to Mr. Zorzos for making this needed resource available at a fairly reasonable price.

Apollonius, also called "the Sophist", was a famous grammarian, who probably lived towards the end of the 1st century A.D. and taught in Rome in the time of Tiberius. He was born in Alexandria, the son of another grammarian, Archibius. He was the author of a Homeric lexicon, the only work of this kind existent today. His chief authorities were Aristarchus of Samothrace and Apion's Homeric glossary (although some sources cite Apion as a disciple of Apollonius). The surviving text of this lexicon is an epitome, that is, it is a shortened summary of the original. In the original version, Apollonius apparently supplied at least one quotation in each entry. It was edited for the first time by Villoison (1773, 2 vol. in-quarto) from a manuscript of Saint Germain, and also by I. Bekker (1833).

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