



The AGNT Project Report—Q2 2024

As a licensee or friend of AGNT or ANLEX, we would like to update you once a quarter about our continuing work to enhance and perfect these databases and about our plans for the future.



The Project. *The AGNT Project Report—Q3 2008* introduced the team, outlined ongoing tasks, and discussed potential tasks.



A Review of the Revision of the Analytical Lexicon of the Greek New Testament (ANLEX)

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Baker Book House published the *Analytical Lexicon of the Greek New Testament* (ANLEX) by Timothy Friberg, Barbara Friberg and Neva F. Miller in 2000. They also published the *Analytical Greek New Testament* (AGNT) by Barbara Friberg and Timothy Friberg in 1981. Neva Miller was a lifetime teacher of Greek; in her retirement she did Greek consultant work for Wycliffe Bible Translators. She wrote a commentary on Hebrews in 1988.¹

This is a short summary of the revision process of ANLEX. A longer article with many features amply illustrated may be accessed at <https://agntproject.net/miscellanea/a-review-of-revision-of-anlex>.

The revision of ANLEX. It was seen as a needful step even from the beginning (2000) but gathered momentum about ten years later. The revision output is largely a reflection of the work of Tony Pope, who corrects errors, updates language, and fills in missing details for the best understanding of the meaning and usage of each lemma form.

Two Visual Differences of Revised ANLEX from the Original ANLEX

Outlined Form. The more complex entries have been put in outlined form to enable a better first-glance impression of their content.

Highlighting. The ANLEX project is working on a two-color highlighting of every Greek reflex (word in context) in the editions we handle that by a click or hovering on the reflex in question will immediately highlight the ANLEX discussion for the Greek lemma and the particular (sub)sense of the word. The two colors are intended to give, respectively, higher visibility (yellow) and lower visibility (turquoise).

¹ Disclosure: Though ANLEX earns royalties from commercial vendors, all royalties received are given away to charitable works—and have been from the beginning in 1981.

Seven Substantive Differences from the Original ANLEX

Etymology. Etymology of Greek vocabulary is a very deep and complicated field, beyond the scope of ANLEX. However, we have introduced a simplified word-building aid to help the user understand the constituent parts of the Greek word—where relevant—always between double curly brackets {{ }}.

Interdependency. Though AGNT (of whatever six editions serviced) and ANLEX can be acquired and used independently one of the other, they are increasingly being made to be interdependent. For example, the ERGs (English reference glosses) of AGNT are taken exclusively from the glosses of ANLEX, which in their earlier turn are determined by the use of the Greek reflex in context.

Compound Vocabulary. Compound vocabulary (mostly verbal, but not entirely) adds one or more prepositions to the root word with often different effects on the semantic expression. ANLEX in revised entries now adds a straightforward regular preposition treatment following the main entry that comments on changed meanings for these compounds.

Verse References. Verse references have been expanded such that there is now at least one reference for every sense dealt with in the revised entry.

Further, whereas references formerly lacked textual location, the current display gives the particular edition information to narrow down searching. Thus, our notations added to references include WH (Westcott-Hort), NA (Nestle-Aland, indicating the entire set of editions supporting that approach, except if a particular subtype might be uniquely pointed to), BYZ (Robinson-Pierpont), ms(s) (manuscript(s)), sc (scholarly conjecture).

Transitivity. Transitivity is not an inherent category of Koine Greek, though of course Greek speakers could well convey transitive and intransitive actions. We have added ‘transitively’ and ‘intransitively’ to the revised entries as a broad indication to aid English-language users.

Figurative and Idiomatic Meanings. In contrast to basic literal meaning, revised entries in ANLEX may be marked figuratively or idiomatically, as the case may be.

Idiomatic usage discussion found in ANLEX most frequently corresponds to the AGNT category of PERG (phrasal English reference gloss) with its accompanying PLERG (phrase-literal English reference gloss). AGNT has taken the individual Greek reflex as the domain of grammatical tags and lexical meanings. But when a string of text (sometimes discontinuous) presents a meaning not easily divisible into its unit constituent parts, PERG in AGNT and a corresponding treatment in ANLEX are employed.

Hebraisms. Hebraisms are also identified in revised entries.

Actual Revised Entry Content

For all the several content-related substantive innovations or improvements in ANLEX, that of the body of the entry itself is most important. For us the revision team, we are happy to acknowledge Neva’s original work, even while improving on it, as we can. Due to the division of some entries and the addition of others—largely for ms(s) and sc readings—the number of entries in the original ANLEX (just over 5400) has grown to 5822 at this time.

A very important desideratum of revising ANLEX is that there be no occurrence of a Greek reflex in our five serviced Greek editions that lacks a thoughtful placing in the entry revisions themselves. That means that roughly 700,000 different Greek reflexes are individually examined in context and only then put into the revised entry. We accomplish that by examining a database prepared for us by Michael Bushell that reads as input every reflex in the five editions with accompanying references, ERGs and PERGs, and as output gives us a running list of these individual reflexes.

The most detailed part of revision is ordering the entry discussion in the most enlightening way. Usually that involves active senses before passive. With respect to transitivity, we usually put first,

whether intransitively or transitively, whichever is preponderant among the reflexes representing the lemma.

Also requiring ongoing attention are the nuances of glosses. We have changed many where a gloss seems basically apt, but on closer examination, it would likely be taken wrongly by some users. Further, archaic English, “language of Zion,” and any unnatural English reflecting etymology are candidates for change. Major differences between British and American English are checked for understanding one way or another.

Original ANLEX Entry

ρίπτω and ριπτέω 1aor. ἔρριψα; pf. pass. ἔρριμμαι; (1) *throw*, with the translation suited to the context: *hurl* or *cast* (MT 27.5), *throw* or *toss off* (clothing) (AC 22.23), *throw* or *toss out* (from a ship) (AC 27.19); (2) of persons *throw (into)* (LU 17.2); with no denotation of violence *put* or *lay down* (sick people) (MT 15.30); perfect passive participle *lying on the ground, lying helpless*; figuratively *be discouraged, be dejected* (MT 9.36)

Revision in Process Entry

ρίπτω and ριπτέω 1aor. ἔρριψα; pf. pass. ἔρριμμαι; ~~{{{ρίπτω + ω/-εω}}}~~ transitive, accusative object; (1) *throw, fling implying forcefulness more than aim for a particular target* with the translation suited to the context: as discarding an unwanted item *hurl or cast/throw away* (MT 27.5); *throw or toss off (clothing) (in AC 22.23, with ἱμάτια (coats) as object, two suggestions are commonly made, (a) to wave them in the air, (b) to throw them off, as a gesture of protest, the second is preferable as matching the usual sense of the verb);* as jettisoning items from a ship *throw overboard or toss out (from a ship)* (AC 27.19); as casting anchors from a ship *let go, drop* (AC 27.29); (2) of with a persons as object *throw down (to the ground or into the sea)* (LU 4.35; 17.2); (2) with no denotation of violence, (a) as depositing sick people on the ground *put down, or lay down (sick people)* (MT 15.30); (b) perfect passive participle *lying on the ground, lying helpless*; figuratively *be discouraged, be dejected* (MT 9.36)

Revised Entry through the Present

ρίπτω and ριπτέω 1aor. ἔρριψα; pf. pass. ἔρριμμαι; *transitive, accusative object;
 (1) *throw, fling implying forcefulness more than aim for a particular target*: as discarding an unwanted item *throw away* (MT 27.5); in AC 22.23, with ἱμάτια (*coats*) as object, two suggestions are commonly made, either to wave them in the air, or to *throw* them *off*, as a gesture of protest, the second is preferable as matching the usual sense of the verb; as jettisoning items from a ship *throw overboard* (AC 27.19); as casting anchors from a ship *let go, drop* (AC 27.29); with a person as object *throw (down) to the ground or into the sea* (LU 4.35; 17.2);
 (2) with no denotation of violence,
 (a) as depositing sick people on the ground *put down, lay down* (MT 15.30);
 (b) perfect passive participle *lying on the ground*; figuratively *discouraged, dejected* (MT 9.36)

Observing Greek lexicon content over the decades identifies several possible content issues. For us the content of the entry is to be maximally friendly to the purpose of the translator, and, derivatively, to student and pastor. And that is what the current revision strives to accomplish.

A revision process of this nature presupposes a willingness to criticize constructively what has gone before; a good understanding of linguistics, especially semantics but not limited to that; a deepening

experience of biblical content; a healthy and expanding knowledge of Koine Greek; a familiarity with the Greek literature before and concurrent with the New Testament era, including that of the LXX; and an appreciation of the scholarly references that will add their light to whatever problems are encountered.

The task before us requires access to:

- Ancient Greek lexicons, in our experience those whose basic audiences are English, French, German or Spanish speakers, including some dating back to the 1800s.
- Greek grammars
- Multiple New Testament translations
- Concordances
- Aids for translators; among others

At this time, we have approximately 1400 revised entries in ANLEX out of a total of 5822. Whereas we trust that every revised entry is better than what went before it, it is not as if there is something special or earthshaking in every next entry presented.

Conclusion

Though academic inquiry is very satisfying in and of itself, the revision of ANLEX is motivated along totally separate lines, that of aiding both the layman and the professional student of the New Testament to have together in conjunction with AGNT or, electronically, in one interdependent mode, helps to understand its rich message.

Revisions, corrections, and other items in the AGNT project are updated to Bible translation and commercial vendors annually in February. This is the standard way to keep abreast of developments from AGNT-ANLEX. A more personal approach is offered as follows:

We invite the reader to interact with us by means of questions, comments—even helpful criticisms—toward the overall improvement of ANLEX (and AGNT) by tweaking its individual parts. We expect to have one or more additional features of presentation ready in the near future that will hopefully aid the user toward more satisfying understanding of the underlying message of the Greek New Testament. You may contact me at this address: trfagnt@gmail.com.



As always, we remain open to developing AGNT and ANLEX in ways that are most useful to the needs of students and readers of God's Word.

Thank you for your continued support of *The AGNT Project*, for faithfully marketing the AGNT and ANLEX databases, and for making these state-of-the-art tools for studying the Greek New Testament available to students, scholars, pastors, translators, and laymen worldwide.

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