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## Show your emotions with Greek interjections

Posted by [Ourania](#) on Oct 22, 2014 in [Culture](#), [Vocabulary](#)

The Greek language is rich in interjections. They are short words or phrases which are invariable and are accompanied by the appropriate extralinguistic characteristics, such as body language and facial expressions. They are used in oral speech and also in literature.

**Α!** (ah) : it is used to show exclamation or amazement. We also use it when we are scared.

**Αμάν!** (aman): a word of Turkish origin. It can be used to express indignation or frustration.

**Άντε!** (ade): we use it when we are pleasantly surprised. It can also be used to express anger.

**Απαπα!** (apapa): it is used to express a strong disapproval.

**Άου!** (aou): we use it when we are in pain.

**Άουτς!** (aouch): the same as “άου!”

**Αχ!** (ach): it is a sound produced when we are in love, in pain, or when we feel sorrow.

**Γιούπι!** (youpee): we use it to express joy.

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**Επ!** (ep): we use it when we see unexpectedly someone we know very well or when we catch someone doing something wrong.

**Εύγε!** (evge): it is used to express praise.

**Μακάρι!**(makaree): we use it when we wish for something to happen.

**Μπα!** (ba): it is one of the most common Greek colloquialisms. It can be used to express admiration, amazement, refusal and sarcasm. It can be very rude depending on the context and the tone of the voice.

**Μπράβο!** (bravo): it is an Italian word but it is always invariable. We use it when we praise someone. However “άντε μπράβο!” (ande bravo) is used to express anger.

**Οέο;** (oaiο): it is used at the end of the sentence and it means “where?”

**Ου!** (oo): it can be translated as “boo” and it is used to express disapproval.

**Ουφ!** (oof): we use it when we are tired or sad.

**Ποπο!** (popo): another common word. It is used when something bad happens and it can be very dramatic. It can be also used to show admiration.

**Χμ!** (hm): we use it when we hesitate.

**Ωχ!** (och): we use it when we hear something unpleasant or something unexpected.

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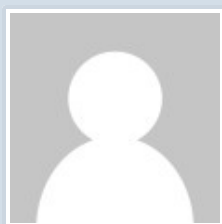
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About the Author: **Ourania**

Ourania lives in Athens. She holds a degree in French Literature and a Master's degree in Special Education for Children. Since 2008, she has been teaching Greek to foreigners.

### Comments:



**Simon:**

Mar 3  
2015

[Try it Free](#)[Log in](#)[Menu](#)**Ourania:**

[@Simon](#) Βρε is acceptable only if your teacher is a member of your family or if you are close friends.

Jul 11  
2015**Chnoudotos:**

Is there a Greek colloquialism or interjection that equates to “wtf” aka “what the fuck” to express incredulity and/or annoyance?

Jul 11  
2015**Ourania:**

[@Chnoudotos](#) Όχι ρε γαμώτο ορ έλα ρε γαμώτο, I think.

Jul 19  
2017**Jeremy:**

Hi, useful information thanks! Quick question, are the phrases “Bravo” or “Well done” ever used sarcastically in Greece?

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[@Jeremy](#) Hi,  
 Thank you for your comment.  
 Yes, we use bravo and well done sarcastically.

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