

## GREEK BORROWINGS

Before the 16<sup>th</sup> century, many Greek words were taken in English. It came in it through Latin and French.

By the way of Latin, many Greek words introduced in English are the best expressions in English language.

The borrowed Greek words were spelt and pronounced like Romans. The Greek 'U' turned into 'y' in Latin and the 'K' changed to 'c'. After the Roman period the 'c' lost the sound 'K' before vowels like e, i, y.

This affected the pronunciation of many Greek words. Greek words were adopted into popular vocabulary.

They are dropsy (Greek hydropsis), palsy (Greek paralysis), emerald (Greek Smaragdos). The Greek words borrowed by Latin during the period of Old English were related to Christianity and the Roman machinery.

The Greek loan words borrowed either from Latin or French were pronounced according to Latin tradition. The Greek words like academy, atom, bible, idea, ecstasy, tragedy, theatre, bathos, sympathy, geography, theology and logic are popular vocabulary used frequently in English before 16<sup>th</sup> century. But by the middle of 16<sup>th</sup> century

the effects of Renascene were being felt in European countries. On it, Greek became well known in England. Greek words were borrowed in English directly without Latin and French. Directly borrowed Greek words to

English were apotheosis, acne, dogma, kinetics, pathos and philan. In 16<sup>th</sup> century Greek loan words entered English were irony, alphabet, elegy, drama, chorus, basis, epic and theory etc. In 17<sup>th</sup> century, the adoption of Greek were orchestra, museum, hypen, dogma and clinic. In 18<sup>th</sup> century, words like

'pathos' and 'philander' were Greek words introduced by Pope in English. In 19<sup>th</sup> century, phrases like pylon, acrobat, therm and agnostic were adopted in English through Greek words. Classical Greek contributed vocabulary to common European language. It was suited to the need of precise technology.

or scientific terms. It is unlimited power of forming compound words, suffix and completion. On the hands of Plato and Aristotle, Greek borrowing was culminated for accurate expression. That is, Greek language had a wonderful and clear vocabulary in all branches of science and learning. We see new scientific and technical term in Greek words.

Most of the Greek words were scientific or technical. Fancy, idea, ecstasy, pathos and sympathy were popular vocabulary originated from Greek words. The number scientific inventions like photography, lithography, ophthalmoscope, stereotype, telephone and cinematography were derived from Greek language.

Like Latin, Greek has mingled in the native complex with English prefix and suffix. In the same way Greek prefixes and suffixes attached to English words. Greek prefix 'anti' (against), 'hyper' (beyond) and 'a' (negative). Take for example anti-British, hypersensitive and amoral. Greek suffix -ology, -graphy, -phone acclimated in English language.

Telephone, phonography, lithography and dynamography are compound words coming from Greek borrowings. Certain words in English taken from Greek have changed in the meaning. Climax means a ladder or gradation in Greek means culmination in English.

Phenomenal made from Greek phainomenon means 'that which appears'. In short, Latinized words helped Greek words to enter English Language. This happened because Greek was cultured and Romans were civilized. Thus Greek loan words came to English language through learned, scientific and technical usages. As this, C.L. Wrenn said in his book 'The English language' Greek was very much a new impulse a fresh field of language at least for the literary and learned".