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I am looking for a Doric Lexicon, any help would be appreciated. There is a pretty old lexicon to Theocritus, but quite a useful one at that. A Greek linguist has compiled a word list of the modern dialect spoken in Rhodes, but I think it is wrong to call it “Doric”. What is the purpose of your request, shannenms? There is a pretty old lexicon to Theocritus, but quite a useful one at that. A Greek linguist has compiled a word list of the modern dialect spoken in Rhodes, but I think it is wrong to call it “Doric”. What is the purpose of your request, shannenms? Is there an online version available? I was learning Ancient Greek and I saw many words are more like Doric words than Attic, I want to work specifically on the relation of Greek language and Ancient Persian. Thank you for your help. Hi shannenms, Here's the link to the Liddell and Scott (Ancient Greek --> English) lexicon online: It's a great lexicon, best available (when the site works--it can be slow and a bit temperamental). You can look up words in any dialect, though the default mode is Attic. So for instance, you can look up ματηρ, and it will tell you that ματηρ is Doric for μητηρ (Attic). Also, you can only look up Greek words in their Latin transliteration; there's a helpful key for that on site--just be very patient and learn by trial-and-error. Thank you both, but I have difficulty in looking up in this sites, and the other thing I want to know is about Tsakonian language, was it in use along with Doric back then, and is there any online dictionary to this language? I want to work specifically on the relation of Greek language and Ancient Persian. If you want to develop expertise in ‘Greek influence on Persian’, you’d be potentially in for an interesting contribution to scholarship. As far as I know, only two persons have published research on this subject - and so far no Iranians. If you are serious about this, you should probably take contact with the Encyclopædia Iranica (Columbia University) in order to get some guidelines. Concerning Tsakonian, I don’t think it is a good idea to mix this Modern Greek dialect into the pot. If you want to develop expertise in ‘Greek influence on Persian’, you’d be potentially in for an interesting contribution to scholarship. As far as I know, only two persons have published research on this subject - and so far no Iranians. If you are serious about this, you should probably take contact with the Encyclopædia Iranica (Columbia University) in order to get some guidelines. Concerning Tsakonian, I don’t think it is a good idea to mix this Modern Greek dialect into the pot. Can give me more information on the aforementioned contributors on this topic, and what are their publications? As for the Tsakonian, I thought it has still preserved its ancient features on the phonology,e.g. having the sound sh (as in ship), which is abundant in Pahlavi. Thank you very much for your invaluable information. I have sent you a PM with some general information about your first request. As for the Tsakonian, I thought it has still preserved its ancient features on the phonology,e.g. having the sound sh (as in ship), which is abundant in Pahlavi. As long as this thread is about “Doric”, I would like to say that this is of absolutely no importance for the subject you are interested in. Many other Modern Greek dialects have got a distinction between [s] and [ʃ], and no “ancient features” – allegedly “classical”, I imagine – are being attributed to them. Tsakonian being claimed as “Doric” is also highly questionable – as much as dialects from Lesbos (Λέσβος) are said to be “Aeolic”... This is more politics than linguistics. Which is correct? Are both suddenly OK to use? I would always use focusing, but my computer does not correct focussing. Is this something that has crept in from American English or vice versa?? Thanks if anyone can answer this for me! Welcome, Helen Even the (Compact) Oxford English Dictionary gives • verb (focused, focusing or focussed, focussing) so it would appear it's a matter of personal preference. Like you I'd always go, though, for focused myself - because that agrees with the usual stress-based rule (enter - entered versus refer - referred, etc.) F Just informationally, I have never seen the word spelled as focussing. That looks very strange to me. Focusing looks better to me and focused, not focussed. Noun: focus and focuses and focussing Verb: focus, focuses or focusses, focusing or focussing, focused or focussed. I've used both forms, but when I'm more conscious with spelling then I use the ones with the extra s. Don't exactly know why when both forms are correct. I guess I just want to conform to the rule of consonant-vowel-consonant + the last consonant + the verb inflection(s). Actually I think it's American English that has created this shortcut spelling. In my mind the correct spelling is "focussing" and I learned to read over 40 years ago, so the single "s" is newer. In this case, it is BrE that allows the option of -ss- or -s-. AmE only allows -s-. Similarly, you can write biassed or biased. There is actually a spelling rule for this. In British English when a 2 syllable word has the accent on the second syllable and the word ends in one vowel and one consonant (as in focus / travel etc), you must double the last consonant. As far as I am aware American English doesn't apply this rule which is why it uses focusing / traveling and so on. In this case, it is BrE that allows the option of -ss- or -s-. AmE only allows -s-. Similarly, you can write biassed or biased. I have never seen biassed written down, though I have, at times, come across focussing. I would instinctively regard both as spelling errors. There is actually a spelling rule for this. In British English when a 2 syllable word has the accent on the second syllable and the word ends in one vowel and one consonant (as in focus / travel etc), you must double the last consonant. As far as I am aware American English doesn't apply this rule which is why it uses focusing / traveling and so on. I can't comment on this "rule" but it seems to me that the stress in "focus" is on the first syllable, not the second. I have always written "focused", for what it is worth. I can't comment on this "rule" but it seems to me that the stress in "focus" is on the first syllable, not the second. I have always written "focused", for what it is worth. This is a vaild spelling/phonetic rule, honest ! Most 2 syllable words when they are nouns or adjectives have the stress on the first syllable, but the stress usually moves to the second syllable when the word becomes a verb. Unfortunately I don't have a dictionary to hand to confirm if this is the case with "focus" . There is actually a spelling rule for this. In British English when a 2 syllable word has the accent on the second syllable and the word ends in one vowel and one consonant (as in focus / travel etc), you must double the last consonant. As far as I am aware American English doesn't apply this rule which is why it uses focusing / traveling and so on. Hi sille "Focusing" has the stress on the first syllable, so we don't - or rather shouldn't - double the 's'. As far as I know the "rule" is the same in BrE and AmE, except that BrE doubles an 'l' regardless of where the stress is: travel (stress on first syllable)> travelled BrE, traveled Ame. PS: Good to see you posting after several months' membership of the forums: welcome. Last edited: Jun 26, 2010 This is a vaild spelling/phonetic rule, honest ! Most 2 syllable words when they are nouns or adjectives have the stress on the first syllable, but the stress usually moves to the second syllable when the word becomes a verb. Unfortunately I don't have a dictionary to hand to confirm if this is the case with "focus" . Well, my dictionary does not indicate that the verb is pronounced differently from the noun. The second syllable is a schwa, and English does not admit schwas in stressed syllables. I have never heard anyone give second-syllable stress to the verb "focus". Well, my dictionary does not indicate that the verb is pronounced differently from the noun. The second syllable is a schwa, and English does not admit schwas in stressed syllables. I have never heard anyone give second-syllable stress to the verb "focus". Thank you for that. Hi everyone, there is a rule about stressed syllables, but it doesn't apply in this case. That is the rule that makes us write opening with one 'n' (because stress is on the 'oh' part at the beginning), but beginning with double 'n' (begause stress is on the 'gin' part (second syllable)) However, in British English we spell two syllable verbs ending in 'l' or 'r' with a double letter in gerund or regular past simple or past participle, even if stress is on the first syllable: travelling, travelled, cancelling, cancelled, referring, referred, preferring, preferred. In the same way we write 'focussing' and 'focussed,' although I can't think of any other two syllable verbs ending in single 's' to make a more general rule of it! I do use 'focussing', and 'focussed' and I stress the first syllable. (And I suppose I do it because I can!) However, 'referring', 'preferring', etc receive second-syllable stress for me. - sillie, some nouns change stress to the second syllable when they become verbs, like desert and record, but I think that most don't, like bother, bundle, wonder, struggle, rumble, thunder, etc., etc. I do use 'focussing', and 'focussed' and I stress the first syllable. (And I suppose I do it because I can!) However, 'referring', 'preferring', etc receive second-syllable stress for me. Sorry, yes, you're quite right about refer and prefer. The same would also apply to occur and concur. I guess an example I could have used for the same spelling with first syllable stress could be offer - offerring, offerred. Thanks for pointing this out I'd write those as offering and offered, Kris. I'd write those as offering and offered, Kris. Yes, so would many others, even in the UK, but I think this is something that has come from America, like prefered, traveling and focused. American English, through the mass media, has a huge effect on British English, so much so that a billion has been devalued by a power of 1000 over the last few decades! In Latin languages it still means a million million, as it used to in English, but now, even on the BBC, thanks to American English, it is only a thousand million (which Latin languages usually call a 'milliard'). I am surprised that no one has mentioned the pronunciation of the 's', which is like 'nonplussed' rather than 'amused', hence my inclination to write 'focussed'! I am surprised that no one has mentioned the pronunciation of the 's', which is like 'nonplussed' rather than 'amused', hence my inclination to write 'focussed'! The pronunciation of the 's' in 'amuse' is due to the presence of the final 'e'. And, precisely because of the final 'e', 'amuse' does not form part of the discussion about doubling the final consonant. Thanks for this most knowledgeable and comprehensive discussion. I have been struggling for the better part of a day to find an authoritative, repeatable rule for doubling the final consonant of an English word when adding a suffix beginning with a vowel. In particular, the troublesome focus. This thread has given me the ammo I need. Cheers! HJK I speak the Australian variant of English, and Down Under we tend to use Bristish English spelling but are fully cognizant of US spellings. In this particullar case, it's not a matter of where the stress. It's all to do with whether or not the "s" sound is sibilant (as with a hissing snake) or like the "z" sound in words like "amaze" and "zoo" to pick a couple. It will come to you as you pronounce words such as "hosing" or "closing" versus "tossing" or "flossing" where the intention of the "ss" spelling is to indicate that the sound is sibilant. Aussies and Brits are taught to use the "ss" spelling. Ah, the fun of becoming attuned to the different spellings and sounds of English language variants and dialects. Look up "sibilant" in Wikipedia or elsewhere. In this particullar case, it's not a matter of where the stress. It's all to do with whether or not the "s" sound is sibilant (as with a hissing snake) or like the "z" sound in words like "amaze" and "zoo" to pick a couple. How does that work with "focussing" and "focusing", both of which are pronounced the same, and not, in my experience, with the "z" sound of "hosing"? The OED observes: Against the broad rule that final consonants are not doubled after short unstressed vowels, inflected forms with -ss- are attested, especially in British English, but are nonetheless considerably rarer in current usage than forms without doubled final consonant; in the British National Corpus, the ratio of -s- forms to -ss- forms is about nine to one. P. Peters Cambridge Guide Eng. Usage (2004) notes that in a recent language usage survey in the United Kingdom, over 75% of respondents endorsed single-s inflected forms. This ngram also makes the point focussed,focused,focussing,focusing in British English. I do not use the "ss" spelling, and I was not taught to do so. Okay, okay, I will throw in the towel at this point! It's all getting too messy for me. I suppose that there's a fair degree of pointlessness (or should that be "pointlesnes"?) in being too pedantic. The only important thing is to get the message across. I’d say ‘focussed’, personally, but either is acceptable in the UK. My parents would disagree and say ‘focused’, so it can’t even be put down to a difference between BE and AE! I think the problem here is that there are very few verbs ending with consonant-vowel-s that we can study in order to extract a rule. I can only say that to me "focussed" would sound like "discussed". It is generally considered that doubling the final "s" when forming the plural is a mistake, as in "busses" or "gasses". No one thinks that with a single "s" "buses" would rhyme with "amuses" or "gases" would rhyme with "erases". Still, let's not lose sleep over it... Happy New Year everyone! As a former elementary school teacher in the USA, I taught my pupils that if a 1-syllable word ends with a single vowel and single consonant, you double the last consonant before adding ed or ing. If a 2-syllable word ends with a single vowel and single consonant, you double the consonant if the accent is on the second syllable. So, for example, the word ban would be banned/banning; the word gab would be gabbed/gabbing. If a 2-syllable word ends with the one vowel-one consonant pattern, you double the final consonant only if the second syllable is accented. For example, regret would be regretted/regretting and refer would be referred/referring. But if the accent is on the first syllable, you do not double the final consonant. Examples: cancel becomes canceled/canceling and budget becomes budgeted/budgeting. This is learned in the lower grades and in my experience holds well for most writing even as a senior citizen. Of course, I recognize that alternate spellings are also considered correct at times. I usually check a dictionary. The problem is we really have two rules at play here: the first rule is that if the final syllable is unstressed there is no need to double the final consonant in the United States. The second rule, which is in conflict with the first, says that an s between two vowels is pronounced as a z and that as a consequence in order to preserve the s sound one must double the consonant.. Thus there is a conflict between the two rules and the British have chosen to go one way while the Yanks the other. Typical! Afterthought: with buses and gases clearly the whole rulebook has been thrown out the window! Not to mention arcing, my personal favorite! All this clearly demonstrates that language is not math. Last edited: Jun 10, 2019 There is actually a spelling rule for this. In British English when a 2 syllable word has the accent on the second syllable and the word ends in one vowel and one consonant (as in focus / travel etc), you must double the last consonant. As far as I am aware American English doesn't apply this rule which is why it uses focusing / traveling and so on. We could put it more strongly as to "doesn't apply": we have our own rule: Where the accent does NOT fall on the (original, multisyllable word's) final syllable (...vowel+consonant), there is simply no need to double that consonant; there is no point to it. Don't do it. 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Promise, premise, divisive, elusive - there are quite a few exceptions to the rule you cite In any case, the focused, focussed etc preference of one s was not the original preference, even in AE, so rules change and probably at different speeds for different examples. Gasses has never been popular while busses was originally favoured over buses in AE more than in BE. Where the accent does NOT fall on the (original, multisyllable word's) final syllable (...vowel+consonant). there is simply no need to double that consonant; there is no point to it. Don't do it. (Unless you're a speaker of BrE and the consonant is . AmE is much more logical!) Verb tenses, conjugation, agreement, prepositions, articles, pronouns, etc., in English and in French. No other languages allowed here. Conjugaison, accords, prépositions, déterminants, pronoms, etc., en français et en anglais. Aucune autre langue autorisée ici. 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Conjugaison, accords, prépositions, déterminants, pronoms, etc., en français et en anglais. Aucune autre langue autorisée ici. hello can you add wordreference for offline use for android ? WordReference is really designed for online use only. An offlline version wouldn't be very good at all. As far as I'm concerned, I think that would be a nice feature to work on regarding the pretty exhaustive dictionaries WR can boast about. One can imagine an offline version with the multilingual dictionaries alone and the classic online version including the forums One of the problems with doing that is that any database that is put on a phone can be extracted fairly easily. We would probably start seeing pirated versions of WordReference around the internet. It isn't a risk that I would like to take. Hi Mkellogg, I can't argue against that point as it is totally understandable ! So thank you for keeping WR updated online

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