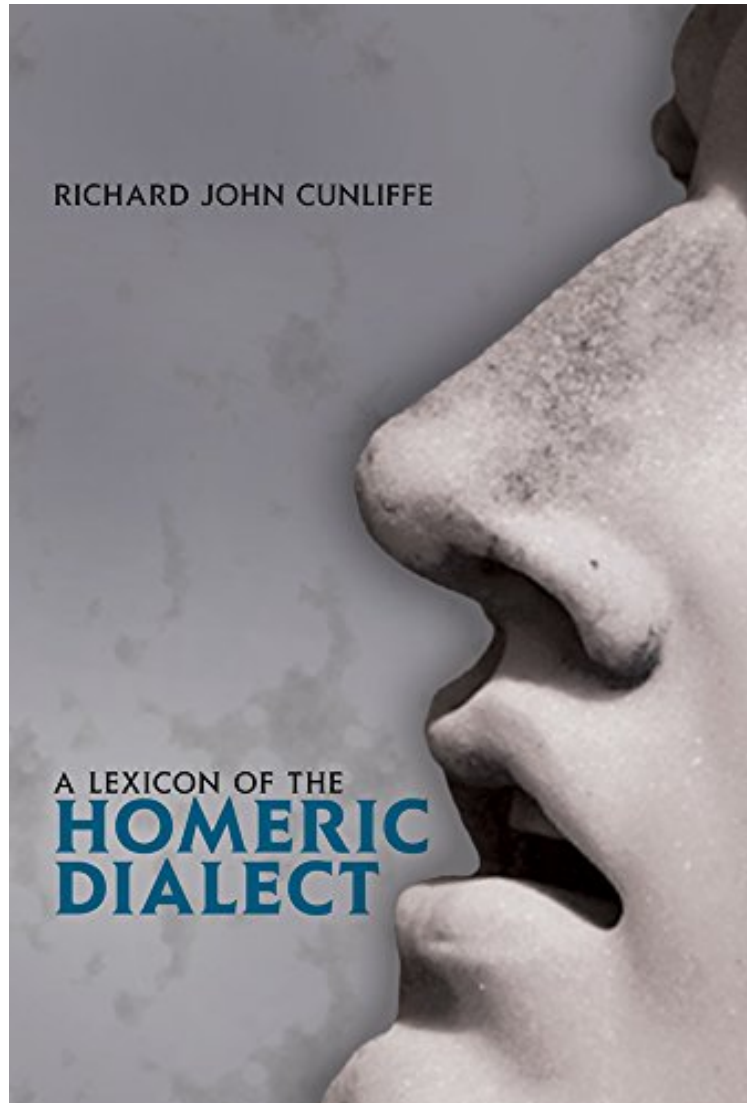


(Get free) A Lexicon of the Homeric Dialect

## A Lexicon of the Homeric Dialect

*Richard John Cunliffe*

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**Richard John Cunliffe : A Lexicon of the Homeric Dialect** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Lexicon of the Homeric Dialect:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Add my voice to the chorus of praise for this excellent resourceBy David GriceI wish I could think of something to add to the glowing praise of this tremendously helpful resource, but about all I can do is express my hearty agreement. I've been working my way through the Homeric course by Schoder and Horrigan, and this lexicon has been a great boon. The appendices at the back of Schoder and Horrigan are handy for quick reference, but for the secondary meanings and obscure forms, Cunliffe's Lexicon is a lifesaver. It will save

time, reduce frustration, and most importantly, increase the enjoyment and appreciation of Homer's works. As for the binding, I haven't had any problems or concerns, and I carry mine with me frequently in my travels. For me, the lighter weight and smaller size are an additional advantage. Now if only it were available in electronic format...16 of 16 people found the following review helpful. a heroic contributionBy Methaya SirichitThis lexicon has been a tremendous help to me just when I am working my way through the verses of Homer using Clide Pharr's text. At first, I did not think it would be required at all since Pharr's book also provides a comprehensive vocabulary for Iliad book I. However, It proves to be a great and indispensable tool, simply because it provides you with confidence when you realize that you actually grasp the true and exact meaning of the words as well as the capacity to pin point the correct tense forms that Pharr doesn't always care to elaborate. Just as Andrew Lang once said that "the study [of Greek] is averse to indolent intellectual ways; it will not put up with a 'there or thereabouts,' any more than mathematical ideas admit of being made to seem 'extremely plausible,'" so it is plain that to be able to read Homer with pleasure we need all the help to thoroughly understand him which is why Cunliffe's lexicon comes to be a heroic contribution to the Homeric study in the English speaking world.Cunliffe's text does have some flaws, i.e. not being so userfriendly (the lists of forms and occurrences make it difficult to find a word's definition). However, it's obvious that he did "avoid no pain and shirk no difficulty," as he claims in his introduction, to prepare this marvelous lexicon. My point is that may be it's time for someone to revise and edit the book for new generation of users. It's a pity that fewer and fewer of us care to read Homer in the original nowadays that there has been no new efforts to assist modern readers to enjoy these great poems. Richard J. Cunliffe was a lawyer who took all the troubles to compile this wonderful book so that he may, by his own admission, "bring the (new) readers to Homer." What a lofty goal indeed.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Essential for reading Homer in GreekBy William WaldermanIf you want to read Homer in the original and you are an English speaker, this dictionary is essential. It's particularly helpful and especially convenient if you're reading Homer in bed, while working out, or at the beach, and you don't want to lug around your Liddell Scott, let alone your four volumes of the Lexicon des fruehgriechischen Epos. (You wouldn't get caught dead using the baby LS, of course, but this is a much better reference tool for Homer than even the intermediate version.)Reading Homer in the original isn't as hard as it sounds. The syntax is usually not complicated. The morphology (the various forms of the verbs, nouns, adjectives and pronouns) differs somewhat from Attic Greek (the Athenian dialect, which is what most people learn starting out), but you get used to it after a short while.This book is an enormous help with the huge vocabulary, and it also has separate entries for many of the more capricious verb forms, so you don't have to spend so much time puzzling them out. Although some entries probably wouldn't be quite up to the standards of the latest research, this dictionary was evidently prepared with great care, and it's very reliable.My paperback copy has held up well through four or five traversals of the Iliad and the Odyssey. I have a hardbound copy purchased used which is ready for the day when my paperback copy disintegrates (hopefully not in my lifetime).In short, if you aspire to read Homer in the original--and who doesn't?--be sure to get this reasonably priced and indispensable book. I'll bet even Gregory Nagy and M.L. West own well-worn copies, even if they don't admit it!

Richard John Cunliffes A Lexicon of the Homeric Dialect has remained unmatched wherever English-speaking scholars and students pursue the Homeric epics in the original. As the late author points out, this was the first large assault upon the problem, since most of the works of similar character at the time were of foreign (mostly German) origin.

About the AuthorRichard John Cunliffe received a law degree from Glasgow University, Scotland. In addition to the Lexicon of the Homeric Dialect, he is the author of the highly acclaimed New Shakespearean Dictionary.