

GREEK HISTORICAL LINGUISTICS

Topic 3: Homer and the Epic Dialect

There is general agreement that the language of the Homeric epics is not a manifestation of a single dialect. What are the different dialect features found in Homer, how did they make their way into his language, and what does this mean for the prehistory of the epic tradition?

Try to read as much of the below as possible; skim books, use indices where necessary.

Chadwick, J. (1990). The descent of the greek epic. *Journal of Hellenic Studies* 110, 174–177.

Hackstein, O. (2002). *Die Sprachform der homerischen Epen*. Wiesbaden: Dr. Ludwig Reichert.

Hainsworth, B. and G. Kirk (1993). *The Iliad: A Commentary, Volume III (books 9–12)*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

|| esp. pp. 1–32 on Formulae

Hajnal, I. (2003). *Troia aus sprachwissenschaftlicher Sicht: die Struktur einer Argumentation*. Innsbruck: Institut für Sprachwissenschaft und Literaturen, Abteilung Sprachwissenschaft.

Haug, D. (2002). *Les phases de l'évolution de la langue épique: trois études de linguistique homérique*. Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht.

Heubeck, A. and A. Hoekstra (1989). *A Commentary on Homer's Odyssey, vol. II, books IX–XVI*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.

|| esp. Hoekstra's introduction on the poetic dialect (pp. 147–160)

Heubeck, A., S. West, and B. Hainsworth (1988). *A Commentary on Homer's Odyssey, vol. I, books I–VIII*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.

|| esp. Hainsworth on the epic dialect (pp. 24–32) and West on transmission (33–50)

Horrocks, G. (1997). Homer's dialect. In I. Morris and B. B. Powell (Eds.), *A New Companion to Homer*, pp. 193–217. Leiden: Brill.

Janko, R. and G. Kirk (1991). *The Iliad: A Commentary, Volume IV (books 13–16)*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

|| esp. pp. 8–19 (epic diction) and 20–38 (text and transmission)

Palmer, L. R. (1962). The language of homer. In A. Wace and F. Stubbings (Eds.), *A Companion to Homer*, pp. 75–178. London: Macmillan.

Peters, M. (1986). Zur frage einer "achäischen phase" des griechischen epos. In *o-o-pe-ro-si. Festschrift für Ernst Risch*, pp. 303–319. Berlin: de Gruyter.

Ruijgh, C. J. (1986). Le mycénien et homère. In A. Morpurgo Davies and Y. Duhoux (Eds.), *Linear B, A 1984 Survey. proceedings of the Mycenaean Colloquium of the VIIIth Congress of the International Federation of the Societies of Classical Studies (Dublin, 27 August-1st September 1984)*, pp. 143–190. Louvain-la-Neuve: Cabay.

Ruijgh, C. J. (1995). D'homère aux origines proto-mycéniennes de la tradition épiques. analyse dialectologique du langage homérique avec un excursus sur la création de l'alphabet grec. In J. P. Crielaard (Ed.), *Homeric Questions*, pp. 1–96. Amsterdam: J.C. Gieben.

West, M. L. (1988). The rise of the greek epic. *Journal of Hellenic Studies* 108, 151–172.