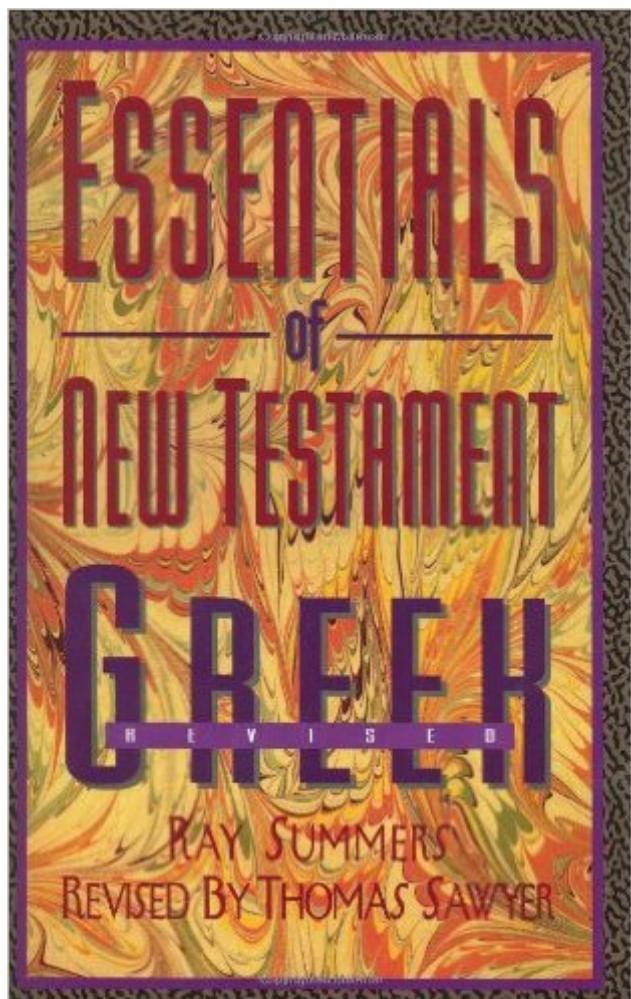


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# Essentials Of New Testament Greek



## Synopsis

A fresh revision of a classic text, suited for classrooms or private study. Thousands of pastors have enhanced their understanding of the New Testament with this user-friendly book.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 208 pages

Publisher: B&H Academic; Revised ed. edition (June 29, 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0805410015

ISBN-13: 978-0805410013

Product Dimensions: 6.2 x 0.7 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (42 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

This is a good introduction to studying Koine Greek, though it should probably be supplemented. The workbook is nearly essential (contrary to other reviews, it's quite easy to find), especially since it's true, there are no answers to the included exercises in the textbook itself. But the explanations are clear and easy to follow. The text is well-written and concise. The font is quite readable and clear, and you shouldn't have any problems reading the Greek text itself. If you get this book, do yourself a favor and get the workbook too. Together they make a nice pair.

My first greek class was in 1985, and we used this Summer's text. In 1988 I wanted to refreshen my greek so I took another greek class, and again the text was this one by Summer's. In both of those classes, and in my days since, I have struggled with this book. The book is basic, almost too basic. Greek is a very "peculiar" language. The "explanatory" instruction one gets on specific matters then the more one will understand the language. I believe this book fails in many aspects. This book would be "ok" if the teacher is outstanding in his/her skills of teaching greek. Otherwise, I wouldn't buy this book. I have since ordered "Basics of Biblical Greek" by W. Mounce. That book not only deserves 5 stars, but 5 more. I have studied that book on my own and have found it very satisfactory, fulfilling, and able to fill in the blanks that other greek grammars have not been able to

accomplish. William Mounce's father taught greek and brought his son into the language when William was at a young age. Needless to say, William has spent his entire life with the language. He has arranged his book in an order that is logical, helpful, and very useful. I wish I had first started with Mounce's grammar. If you get Summer's then you may soon have the same desire.

This is a good introduction to the study of New Testament Greek. I am partial to it, because it is the text I used in college, but it does have its flaws. It has some positives to it: it has a lot of vocabulary in it (80% of all the words used in the NT/all words used more than 50 times). It also has good charts for the different tenses and uses of irregular forms of New Testament words. The main flaw to the book is that it uses the eight case system, and it doesn't use the five (the eight case system has all but fallen out of favor). The only other problem I have with it is that it doesn't discuss the optative mood at all (most introductory grammars do not, because it is so rare in the New Testament). As I said, I am partial to this work, because it is the text I learned with. You will get some good things from the work, but it does have its disadvantages. This is a good work, but I would recommend also using Mounce along with Summers for a different perspective all together.

I bought this book in conjunction with a video course on NT Greek. I was troubled to find that the book does not come with answers to the exercises, making it difficult to use effectively in a self-study course. I previously bought Wenham's Elements of NT Greek, but was put off by its (not surprisingly, considering it is published by Cambridge) overly academic style. I was looking for a simple NT Greek course and Summer's book seemed like it might fit the bill, especially when used with the video course. One fundamental flaw/problem: on the back of the dust jacket, the blurb at the bottom mentions a workbook (Essentials of New Testament Greek Student's Guide). I have not found any references to this book anywhere else, including the publisher (who never returned my emails) or the publisher's web site. Searching across multiple web search engines returned no applicable hits, either. The chapters are short. Maybe too short. The discussion is very brief on all the topics covered. Compared with Mounce's Basics book, this one seems emaciated (weighing in at under 200 pages, including index and verb charts). Many of the chapters lack substantive (some lack any!) examples, reducing both the benefit and length of the text. I recently bought Mounce, hoping that it's more geared for the self-taught student. Summer's book is definitely not. Maybe the vapor-ware (?) Student's Guide would help. Has anybody ever seen the Student's Guide??

Ray Summers' work "Essentials of New Testament Greek" is a classic textbook teaching Greek

grammar and syntax to the serious student of New Testament Greek. The author continues to teach the 8 case system which has been abandoned by most colleges and seminaries, much to the detriment of the student's understanding. I highly recommend this book as a textbook for college and seminary Greek classes, as well as for the able minister's reference library. Thomas Cassidy Th.D., Chairman, Department of Biblical and Historical Theology, San Diego Baptist Theological Seminary

Good basic Text of New Testament Greek. Has all the basics. Not as detailed as the classic Dana and Mantey which is more detailed in grammar, or the massive A. T. Robertson. This text is ideal for a summary short course to point people to reading the Greek New Testament. I am combining with study of vocabulary in Metzger.

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