Evaluation
'Compare and contrast how Greek identity has developed over the last 70 years for native Greeks and Greek Australians'

SUMMARY: Inspired by pride in my Greek heritage and interest in the psychology and development of Greek identity, my research question investigated the connections between these topics. The objective of my research was to analyse how Australian Greek identity, both in Greece and Australia, has changed over the years since mass Greek immigration to Australia. I utilised psychology and culture-based academic articles to provide varying perspectives with the support my survey of 100 participants. My findings are presented as an academic article, with the intention of adding to the literature about the identification of the variables contributing towards the development of Greek identity in these two countries. Primary and secondary research showed that through generations, the importance of Greek-Orthodoxy in Greek identity has consistently declined for both natives and Greek-Australians. However, Greek 'philotimo' has remained prominent for only Greek-Australians of all generations, not only younger native Greeks. *(146 words)*

E1 + E2: *Evaluation of the research processes and decisions made in response to opportunities and challenges*

The survey I conducted was the most valuable research process as the data was valid, current and reasonably representative of the demographic of research, since 52 native Greeks and 48 Greek-Australians responded. This was fundamental to advancing my research as it clarified many theories found through academic articles that lacked currency. The diverse answers from native Greeks compared to Greek-Australians helped refine my research question into discussing the similarities and differences of Greek identity development. This primary source displayed high validity as the respondents were native Greeks and Greek-Australians across all ages and the survey questions were carefully crafted to elicit valid answers. The general themes found were cross-referenced with academic articles to establish reliable findings, increasing the credibility of my information and hence the Outcome. By making the survey anonymous, informing the respondents how their information would be used and allowing for choice of participation, the acquisition of my primary data upheld ethical conduct, increasing the validity of my Outcome as participants were more open to delivering authentic answers. Although the survey is fairly representative, the different number of participants in each age group and not knowing their socio-economic status, gender and length of time in Australia limited the reliability when comparing specific age groups. To overcome this challenge, I cross-referenced with secondary research to achieve a semblance of reliability and decided to directly contact 19-30 year old Greeks by phone to increase the respondents of this age range. However, this raised other challenges since the mode of research changed, as contacting only

a few participants by phone rather than survey may have influenced their response. Even though individual participants were highly credible for the purpose of my research, representation in surveys like these is always difficult to achieve.

Since the qualifications of survey participants were unknown, I decided to interview Chrysoula Melissinaki, a native Greek and newly Australian immigrant, whose area of expertise is Hellenic Cultural Studies. The combination of her personal and academic experience with Greek identity extended my research and quality of my Outcome as I was able to ask specific questions based on the information I could not collect through the survey. However, conflicting schedules meant Melissinaki and I could not meet in person, so I asked questions through email. This limited the ability to converse to thoroughly explore key findings, however I decided to ask follow up questions for relevant details. Despite her varying and extensive qualifications, bias is present since her academic perspectives on Greek identity may be influenced by personal experiences. I overcame this increase in subjectivity by cross-referencing her observations with academic articles. By ensuring these answers were supported by other qualified academics, the reliability of my Outcome was enhanced, which is important since my targeted audience are academics interested in cultural development. This decision was the most important since my primary sources presented several challenges in establishing reliability when making conclusions without investigating secondary sources.

The combination of qualitative and quantitative primary data was crucial in finding key features of Greek identity development, since statistics could be substantiated with quotes. I could draw highly reliable conclusions, as the comparisons made between native Greeks and Greek-Australians involved actual experiences. Academic articles were highly beneficial when first conducting research as it provided me with a fundamental understanding of the psychology of identity, whereas Greek news articles provided me with current information regarding Greek culture advancements. Greek academics Maria Avgoulas and Rebecca Fanany were particularly cross-referenced due to their high credibility. Their extensive qualifications covered both the psychology and refinement of Greek identity, specifically when they analysed trends in Greek identity development, directly correlating with my findings. However, since both authors are Greek, this increased the inherent bias of my Outcome; they may have inherent cultural bias as they have personal experiences that may impact their observations, limiting credibility. They also regularly cross-referenced their own work, possibly increasing bias. Although they are academics, this research field is dominated by those of Greek background, making it near impossible to have no inherent bias. However, since both authors have decades of experience, hopefully they are able to retain their objectivity. To overcome this challenge, I decided to specifically cross-reference findings they identified, with other secondary sources to establish reliability, although limited information was found from non-Greek academics. To overcome this reoccurring challenge, I attempted to utilise quantitative data from the Census about Greek language use in Australia, as they are a highly

credible organisation. In the pursuit of objectivity, I tried to examine the psychological aspect of my Outcome written by non-Greek authors, which provided a framework for my research. I was able to apply these generalised findings into my own, contributing to the objective stance of my Outcome.

E3: *Quality of the research Outcome*

The Outcome provides a comprehensive academic investigation of Greek identity development for native Greeks compared to Greek-Australians, however due to identity and cultural situations continuously changing, it cannot deliver a conclusive answer to the research question. The Outcome includes extensive qualitative and quantitative information that was cross-referenced, proving as reliable as possible and my findings are supported by multiple sources. The Outcome is valuable as my survey successfully targeted the demographics of research, providing thorough current data and able to be supported by secondary research. By ensuring my survey covered ages 0-61+, the "last 70 years" of my research question could be answered.

The most remarkable key findings regarded the concept of 'philotimo,'as there were direct comparisons and contrasts between the two ethnicities found in both primary and secondary research. This improves the quality of my Outcome since validity and reliability were enhanced due to the constant cross-referencing supporting my research. They informed the intended audience of why some aspects of philotimo have changed for native Greeks and not for Greek-Australians, and addresses the positive and negative aspects of Greek identity. These findings are significant considering Greek identity is complex, and despite the ever-changing nature of identity, the general struggles of immigrants and individual struggles with philotimo are often unrecognised. The continuous cross-referencing of academic and personal sources enhanced the quality and validity of my Outcome. Academic articles constantly supported each other from Greek, psychological and cultural perspectives, improving the validity of my Outcome.

Despite the highly credible and reliable extensive research, an inevitable limitation of the Outcome is that identity is always changing. My research question focuses on the last 70 years of Greek identity development, not allowing me to predict the future of Greek identity or provide a conclusive answer to my question. My Outcome explains that general and cultural identity both have no definite end, allowing me to inform the audience that Greek identity will always change. Although this limitation resulted in no definitive answer, comparisons and contrasts were made regarding Greek identity for native Greeks and Greek-Australians, targeting my research question directly. Another limitation was the inability to survey Greek-Australians outside of South Australia, due to the difficulty of locating my demographic of research. My research question specifically targets Greek-Australians, so this limitation decreased the validity of my Outcome since only South Australian Greeks were surveyed, and I had

previously researched that the Greek diaspora community is larger in Melbourne and Sydney. To overcome this challenge, I decided to investigate some of the Greek-Australian survey participants by individually questioning my relatives and friends who answered the survey, discovering that many had lived in either Sydney or Melbourne previously. Although this does not majorly increase the validity since they had been South Australian residents for a while, their responses have influences from their experiences as a Greek in different Australian states.

Another limitation is the complexity of identity not providing me enough time to fully discuss Greek identity in my Outcome. fact that the majority of my survey answers were unable to be used, since the word count limited my ability to investigate other aspects of Greek identity. Although this limitation decreased the extent of my research answering the question, the most significant areas of Greek identity were discussed, improving the relevance to the demographic of research and limiting the generalisation of my topic.

It is beneficial for the academic and Greek community to understand the complexities of identity and how despite having the same ethnicity, generational changes and environmental status alter the concept of Greek identity. It also has to be recognised that there was a preponderance of Greek writers in the field and this may indicate inherent bias. Despite these limitations, however, it is recognised that the quality of the Outcome still remains high due to the accurate representation of my demographic of research making my Outcome credible and reliable as of 2021. I am certain that any Greek person would be highly interested in my Outcome, since as displayed through all my findings, Greek pride is consistent throughout all generations.

WORD COUNT: *1480*

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